



JAN PHILLIPS



by Melissa Kay Elliott

**I**N TODAY'S political climate, many of us feel we are watching the dismantling of a lifetime of hard work for a just and humane society.

At this troubled time in our country, let us remember the many miracles that have taken place since the AFSC was founded—the lives changed, the people who discovered hope where hope was not a logical response.

If we forget the miracles in our past that happened because of our faith and conviction—not because of logic or an amenable political climate—we may rob ourselves of the miracles yet to come.

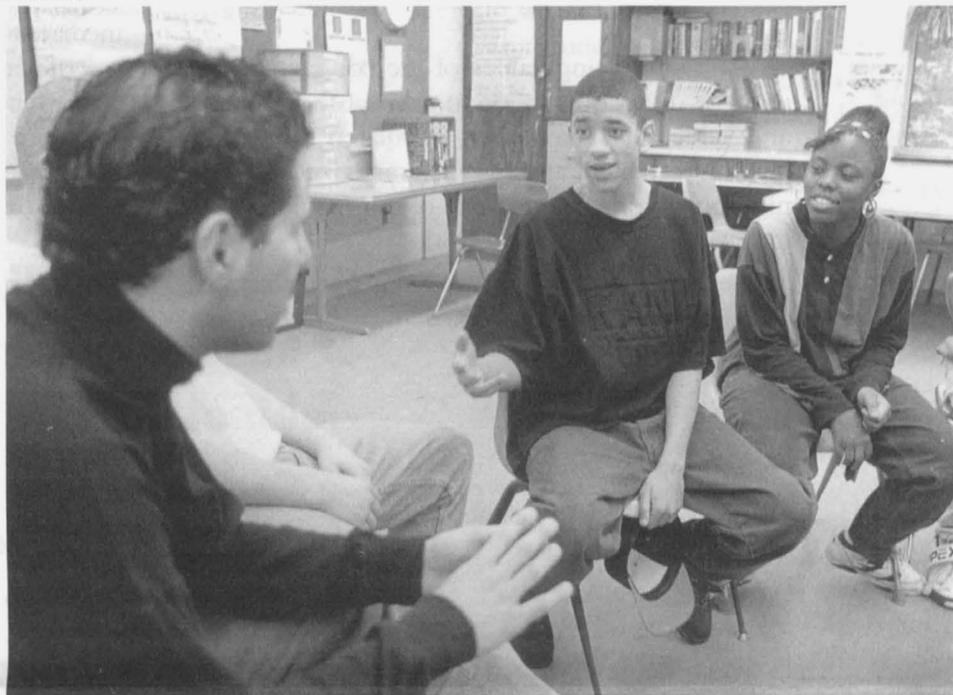
The AFSC's task is the same today as 78 years ago: to build peace with justice. The reason is still that we believe in the dignity and worth of each individual and the spark of the Divine in each human spirit.

In this issue of the Quaker Service Bulletin, we at the AFSC want to share with you some of the ways we work to build peace and the places where we prepare the soil for miracles to grow. We give you a glance at our past, a sampling of our current work and the principles behind it, and a vision of the future, as contained in the lives of the young people we teach and nurture.

## How do we build peace?

*We start by rekindling our hope.*

JAN PHILLIPS



### 'Teach your children well...'

**T**ODAY'S YOUNG PEOPLE are more than ready—they're ripe—for learning skills in nonviolent conflict resolution, say trainers in AFSC's Help-Increase-the-Peace Project (H.I.P.P.). In fact, there are more requests coming in from teachers and school administrators than trainers can fill.

"One thing I'll say about violence in the schools: the kids are tired of it," says Erik Wissa, the AFSC staff member in Syracuse, New York, who created H.I.P.P. to be used in schools, patterning it after the Alternatives to Violence

Program used in prisons. Erik suggests that maybe this younger generation will insist on nonviolence as the better way of approaching life.

Does that sound like The Impossible Dream? Not if you talk to Erik and others involved in the program. They've seen miracles happen, kids' lives turned around, explosive racial tensions defused. They know this stuff works.

"Now people seem to be saying, 'Violence hasn't worked, so let's try nonviolence,'" says Lisa Mundy, Erik's colleague in Syracuse.

H.I.P.P. was designed for students age 13 and older, but now is offered to children in middle school, as well. Started in 1990, it now has graduates who assist with training sessions in Lexington, Kentucky; Conscience Bay, Long Island; and Huntington, West Virginia; as well as Syracuse. Teachers and administrators also participate in the workshops, building a climate of support for the students' new skills. Requests for workshops and facilitators' training have come in from all over the country. Recently, Erik and Lisa helped start a H.I.P. Program in Tallahassee, Florida.

The workshops consist of exercises and games that give students first-hand experiences in affirmation, cooperation, communication, and conflict resolution. In one exercise used by H.I.P.P., students line up in two columns, face-to-face, and role-play scenes of family conflict. Let's say your younger brother comes into the room where you're watching televi-

Continued on page 8

JAN PHILLIPS



## Haiti School Supplies Campaign Takes Wing

**T**HE SCHOOLS in Haiti are crowded with students eager to learn. However, a Haitian teacher recently remarked, "How can we ask for homework from children who have no notebooks or school supplies of any kind?"

In North America, such items as pens, pencils, notebooks, and notebook paper are considerably less difficult to come by. Therefore, the American Friends Service Committee has launched a campaign to collect school supplies for Haitian students. The supplies will be distributed to

schools in the far southwest corner of the country, a region called the Grand Anse, where the AFSC has worked since 1989.

The campaign is called *Tet Ansanm*, a Creole phrase meaning "all together," which embodies the spirit of reconciliation and reconstruction in Haiti.

Collecting school supplies for Haiti is simple. The AFSC has packets available with instructions, information about Haiti, and a list of needed school supplies. Project directors ask that people send new or good-as-new materials. After collection, boxes of supplies

are to be shipped to AFSC headquarters in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, from where they will be sent to Haiti to be delivered by AFSC staff members.

The history of education in Haiti is a history of struggle. Haitians working for democracy have always valued building a good education system. In 1991, plans for a country-wide literacy campaign were cut short by the September military coup.

To order a Tet Ansanm packet, write to Angela Berryman, Haiti School Supplies Campaign, AFSC, 1501 Cherry St., Phila., PA 19102, or telephone (215) 241-7180.

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# Standing by our vision, we will not stand alone.

*Statement adopted by the National Community Relations Committee, March 5, 1995*

**DONALD STUART GANN** is the new chairman of the AFSC's Board of Directors, succeeding Dulany Bennett as of November 1994. Don, a physician, is a member of the Baltimore Monthly Meeting of Friends, Stony Run. His involvement with AFSC dates back to the early 1970s, when he was on the Board of

Directors. He has served on numerous board committees.

Don helped found the AFSC Cleveland Area Committee, which started an interracial reconciliation project for city residents and law enforcement officials and an interracial draft counseling project. Most recently, Don headed the AFSC's Middle Atlantic Regional Office Executive Committee.

Professionally, Don is executive vice-chairman of the Department of Surgery at the University of Maryland, where he is also professor of physiology.

**BARBARA WHITNEY MOFFETT**, director of AFSC's national Community Relations Division, died on October 8, 1994, after a long bout with cancer. Her creativity and clarity of purpose are reflected in CRD's work with disenfranchised people—immigrants, Native peoples, women workers, prisoners, and

young people. Hayes Mizell, who was on staff of the Southeastern Public Education Program, notes: "Barbara really does live on in all the people she found before they found themselves."

A former newspaperwoman, Barbara came to AFSC for a temporary, three-week writing assignment in 1947 during a strike against the old Philadelphia *Record*. She never left.

The Community Relations Division has created a Barbara Moffett Fund for projects reflecting Barbara's concerns. Contributions may be addressed to Jane Motz, AFSC, 1501 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA 19102.

**WILLIAM ROBERT SNOWDEN MEEK, SR.**—educator, activist, comrade, father, mentor, friend—died on January 28, 1995, of complications from pneumonia. Bill's association with AFSC began in 1969, when he joined the staff of the Community Relations Division as national representative for Housing and Urban Affairs.

For three decades Bill fought for the rights and dignity of the disenfranchised. He retired from paid full-time employment in 1983 and became a full-time volunteer as chairman of the Lessons from the MOVE Tragedy Committee.

While Bill left behind a long list of accomplishments, he will be remembered for his generosity, warm spirit, and immense capacity to love.

**PHIL BUSKIRK**, who worked tirelessly with Haitian communities in Florida and as a member of AFSC's National Community Relations Committee, died on January 30, 1995. He began his AFSC work in racial justice in the early 1950s in what was then the Northern California Regional Office. Phil was repeatedly involved in the issues of poverty, racism, and invisibility of oppressed people.

Phil served the AFSC in many capacities, including as a representative in the Middle East and in the national office in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he participated in the Poor People's Campaign and worked on education and Indian issues.

In his work with Haitian refugees, he provided many things, including ears, transportation, and advocacy, endearing him to those he served.

**T**HE CURRENT RIGHT WING agenda to implement the so-called "Contract with America" and initiatives at local, state, and national levels is not new. Rather, it is a resurgence of the age-old politics of class warfare, bigotry, and racial division that the American Friends Service Committee has historically worked to overcome.

The underlying values of the contract stand in virtually direct opposition to each of the principles and values that have been articulated in the AFSC Mission Statement and have characterized our organizational work. Yet, in spite of our familiarity with the destructive and mean-spirited agenda the contract represents, we are alarmed and dismayed by the broadly sweeping momentum of its legislative initiatives and deplore the terrible human suffering that will result.

The contract's agenda is a wedge to polarize racial groups and poor and working-class U.S. citizens with selfishness and greed in order to drive through punitive economic policies that jeopardize the welfare and security of us all. Its draconian budget cuts penalize those without voice or vote, while making false promises of economic gain to those for whom poverty is just one or two paychecks away. It is an unfair policy that consistently chooses the rich over the poor, old over young, and the politics of racial and gender dominance over human diversity. It benefits and manipulates antagonism against women, sexual minorities, and immigrants to further the policies of the right wing. It prefers punishment to prevention, regardless of the financial and moral cost, and is willing to fund a large but useless standing military over civilian concerns. It is a spiritually bankrupt agenda that feeds on fear and indifference and relies on apathy and isolation to achieve its ends. It is an agenda that must be stopped.

We therefore call upon the entire AFSC community to mobilize and respond by organizing our various constituencies to address these divisive policies and by lifting up our vision of what the role of responsible government should be. In the short term,

we must share information with our allies and among ourselves about the morally repugnant nature of the Contract with America and the far-reaching damage it will do to the quality of life for all people in the United States. At the same time, we must do what we can to assist in the long-term process of developing a cohesive voice with those who are the immediate targets of these policies, the first of many to pay the price for the shortsighted selfishness of those in power.

More specifically, the National Community Relations Committee supports the idea of a gathering of the AFSC community to consider proactive responses to the right wing agenda in April 1995. [This gathering is being organized as this issue of QSB goes to press.] We support staff and committee members' efforts to develop and disseminate information to AFSC constituencies; to strategize local, state, and national mobilization efforts; and to create program initiatives that will address these issues over the long term.

We recognize there is a need to commit additional resources to accomplish this.

As we proceed, we must be mindful that many of the government programs being dismantled grew out of the grassroots vision and organizing that characterized the civil rights movement in the United States. We must be careful that our current work and vision are similarly rooted in the current hope and suffering of those with whom we stand in partnership. And, as we attempt to climb up together to a higher moral ground, empowered and inspired by our deep convictions and religious faith, we must remain clear and practical in our explanations of why we have chosen this different way.

Our understanding of history and the rightness of our work leaves us challenged but not overwhelmed by the task that lies before us. Those new to this legislative power have already faltered, and hate, by its nature, will divide and destroy itself. The pendulum of human affairs can be made to swing toward our vision of a peaceful and just society. And, as it does, we will not stand alone.

**Our understanding of history and the rightness of our work leaves us challenged but not overwhelmed by the task that lies before us.**

*Drafted by Philip Lord, member of NCRC and assistant clerk, AFSC Board of Directors*



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# LOOKING BACK ON PROGRAM WORK IN GERMANY THROUGH THE LENS

by Willie Colón

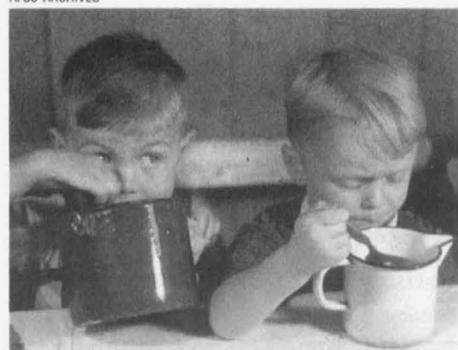
*Perhaps the most difficult thing to do in Germany today is to further ideas of group cooperation, group decisions, to awaken individuals to a sense of responsibility to and for the community and, above all, to have confidence in one another again.*

**I**N A LETTER TO Philadelphia, this is what four Service Committee volunteers in Darmstadt, Germany, felt was the biggest challenge they faced when World War II ended. Along with British Friends, AFSC volunteers entered Germany after the war to provide not only bread but hope. "They did not recognize 'friend' or 'foe,' 'conqueror' or 'conquered,'" according to one German witness.

Next year will mark the 50th anniversary of post-World War II Quaker aid in Germany. AFSC is beginning to look back on the postwar period and the years of service that preceded it. AFSC supporters, former staff members, volunteers, and some people who were served by AFSC are getting involved.

Looking back on the range of program work in Germany is like flipping through snapshots — snapshots that show what persistence, vision, and cooperative work can do to relieve human suffering and inspire hope. These snapshots also show the common strands between AFSC assistance programs then and the Service Committee's aid and development programs today.

AFSC ARCHIVES



AFSC feeding program recipients.

## After World War I

Even the bleakest situations can lead to positive change. So it was at the end of World War I when Jane Addams, Alice Hamilton, and Carolena Wood crossed the border into Germany in July 1919, shortly after the peace treaty was signed.

What the Quaker representatives saw appalled them and moved them to action, as they found German children ravaged by malnutrition and plagued with tuberculosis and rickets. When they returned home, they recommended that AFSC send a small mission to help ease the suffering.

Thus began one of the largest un-

dertakings in the Service Committee's history, a program that was funded by a relief committee headed by Herbert Hoover. At its peak, the Quaker program fed more than one million children a day from 8,000 feeding stations. Some 20,000 German volunteers played a crucial role. The *Quäkerspeisung* (literally, Quaker feeding) has never been forgotten.

## Witness to War — Again

After the Nazis assumed power in

AFSC ARCHIVES



Essen city cars taking food from kitchens to child feeding centers.

1933, the Quaker International Secretariat in Berlin, jointly supported by British and U.S. Friends, grew to be a vital aid station for Jews who hoped to emigrate. As the war raged, Quaker staff continued to offer what relief and hope they could. Their work included concentration camp visits, aid for deportees in transit camps in occupied France, ship passage, and other aid provided through a network of Quaker centers in Europe.

After the collapse of the Third Reich, the devastation in Germany was spiritual as well as physical. British and U.S. Quakers helped repatriate holocaust victims and refugees. They also distributed clothes, medical supplies, blankets, and soap gathered by AFSC Material Aids volunteers. Quaker feeding programs for preschoolers, school children, and students sprang up around the country in cooperation with local committees and relief agencies. Fifty years later, Germans still remember how the Quaker soup tasted.

Quaker volunteers worked cooperatively with Germans, across sectarian and ideological lines. They de-

clined to proselytize and saw their work as concrete reconciliation. "Feeding the hungry is more than humanitarian relief. It is proof of a genuine desire to heal war's wounds, to lessen hatred. It is peacemaking in a real and vital sense," according to an AFSC appeal from 1947.

Three programs launched after the war show how AFSC's focus grew to include long-term development.

In 1946, AFSC began its School Affiliation Service, which connected U.S.

AFSC ARCHIVES



Postwar Germany, 1947.

exposed Germans to people who, until a few months before, had been "the enemy." For many, this was their first encounter with civilians from England and the United States who were working in a reconciling spirit. Quakers also were among pioneers in helping people move toward helping themselves.

In his memoirs, General Lucius D. Clay, the head of the military government in the American Zone, aptly summed up the gratitude felt by many. Clay had initially opposed AFSC staff involvement in Germany. He wrote specifically about the neighborhood centers, but his words could easily have been applied to all AFSC work in Germany and throughout Europe: "While the supplies which were brought in...were helpful, they did not compare with the spirit of service which pervaded their work and which has made the very name of the organization to me synonymous with humility and humanity."

## WERE YOU INVOLVED?

Many people in the AFSC family have served in relief and reconciliation programs through the years in Germany and Austria. Many more volunteered in the United States, welcoming refugees, collecting clothing and supplies, raising money, and serving on committees. Still others benefited from Quaker feeding and material aid, or remember the quiet help Quakers provided during the holocaust era.

The AFSC is still in touch with many former volunteers, staff, and people who benefited from Quaker Service in Germany and Austria. But as time has passed, we have lost touch with many others. The AFSC is helping plan an exhibit on Quaker Service in Germany, which will travel to several German cities in 1996. If you were involved or if you were helped, we would like to hear about your experiences and add your name to our list. Please contact Sara Jane Stone, AFSC, 1501 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102-1479.

## "The Spirit of Service"

Over the decades, service in Germany represented a major, sustained commitment for AFSC and Friends as a whole. It involved hundreds of volunteers, committee members, and staff. Aside from the considerable benefit provided through humanitarian assistance, there were other, less tangible effects.

For example, Quaker programs

## Maquiladora workers have their day in court

**D**ENIED THEIR BASIC LABOR RIGHTS, a group of maquiladora factory workers made eloquent and moving presentations during their day in court this past February.

The workers spoke at a hearing of the U.S. National Administrative Office (NAO) about labor rights abuses by Sony Corporation at its factory in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico. They contend that, in addition to adverse working conditions at the factory, Sony has blocked their attempts to form a union by targeting activists with firings and demotions. Workers say that Sony also has limited their ability to meet and conduct peaceful demonstrations.

The NAO hearing was in response to a complaint filed against Sony by AFSC and three other organizations. A ruling on the case is expected sometime in April. Under the terms of the North American Free Trade Agreement, the NAO is charged with enforcing applicable labor laws.

AFSC's Maquiladora Project has been instrumental in helping workers get a forum for their struggle. While the political reality in Mexico makes it unlikely that workers will be allowed to unionize, Phoebe McKinney, national representative for the project, expects the hearings will have a positive effect. "They'll allow us to create a public discussion about whether or not respect for workers' rights is incompatible with the strategies that international banks and the U.S. government are imposing on Mexico."

### CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

The United Nations is asking for volunteers with experience in nonviolent peacemaking and conflict resolution. The Humanitarian Relief Unit of UN Volunteers is developing pilot projects in a number of troubled areas, including the Caucasus in the former Soviet Union, Burundi, and in the former Yugoslavia. Volunteers will serve one-year assignments. Those interested in applying should have a good understanding of the area or country in which they would be working. It is a plus if they know French, Russian, or Serbo-Croatian. If you are interested, please send your resume to Dirk Boberg, UNV-Humanitarian Relief Unit, Palais Des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland.

## DAY LABORERS IN NEW JERSEY



## Hope for Better Times Ahead

by Willie Colón

**I**T WAS A COLD, DRIZZLY, bleary-eyed February morning, barely past 8 a.m., but already the men had gathered. In small groups they stood, huddling on the street in Palisades Park, New Jersey, waiting for a chance to work.

As had become their habit, the men—most of them immigrants from Guatemala—planned to brave the weather all morning, if necessary, as they looked for the "hop in" signal from one of the contractors who drive by the busy, commercial intersection of Broad and East Columbia avenues.

Francisco is one of those who stands and waits and hopes. His hopes, however, go beyond the \$50 a day that's the going rate for these day laborers. "We need to think about the workers as a group," this eloquent, unassuming young man says in Spanish. "We need to think about those who will follow us here." In essence, the workers want the opportunity to find work and sustain their families.

There also are other concerns on the workers' minds. Residents have complained that workers clog sidewalks and intimidate pedestrians, and Palisades Park officials have responded with crack-

downs that harmed both workers and contractors during the height of the busy season.

Denis Johnston, director of AFSC's Immigrant Rights Program in nearby Newark, New Jersey, has been organizing with the workers. He's also helping workers, residents, and community leaders bridge their differences. To that end, he says, forward-thinking leaders such as Francisco are an inspiration. "Such leadership is essential if the workers are to engage in dialogue as equals with area residents and political leaders."

In addition, everyone hopes a different site can be found for the workers to congregate. Preferably, the site could accommodate a trailer in which English classes and a variety of other social services could be offered.

"But," Denis notes, "an alternative site won't happen unless people come together to resolve their differences."

This might sound like a pipe dream, but with the coalition of religious groups, county officials, and concerned residents that recently have banded together to help Francisco and the other day laborers, it's not such a far-fetched goal. As Denis says, "The workers don't have the luxury of losing hope."

PHOTOS: TERRY FOSS



Top: Day laborers waiting for work in Palisades Park, New Jersey, with Denis Johnston, second from right. Above: Francisco, left, and Denis

## We know that seeds are not sown with clenched fists. To sow we must open our hands. Adolpho Perez Esquivel

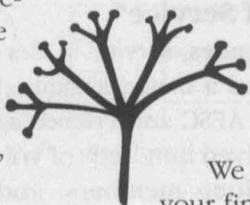
We at the American Friends Service Committee are not persuaded by the tide of public opinion that has turned against those among us who are the most vulnerable. Nor will we betray our commitment to protect the rights of all people.

If you share our vision of a world that values justice and celebrates diversity, open your hands and your hearts.

Make a gift today to the AFSC's Pooled Life Income Fund. Your gift will make it possible for our work to continue, and you will receive the following benefits:

1. An immediate charitable deduction to reduce your income taxes.
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We can provide information that will help in your financial planning. Please contact our Office of Planned Giving: Lyn Back, (215) 241-7095, or Karin Lee (215) 241-7092, or return this coupon:



### American Friends Service Committee

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- I would like information on the Pooled Life Income Fund.
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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate funding amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Spring 1995

# How do we welcome the stranger?

by Isaac Wheeler

**T**HE ANTI-IMMIGRANT hysteria that is sweeping the United States today is nothing new in the history of this country.

Even though most people who live here are themselves children or descendants of immigrants, economic anxieties and shifting ethnic balances have repeatedly led us to ostracize, persecute, and blame the latest newcomers for social ills they did not create. Now, as in the past, fear and scapegoating represent a deep challenge to the values of Friends, who value the dignity and integrity of each human spirit as containing sparks of the Divine.

Consider the grim picture faced by immigrants in the United States today:

- Proposition 187 slammed into California like an icy wind last November. An attempt to freeze undocumented immigrants out of basic social services ranging from medical care to

public education, "Prop 187" is now tied up in the courts and cannot be enforced. However, its wide margin of victory has captured the attention of politicians nationwide and sparked similar initiatives in other states.



Sign reads: "We don't want deportation. Instead, we want protection."

- On Capitol Hill, Republican legislators speak eagerly about federal laws to severely restrict legal immigration, bar immigrants from most federal assistance, and even remove birthright citizenship from the Constitution.

- On the U.S.-Mexico border, the Immigration and Naturalization Service has mounted military style blockades, with record numbers of agents, fences stretching miles at a time, helicopters, and nightscopes. Inland, hundreds of agents are being added to carry out workplace raids.

The American Friends Service Committee strives to meet the challenge of these mean-spirited actions through its domestic programs with immigrants and refugees, which have been part of the AFSC's work for all but two of its 78 years. This record of constant witness stems from the AFSC's continuing commitment to help nameless and oppressed people find their voices.

For example, when Congress enacted the 1986

PHOEBE MCKINNEY



Children on the Texas-Mexico border

Immigration Reform and Control Act that prohibited employers from hiring undocumented immigrants, AFSC decided that it could not comply with a law that struck at people who have made the difficult choice to abandon their homes and risk grave harm to pursue one of the most basic human rights—the right to work. In 1988 we filed a suit against the U.S. Department of Justice that sought recognition of AFSC's conscientious refusal to demand documentation from its employees. The case, *AFSC v. Thornburgh*, helped crystallize the Service Committee's stance on the rights and dignity of undocumented workers and brought us closer to religious and labor organizations and other allies who shared these concerns.

Today, the AFSC works with immigrants in many ways, such as helping them organize to monitor and challenge abusive practices of the INS Border Patrol, helping migrant women farmworkers in California fight the use of dangerous pesticides on crops and assisting newly arrived Haitian refugees in learning English and finding work.

The AFSC stands with people who are forced by war, poverty, or persecution to leave their homes and did not have the resources or connections to come to this country legally. In Florida, California, and New Jersey, our programs help Central Americans who fled the wars of the 1980s obtain legal recognition of their status as political refugees. We support work with immigrant day laborers in Palisades Park, New Jersey, and Pasadena, California—working to dissipate tensions between the laborers and the local communities. (See "Hope for Better Times Ahead," page 4.)

Focusing attention on the gifts this coun-

try receives from its immigrants is another aspect of our programs. The AFSC office in Stockton, California, coordinates an annual Friendship Day that has for ten years brought 10,000 people from more than 100 ethnic communities together to eat each other's food and celebrate each other's art and culture. In Chicago, young Latina women—many first-generation immigrants—are paired with older mentors to learn about their heritage. In Cambridge, Massachusetts, our staff members are helping Central American refugees organize for the right to vote in local elections. Securing this right would recognize that immigrants are established and productive members of their community.

Quaker John Woolman, known for his witness against slavery and his work with Native Americans, called for compassion for "him who

hath been a stranger amongst unkind people or under their government who were hardhearted." The U.S. government is hardening its heart against immigrants now as at no time since the last wave of anti-immigrant hysteria in the 1920s. Now, as at that time, the AFSC swims against the tide in supporting the rights and dignity of the uprooted and dispossessed.



Latino farm workers in California

## WALKING CLASS

by Lady Borton, 1972

Nguyet organized a walking class for amputees. Their legs were in varying stages of development. Some were still roughly hewn chunks of lumber, others sculptured imitations of the good leg. The patients struggled to activate these strange inert appendages.

Nguyet drew lines on the floor for a race. Each person had to step on every line as he crossed the room. The patients laughed at old Buoi when he tried to sneak a head start and cheerfully taunted Toi when she overstepped a line and had to return to "Go."

A crowd of spectators cheered them on. Double amputees and paraplegics spun their wheelchairs around each other for a better view. A band of children not wearing legs darted back and forth across the course, on their crutches, as they teased the contestants.

Reprinted from *Visions of Peace, Images of War*.

LARRY MILLER



AFSC's major service project in Vietnam started with a rehabilitation center in Quang Ngai for civilian amputees. From 1967 to 1975, AFSC renovated buildings, provided necessary equipment and supplies, and helped train Vietnamese to make and fit artificial limbs and braces and provide physical therapy.

# SMALL ACT LONG

by Marie Bloom

**A**ZEN BUDDHIST SAYING warns gently, "We have very little time, so we must move very slowly." *Slowly* here means more than not fast. It means to move in full awareness, with mind, body, and spirit connected to one another.

That is the spirit with which Quakers responded to the deadly urgency of the U.S. war in Indochina in the sixties and seventies. AFSC felt called to honor life and build peace in the midst of war, joining efforts with others who opposed the tide of death. During and after the war, AFSC took small, determined actions that made a difference—in preserving lives and in raising U.S. consciousness. Here is a partial story of those steps.

In 1954, when Vietnamese nationalists defeated the French at Dien Bien Phu, the AFSC Board issued a statement urging our government not to pick up where the French left off. In 1965, faced with the suffering caused by the U.S. military in Vietnam, the AFSC Board decided that the AFSC should also be in Vietnam, directly addressing the wounds of war.

The AFSC began its assistance to civilians in South Vietnam in 1966, providing medical supplies and day care for refugee children in Quang Ngai. In 1967, the AFSC established a rehabilitation center in Quang Ngai for civilian amputees. Initially blocked by the U.S. embargo imposed under the "Trade with the Enemy Act," AFSC began sending medical supplies to areas of South Vietnam controlled by the Provisional Revolutionary Government in 1968 and to North Vietnam in 1969. The Quaker tradition of aiding people on all sides of conflicts follows from the idea that there is that of God in everyone, a simple belief that radically undermines the concept of an "enemy." Thus, these life-preserving actions also publicly challenged the war's legitimacy.

On April 4, 1969, Stewart Meacham, national peace education secretary of the AFSC, organized a sit-in at U.S. Selective Service headquarters in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Out of that experience grew the idea for a November 1969 March Against Death, a major mobilization for which AFSC provided key leadership. Forty-five thousand marchers took two nights and a day to march four miles through rain and thunderstorms, wind and biting cold, past the White House, where each marcher paused to shout the name of one U.S. soldier who had died in Vietnam.

Few people, even in the peace movement, knew then about the "secret" U.S. war being waged in Cambodia and Laos. However, AFSC's research

project, the National Action Research on the Military-Industrial Complex (NARMIC), helped uncover and publicize it in the early 1970s.

During the war, AFSC staff, working with war victims at the rehabilitation center in Quang Ngai and meeting with students and Buddhist activists in Saigon, provided a steady stream of sobering information on the human impact of the war to audiences in the United States and elsewhere.

On April 30, 1975, the war in Vietnam officially ended. A new era of AFSC involvement in relief, rehabilitation, and development in Indochina began. In Laos, the AFSC was one of only two western nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) to stay and join in rebuilding the country. AFSC provided emergency food aid and began a rural development program. After the war, unexploded bombs still littered the landscape. The United States had, over nine years, "secretly" dropped an estimated two tons of bombs for every inhabitant of Laos. After learning that shovels are much less likely than traditional hoes to set off the deadly bomblets, the AFSC provided more than 20,000 shovels to Laotian farmers.

Unsuccessful in its effort to provide medical aid to Cambodia during the Khmer Rouge era, the AFSC was the first U.S. NGO to provide aid in 1979 when the Khmer Rouge were driven out by an invasion from Vietnam. Despite a strict U.S. embargo—at a time when even the UN allowed no development assistance to the severely ravaged country—the AFSC

CHONG AE-YU



Irrigation is a key to improving nutrition in rural Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos. AFSC's second crop during the dry season and control flooding during and drinking water projects in rural Indochina.

# AFSC and Indochina 1965-1995

# 'IONS, IG YEARS

was one of a handful of NGOs helping rebuild Cambodian society. After 15 years of assistance, today the AFSC trains and helps run a new school for prosthetic technicians and helps supervise a national prosthetics center for amputees.

Similarly, of the scores of U.S. NGOs at work in South Vietnam during the war, the AFSC was one of a very few that stayed on to address the urgent postwar needs in Vietnam. Early postwar aid included powdered milk for children in hospitals, children's sweaters and yarn, medical supplies, and unusual tools such as screw-making equipment and rototillers. AFSC also provided emergency relief for typhoon victims. Later AFSC began aiding cooperatives in Thanh Hoa province, where working women produced goods such as reed mats,

JOYCE MILLER



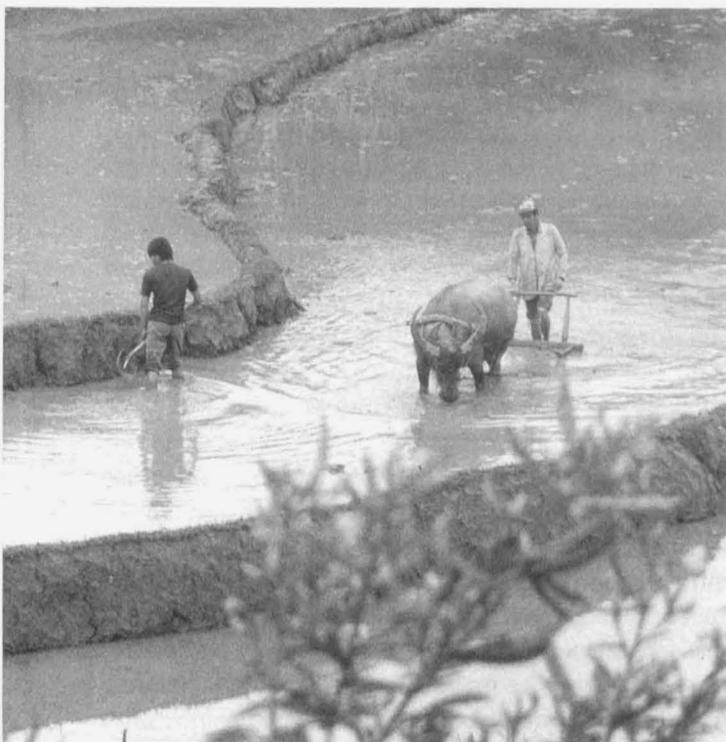
*Dr. Tung Tut Tang, second from left, examines supplies sent by AFSC to Viet-Duc Hospital in Hanoi. Steve Cary, then-chairman of the Board of AFSC, is to his right. From 1969 through 1974, AFSC provided medical supplies to Viet-Duc Hospital in Hanoi and to the Red Cross of North Vietnam.*

bicycle tires, and jute rugs.

Today the AFSC's extensive programs in Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam focus on village-level community development. The people discuss their own priorities for development, and the AFSC assists in such areas as hydrology, agriculture, education, animal health, food production, and small credit programs. Rapid economic changes throughout the region often create hardship for women, older people, children, and ethnic groups in remote areas. AFSC addresses its programs to these vulnerable populations, with particular support for women's contributions to community and cultural survival.

In 1995, the United States marks the 20th anniversary of the end of the longest U.S. foreign war. The people of Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia now engage with the world community to develop their countries, having left the war behind them. The U.S. government, in contrast, has yet to fully normalize relations with Vietnam.

This year, as U.S. citizens reflect on the war in Indochina, some will visit the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C., releasing public and private grief. Some will remember the lesson from the anti-war movement: that we who stand for peace have more power than we know. Some, including the AFSC, will keep working to heal the wounds still evident in the United States and undertake the tasks of peace in Indochina—working slowly, in the Buddhist sense, one step at a time.



*Cambodia, and Laos. Irrigation can provide water for a the rainy season. AFSC supports 37 irrigation, drainage,*

## Resources for Reflection:

**Lady Borton, *After Sorrow: An American Among the Vietnamese*.** Viking, 1995. \$23.95. 320 pages. *After Sorrow* tells story upon story of ordinary Vietnamese, particularly women, who endured and achieved extraordinary things during the U.S. war against Viet Nam. Through her work for AFSC in Quang Ngai during the war, with boat people in Malaysia afterward, and her visits and field work in northern Vietnam, Lady Borton has developed a clear cultural lens through which readers may view the loveliness of Vietnamese culture. This creates a gentle backdrop for what would otherwise be a relentlessly harsh story.

## **Peacework: Global Thought and Local Action for Nonviolent Social Change**

This February 1995 theme issue, "Still Seeking Reconciliation: 20 Years After the War in Vietnam," includes 32 pages of fresh analysis, wrenching memoirs, and forward-thinking essays by Noam Chomsky, Lady Borton, Joe Gerson, Cherrie Rankin, Brian Willson, Paul Shannon, and others. Available for \$2 from AFSC, 2161 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02140, telephone (617) 661-6130.

## **Audio-visual: Vietnam: Face of Development**

documents AFSC work in Vietnam, 1991-1993. 23 minutes. Available from AFSC New England Regional Office, which has a library of more than 80 films and videos related to the war in Indochina. Contact AFSC, 2161 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge MA 02140, or telephone (617) 497-5273 for information and a free catalog.



*A Thanh Hoa woman weaves a rug for sale by a cooperative. AFSC provided aid to such cooperatives in northern Vietnam in 1975-1987, enabling women to increase their productivity.*

# Briefs

## Denver peacemaker wins award for three decades' work

In 1967, Tom Rauch helped found the Denver chapter of Clergy and Laity Concerned. That was the beginning of nearly three decades of peace activism for Tom, who is now project director of AFSC's Rocky Flats/Nuclear Disarmament Project in Denver, Colorado. This past January, the Metropolitan State College of Denver honored Tom with a 1995 Martin Luther King, Jr., Peace Award for his commitment to pacifism and the peace movement.

Tom was a Catholic priest for seven years, but he left the church ministry in 1971 to give more time to his peace activities. As director of the Rocky Flats project, he worked in partnership with numerous groups to end nuclear weapons production at Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Facility outside Denver, calling attention to the dangers posed to workers and nearby residents. He is now a participant in the national Military Production Network.

Tom's history with AFSC dates back to 1974, when he started as a volunteer. His other peace-related activities include helping organize the Denver and Colorado Freeze Campaigns in 1981 and working with religious-based peace groups such as the Interreligious Peace Network.

## 'Sweat equity' builds center in North Carolina

When the Racial Justice Program in Greensboro, North Carolina, decided to develop a Racial Justice Resource Center, those of us who were involved discovered the truth in one of William Penn's most cherished sayings.

The program's vision is to build bridges of understanding between people of different races, providing a model for other communities. The purpose of the center is to provide a comprehensive collection of books, materials, computer programs, and curricula focusing on racial issues, diversity training, conflict resolution, and mediation. Staff members will offer training on- and off-site.

The plan was solid—the problem was lack of funds. It was then that program staff began to "...see what love can do." After consulting with Alan Hawkes, a builder and member of First Friends Meeting, we developed a remodeling plan. Wrangler Company donated T-shirts, used for fund raising. In addition, New Garden Friends Meeting gave us a small grant, and several individual donors contributed. Within a month, we raised enough money to pay for remodeling materials.

Our next hurdle was labor—which turned out to be no hurdle at all. On January 2, the sound of hammers rang in the new year at our office. Three members of First Friends Meeting—Alan Hawkes, Noel Berendt, and Kemp Phillips—are doing the



entire remodeling, with the assistance of Doug Wheeler, a young man who lives near the office. Another member of First Friends, Wayne Jackson, is helping with the plumbing. The landlord has agreed to do some major repairs and to provide an electrician to install track lighting. As soon as the remodeling is completed, the members of Alternative Resources of the Triad, a group that sublets the building, will do the painting. By spring, the center will be in operation.

The financial support of New Garden Friends, Wrangler, and several donors helped get the project started. The loving "sweat equity" of excited, committed volunteers made it come alive.

— Mandy Lotz

Mandy Lotz is assistant director of the North Carolina Racial Justice Program.

## Bartering is alive and well in Summit County, Ohio

What do the African-American feminist and abolitionist Sojourner Truth, abolitionist John Brown, and Alcoholics Anonymous founder Bob Smith have in common? In Summit County, Ohio, the connection is obvious: The faces of these three pioneers grace a not-so-new form of currency, "Summit Hours," that's backed by the time and skills of its holders.

Summit Hours revives the ages-old concept of bartering. The nearly 90 people who participate in this new program sponsored by AFSC's Northeast

Ohio office can trade their skills and time for one-hour, half-hour, and quarter-hour notes. These notes—perhaps in combination with a "pure" barter and standard U.S. currency—can be used for goods and services provided by participants. A bimonthly directory and monthly potluck dinners help Summit Hours participants keep up with what's avail-

able for barter.

Greg Coleridge, coordinator of the Budget Priorities/Disarmament Program in the Northeast Ohio office, has firsthand experience with the effectiveness of Summit Hours. "I've done probably a dozen oil changes, and used Hours to purchase child care, bread, and jewelry," he says. "I've also given juggling lessons and bought some fudge with Hours."

Not surprisingly, however, Summit Hours is undergoing some growing pains. "It's difficult to

get across that this is not a substitute for money, but that it complements money," Greg says.

He adds: "Money is simply a medium of exchange, but many people put intrinsic value in greenbacks. If we can put our faith in something else, like Summit Hours, then it can work as a medium of exchange."



## Newsprint shortage hits QSB

The paper you see under this ink is not the paper we planned to use. For one thing, it's prettier. For another, it's more expensive. And most important, it was available at press time.

The newsprint shortage in the United States made it impossible for us to get our usual supply for QSB in time for publication, so we had to choose something else. The white paper we selected is recycled, so it's within our tradition of social conscience.

We spend the dollars carefully that you donate to our programs, and we believe that communicating the AFSC's message to you and others is an important part of this. Don't be surprised if the fall issue of QSB looks different again; we have some shopping and considering to do.

## 'Teach your children well. . .' cont'd from page 1

sion and changes the channel. Do you smash his face, or do you work out a compromise?

"Many elementary and middle school kids have either been victims of violence, wreaked violence on others, or managed to have it both ways," says Rick Wilson, a H.I.P.P. trainer and AFSC staff member in West Virginia. "As you may have guessed, we don't work just with polite, middle-class little angels."

In fact, one of the goals of the program is to get participants from a cross-section of a school's population, from all races and social groups. That gives the students a chance to find out things about people who are different than they are. For example, Lisa talks about a Muslim student whose behavior had seemed odd to his classmates, and so he'd been

left out of things. In the H.I.P.P. workshop, "He was shy, but he opened up and shared things about himself that created a real understanding and acceptance from the other kids."

One of the ground rules of the program is that people listen carefully and respectfully to each other. That can apply to the home scene, too. The students probably have more power than they think in conflict situations. "You know, it takes two to escalate a conflict," says Lisa. But it only takes one person to take the first steps toward reconciliation, and there's no age requirement on that role.

Help Increase the Peace: A Manual for Facilitators, by Lisa Mundy and Erik Wissa, is available for people who would like to find out about the techniques. To order, see page 10.

# Witness at the Turning Point

**N**ATIONS ARE made of people, and changes that begin with individuals lay the foundation for changes on a broader scale. This is the belief of Sandra Dunsmore Pentland, whose work in El Salvador bears witness to her wisdom.

In 1989 when she became the Quaker International Affairs Representative (QIAR) to El Salvador for the AFSC, the civil war was at a turning point. Traditionally, QIARs work quietly behind the scenes throughout the world to open the lines of communication and increase understanding. They bring people together for off-the-record gatherings, exchanges, and study tours. Representatives provide ways for people to get to know each other informally and learn about each other as human beings, rather than as faceless enemies.

After talking to Salvadorans in many sectors, Sandra believed that some sort of negotiated settlement would come fairly soon. She anticipated this would involve the business community, because there was an emerging consensus that the socioeconomic causes of the war had to be addressed. So she started a year-long round of interviews with business people, seeking their views, establishing relationships, and earning their trust.

Eventually she planned an informal gathering of business and academic people in June 1991. It was an ice-breaker. "The most important thing that people said in the evaluation at the end was, 'We're all Salvadorans. Despite our political or ideological differences, we're all Salvadorans, and we can talk to each other.'"

She organized another gathering with a riskier mix of participants—business and labor leaders—at the point that the peace accords were to go into effect in January 1992. "There we were, beginning with supper together on the last night of the war,

and we got up the next morning to start work on the first day of peace. Something enormously important and historic was taking place, and, at the same time, the people I invited were sitting down for the first time, face to face, talking to people they had clearly considered the enemy."

The peace accords stipulated that a social and economic forum was to be created, and most of the participants were now ready to be part of that. With satisfaction, Sandra watched her role as facilitator draw to a close, and she looked forward to starting an AFSC program in community reconstruction as El Salvador tried to recover from more than a decade of civil war.

It was not to be. Sandra received a phone call asking her to be executive secretary of the new *Foro* ("forum"), which would bring together top leaders from government, business, and labor to work on economic reforms. She asked why they did not pick a Salvadoran for the important role of executive secretary, and they said she was the only person all sides could agree upon. She would be responsible for organizing and coordinating the *Foro*'s

work and for recording decisions and taking minutes—an interpretive role that could be used for manipulation or political interest in the wrong person's hands.

The *Foro* did not result in major policy changes, but was very important at a key stage in the peace process. In a war-weary country, it built hope that former enemies could talk and act, even in small ways, in the interest of El Salvador as a whole.

Her role in the *Foro* took a year, and she used many of the skills she had learned in facilitating the small seminars. "When you're in a polarized situation, people need to be sure the ground rules are fair for meeting together. When I look back at our work in El Salvador, I think that was the most important contribution we made."

TERRY FOSS



## AFSC's Long Walk in El Salvador

**The 1950s.** The first AFSC project in El Salvador began in 1951, when a group of AFSC staff members worked with the United Nations and government ministry to develop planned communities where migrant workers were settled in homes of brick and tile, with plots of ground for growing beans and corn. The men worked on a cooperative farm, with the expectation that they would pay for their homes from the profits of the farm. These projects established AFSC's link with El Salvador—a link that grew progressively stronger.

**The 1960s and 1970s.** Youth volunteers worked in a number of village development projects through the AFSC VISA program. The youth warned of the unresolved social and economic conflicts about land and human rights, and civil war erupted at the end of the 1970s.

**The 1980s.** Large numbers of Salvadorans fled army attacks, and the AFSC helped with human rights observers, medical staff, and relief supplies in the UN-supervised refugee camps in Honduras. In El Salvador, the AFSC helped dozens of grassroots groups rebuild and press for a just resolution of the conflict. AFSC offices across the United States helped organize a citizens' movement to oppose U.S. military intervention in El Salvador and to support safe haven for refugees. Quaker International Affairs Representatives based in San Salvador provided information and analysis for this movement.

**The 1990s.** AFSC's earlier efforts paved the way for Sandra Pentland, AFSC staff member, to help with post-war reconciliation (see article, this page) and with establishing PROCAP, a training and development organization that supports community reconstruction and youth projects in former war zones. In the 1994 election—the first peace-time election in 30 years—AFSC staff member Virginia Druhe acted as an official observer. AFSC's involvement in El Salvador is winding down. PROCAP has become an independent organization, and the tenure of the Quaker International Affairs Representative has ended. El Salvador has much work left to be done, and the AFSC will find new ways to support its moves toward peaceful development.

## AFSC's new program for Korea

# 'A deepening, not a beginning'

**S**OMETHING OLD and something new—those are the building blocks that will get AFSC's new behind-the-scenes diplomatic program for Korea off the ground.

Something old is AFSC's involvement in the region, which goes back several decades. Something new are Ed and Teresita Reed, the husband-wife team who are the new Quaker International Affairs Representatives for Korea. They will spread the welcome mat and put heart and soul into the program.

Teresita is from the Philippines, where she worked for more than 20 years as a journalist, surviving the period of martial law and helping publicize a variety of social programs in agriculture, health, and the arts. Ed, who was born in Mississippi, first went to Korea in 1969 as a Peace Corps volunteer, later returning to do research in development stud-

ies. Beginning in 1986, he was assistant director of program of AFSC's International Division in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He speaks Korean.

As staff members of the new Korea program, Ed and Teresita join a long line of people who have worked as Quaker International Affairs Representatives in areas of conflict throughout the world. QIARs have a tough and risky job; they try to create opportunities for relationships to develop across political divisions, for understanding to grow in place of stereotypes and misconceptions.

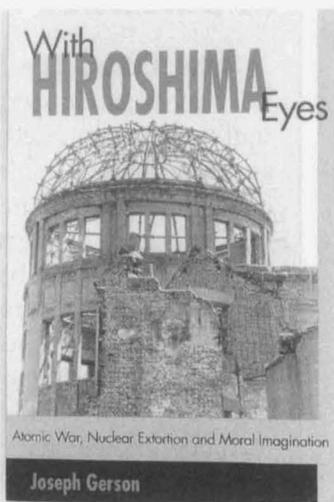
Their presence also provides a channel of information to the outside world, providing a regional perspective on international issues. An example is the international focus on North Korea's weaponry, even though other countries in the area—including Japan, South Korea, and Russia—have far more military might. Such observations might be

pointed out if the views of people in the area were heard.

Ed and Teresita went to their new roles expecting to listen, rather than to advocate a particular point of view. Their home base is in Japan, where there is a large Korean community and a strong base of support among Japanese Quakers. Many Japanese remember the Quakers' nonjudgmental work in reconstruction after World War II. The Reeds also speak of the AFSC's credibility with North Koreans, based on years of listening respectfully.

"Our hope is based on the fact that we're not beginning a piece of work," says Ed. "We're building on a strong historical basis and careful groundwork. There are a lot of doors already open to us; we just have to go through them. Ours is a deepening of the work that's been done, not a beginning."

**With Hiroshima Eyes**, by Joseph Gerson. Published by New Society Publishers in cooperation with the AFSC. 224 pages. Cost: \$16.95, plus postage and handling. See article, page 11. Order below.

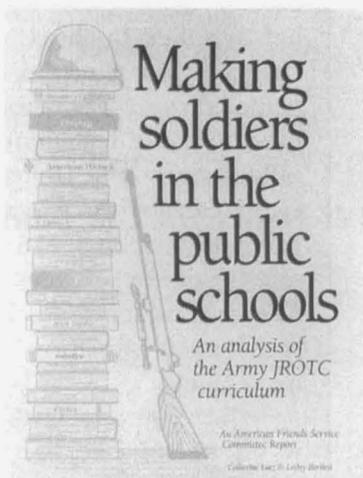


**Operation Blockade: A City Divided.** Written by Jonathan Fried for AFSC's Immigration and Law Enforcement Project. 85 pages. Cost: \$5, plus postage and handling. Order below. Examines historic relationship between El Paso, Texas, and Ciudad Juárez, Mexico, and the impact of the United States' 1993 border blockade there. Based on newspaper articles, letters to the editor, and public opinion.

**Making Soldiers in the Public Schools**, by Catherine Lutz and Lesley Bartlett, with assistance from Harold Jordan. 40 pages. Cost: \$3.50, plus postage and handling. See article, page 11. Order below.

**Breaking the Cycle: West Virginia Listening Project on Violence and Criminal Justice**, by Rick Wilson. 124 pages. Cost: \$10, plus \$2.50 postage and handling. See article, this page. Order below.

**Help Increase the Peace: A Manual for Facilitators**, by Lisa Mundy and Erik Wissa. 125 pages. Cost: \$30 for people who are interested in finding out more about H.I.P.P.; \$15 for those who are starting a H.I.P.P. project; plus \$3 for shipping and handling. See article, page 1. Send orders to Erik Wissa, American Friends Service Committee, 821 Euclid Avenue, Syracuse, NY 13210, telephone (315) 475-4822.



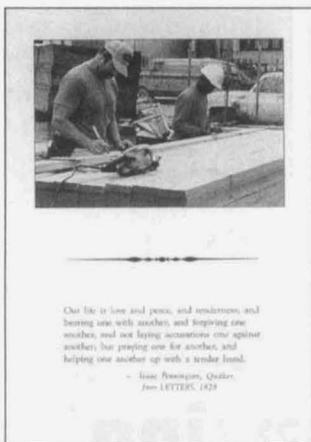
**He Alo A He Alo (Face to face).** Published by AFSC's Hawai'i Program Committee. 175 pages. Cost: \$12.95, plus postage and handling. Order below. Anthology of Native Hawaiian voices and viewpoint. Interviews, essays, poetry, and art.

**"No Time to Wait: Conflict and Chaos in Angola,"** by John Stewart, AFSC Southern Africa International Affairs Representative. This December 1994 BRIDGES report analyzes the fragile peace in Angola. 7 pages. Cost: \$2.50. Order below.

**"A Daunting Mission: The Training of UN Peacekeepers,"** by David Jackman, Quaker United Nations Associate Representative. This December 1994 BRIDGES report examines UN peacekeeper training processes and recommends changes. 8 pages. Cost: \$2.50. Order below.

**With Our Own Eyes: A Video Journey to Hiroshima and Nagasaki.** Produced by David Goodman and Denis Doyon for the AFSC. 20 minutes. Cost: \$10, including postage and handling. Order below. Portrays the experiences of 16 teenagers and four adults who traveled to Japan to the sites of the atomic bombings and explored the issues involved. Includes study guide with suggested questions for discussion.

**Nameless to Nameless: The Material Aids Program of the American Friends Service Committee.** Video. 14 minutes. Free, but donations accepted. Tells story of the people who make the AFSC Material Aids Program happen, with anecdotes and reflections. Useful for Friends meetings, churches, synagogues, and school groups. Order below.



**AFSC Notecards.** Package of 10. Cost: \$8, plus \$1 for postage and handling. Features color pictures of five AFSC programs, with an inspirational quotation by Isaac Pennington. Matching white envelopes. Good for gifts or personal stationery. Order below.

**Sealing Our Borders: The Human Toll.** 1992 report of AFSC's Immigration and Law Enforcement Project. 64 pages. Cost: \$2.50 each; ten or more: \$2, plus postage and handling. Order below. Reports of 1,274 cases of abuse by law enforcement officials, including physical abuse, violations of due process, seizure or destruction of property, false arrest, and illegal deportation. Calls for on-site congressional hearings and new standards of accountability for immigration law enforcement.

## Violence and Criminal Justice Breaking the Cycle

**W**HAT DO YOU GET when you ask a wide range of people about violence and criminal justice in the state of West Virginia? You get lots of good ideas and find a surprising amount of common ground.

Those were among the discoveries made by the West Virginia Listening Project. The new book **Breaking the Cycle**, by Rick Wilson, quotes fifty people who were interviewed about their experiences and insights on violence and criminal justice. They came from a wide variety of backgrounds: prisoners, police and corrections officers, shelter workers, adult education workers, lawyers, magistrates, crime victims and their families, teachers, clergy, community organizers, youth workers, and others.

Although the interviews were conducted in West Virginia, the issues and ideas are of national concern.

The interviews were based on a technique developed by Herb Walters while at Rural Southern Voice for Peace. They were not intended as a scientific survey, but as an effort to start dialogue as well as gain insights. Listening Projects have been used in places throughout the country to help resolve community conflicts, to aid in organizing, to conduct public education, and to promote positive social change in a community. They have been conducted on topics as diverse as racial conflicts, neighborhood pollution, and breastfeeding.

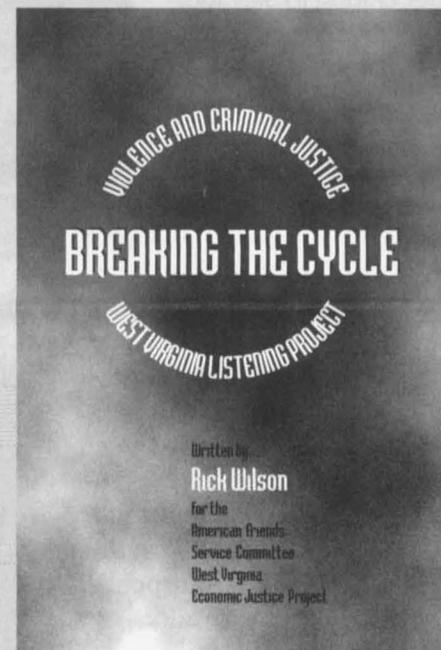
**Breaking the Cycle** contains personal vignettes, as well as many short quotations from the interviews. The longer stories include such things as the experiences of a battered woman, a prisoner, a corrections officer, and a minister. Every other chapter interprets themes and then lets the interviewees speak for themselves. People talk about the depth of their fear and concern regarding violence.

The book ends on an upbeat note with practical ideas about what can be done: organizing neighborhood watches, developing activities for young people, bolstering our educational system, offering vocational programs in prison, and establishing support groups for prisoners, former prisoners, victims, and family members.

There were lots of criticisms of the criminal justice system in the report, but many themes also emerged reflecting the failure of traditional anchors in our society: neighborhood and community ties, strong and loving families, a reliable and high-quality educational system. As a state trooper is quoted as saying: "I'm convinced that the only way to break the cycle is to break the spiritual hold. . . . People are held in loneliness or despair or deep hurts or pain, but something holds them and will not allow them to function normally."

Overwhelmingly, people talked about the value of personal contact, the need for ordinary citizens to take an interest and help out, and the ways of doing that. As a woman who suffered domestic abuse puts it: "A lot of times all it takes is a little intervention from you. Call the police. Offer someone a place to stay. I've knocked on the door when there's something going on and asked for an aspirin or for a pair of scissors or to borrow a ballpoint pen. Then I'll stay a while trying to make conversation. If more neighbors would do things like that, it would help a lot. Just make your presence known."

In the book's introduction, Rick Wilson says, "This is a book about hope." That may be hard to believe until one reads it, and then the voices and thoughts of these decent, caring people ring loud and clear. (See information, this page, for ordering.)



To place an order or get an AFSC publications catalog, contact Literature Resources, AFSC, 1501 Cherry St., Phila. PA 19102, or call toll free 1-(800) 226-9816; (215) 241-7048; FAX: (215) 241-7275. Make checks payable to AFSC, Literature Resources

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# With Hiroshima Eyes

IT IS A MORAL IMPERATIVE to uncover the truth about the past and the ever-present danger of the proliferation of nuclear weapons. And then we must find the will to change course. That is the theme of the latest book by Joseph Gerson, ***With Hiroshima Eyes: Atomic War, Nuclear Extortion and Moral Imagination***, published by New Society Publishers in cooperation with the American Friends Service Committee.

Joseph Gerson is an AFSC staff member in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where he is a program coordinator for the New England region. In this book, he draws on long and still-censored work of leading U.S. and Japanese historians, which unveils the horrible truth about the role of the United States in "playing the master card"—dropping the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. According to Gerson, this "...had less to do with bringing the war in Asia and the Pacific to a close, than it did with establishing the rules of the game for the Cold War era that had already begun."

Thus, it follows that the "'atomic diplomacy' of Hiroshima and Nagasaki served as the model for the 'nuclear extortion' practiced by successive U.S. presidents and leaders of other nuclear powers from 1945 to the present."

Alternating with a careful historical and po-

litical analysis are the eloquent and moving testimonies of *hibakusha* (witness/survivors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki) who appeal for the abolition of nuclear weapons: "Humanity must never again inflict nor suffer the sacrifice and torture we have experienced...If our ordeals and resurrection could serve as a fortress to protect the life and happiness of humanity in the atomic age, we would be able to express from the bottom of our hearts that 'We are glad that we are alive.'"

***With Hiroshima Eyes*** develops its thesis in chapters entitled: "The Cuban Missile Crisis—For Reasons of Power and

Prestige"; "Vietnam—Failures of Nuclear Diplomacy"; and "The Middle East—Nuclear Blackmail and 'The Prize.'" In the final chapter, "Approaching the 21st Century—The Imperative of Nuclear Weapons Abolition Remains," the author outlines proposals for achieving nuclear disarmament. He ends with an urgent call to acknowledge the horrors of the past and to recognize the dangers of the future.

***With Hiroshima Eyes*** was published to inform the debate surrounding the 50th anniversary of the first atomic bombings and to reinvigorate disarmament organizing in a critical period of international transition. (To order, see page 10.)

Author Joseph Gerson is available for lectures, other public speaking, and interviews with the media. Contact: AFSC, telephone (617) 661-6130.



ROBERTA FOSS

**While the commemoration of the 50th anniversaries of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki will briefly introduce and re-sensitize us to the horrors and the dangers of nuclear weapons, the reasons for the bombings will be concealed.**

— Joseph Gerson

## Comparing promises with reality . . .

# Making Soldiers in the Public Schools

WHAT ARE public schools for? What values and what kind of education should they promote? Does the military have any role to play in educating young people in a democracy?

In ***Making Soldiers in the Public Schools: an Analysis of the Army JROTC Curriculum***, Catherine Lutz and Lesley Bartlett write that public schools should "... promote respect for others, critical thinking, and basic academic skills." In contrast, the presence of the military, via JROTC programs, "...promotes authoritarian values instead of democratic ones; and ... uses rote learning methods and drill in lieu of critical thinking and problem-solving skills."

***Making Soldiers*** is about the large and rapidly growing military presence in U.S. high schools. It compares the claims made by the JROTC program with the realities. The authors note the absence of data to substantiate most of the JROTC's claims.

"The unchallenged acceptance of JROTC in the public schools presumes that military institutions are superior...to civilian ones; that military solutions are best suited to respond to contemporary social problems; and that the military's interests are synonymous with the interests of the American people."

The authors are from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where Lutz is associate professor of anthropology and Bartlett is a graduate student in educational anthropology. They worked with Harold Jordan, coordinator of AFSC's Youth and Militarism Program, in writing the study, published by the AFSC.

JROTC's claim that it provides discipline, prevents drug abuse and dropouts, provides leadership training, and benefits "at-risk" students can appear attractive to school districts. However, Lutz and

Bartlett caution: "JROTC programs are not held answerable to school boards or the public for the claims they advertise or for their impact on students."

In comparing the JROTC curriculum and two widely used high school civics and history textbooks, ***Making Soldiers*** concludes that the JROTC curriculum "...portrays citizenship as being primarily achieved through military service, providing only a short discussion of civil rights, and downplaying the importance of civilian control of the military."

Lutz and Bartlett show that the JROTC curriculum defines leadership "...as respect for constituted authority and the chain of command, rather than as the ability to imagine new goals and promote democratic consensus-building."

Given the disturbing increase of violence in the nation's schools, ***Making Soldiers*** points out that "...at a time when schools are employing a variety of methods, from peer conflict mediation to metal

detectors, to curb incidents of violence in the school, create safe learning environments, and teach peaceful means of conflict resolution, JROTC's introduction of weapons training, its partnership with the NRA to sponsor marksmanship matches, and its modeling of militaristic solutions to problems contradict schools' stated opposition to violence."

In conclusion, ***Making Soldiers*** challenges school boards and others thinking of adding or continuing a JROTC unit. "There is no evidence that the program reduces dropout rates, increases the knowledge or analytic skills of those who participate, or prevents drug abuse....And there is concern that the expansion of the JROTC program diverts local school funds from other educational programs, represents a form of tracking, introduces weapons into schools, and constitutes a proliferation of military influence into what should be a strictly civilian world of education and youth services." (To order, see page 10.)

## JROTC Turned Back in California

Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) suffered a setback in Richmond, California, due to heavy lobbying by the local AFSC office and other groups.

Working in coalition with several activist groups and Richmond residents, AFSC's Oakland, California-based Peace and Justice Youth Outreach Program turned the heat up at a school board meeting, getting media coverage about the proposal. In the end, the plan was tabled because of the controversy. Still, the larger picture throughout the United States is grim: JROTC hopes to have 2,900 programs in place by 1996, up from 1,600 in 1992.

And it's likely to be back in Richmond, too. "There's a

great likelihood that this idea will resurface," says LaRaye Lyles, coordinator of AFSC's Youth Outreach Program. She says that the principal at Richmond High School was in the military and supports the idea of having a JROTC program at the school.

As a result, the coalition that generated the controversy continues to meet and is strengthening its ties to the local media. The AFSC Youth Outreach Program also made a presentation to Richmond students that was filmed for a local TV program. No one knows when JROTC will try again in Richmond, but the coalition plans to be ready whenever that happens.

# Loaves and fishes, bread and cheese

by Melissa Kay Elliott

IT WAS HALFWAY THROUGH the film on South Africa that Frances Crowe realized the luncheon guests had stopped eating their chicken salad. "All the forks were on the plates," she says, grinning.

The film portrayed the effects of oppression under apartheid. The people who couldn't finish their meals were members of the Board of Trustees at the University of Massachusetts. And after the film, they voted to divest the university's assets in South Africa.

"It wasn't that easy in all the colleges," says Frances, as if this success were a breeze. In fact, she had arranged to have the film brought by bus from New York City to Northampton, Massachusetts, but then watched the bus sweep by because no one needed to get off. So, she jumped into her car, grabbed the film at the next stop, and sped back. "And I didn't have time to drive all the way around to where the luncheon was being held, so I just drove across the grass."

## As easy as that.

This is the kind of grit and fire Frances Crowe brought to four decades of work with the American Friends Service Committee in Northampton, from which she retired in September 1994. Frances is a tiny but dynamic woman, straight-backed, with a fluffy cap of white hair framing round, brown eyes behind glasses. She laughs easily with a voice that invites others to join in and tells her stories with a relish that makes the words dance.

She grew up in Carthage, Missouri, where members of the Ku Klux Klan were well-known in the community. She and her family held to different values and were avoided to some extent by their neighbors. "I think I was born seeing the injustices of the world," she says.

Although she supported World War II as a young woman, she became

**Building peace is like sharing loaves and fishes—the message grows as it's passed along. That's the way Frances Crowe has done it for forty-some years.**

TERRY FOSS



a pacifist after she had children and became aware of the effects of the nuclear arms race.

It all started one night when her husband Tom, a radiologist, came home talking about how the fresh milk supply was contaminated from the testing of nuclear weapons. Frances started using powdered milk for their three children, but decided that wouldn't do. So she wrote personal notes to 75 women in Northampton, inviting them to a discussion. Out of that group grew the Sane Nuclear Policy Committee and a local chapter of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

"I considered the nurturing of our children my life's work, and I put a lot into it, so I couldn't bear to see. . .," she says, letting her voice trail off at the prospect of losing a child to war.

Frances became a member of

AFSC's Peace Education Committee in the 1950s, arranging to bring speakers to Western Massachusetts. In the late sixties, she set up a draft counseling center in the Crowes' basement. "We bought a lot of bread and cheese in those days," she says. To find interested young people, she picked up college-age hitchhikers on the road between Amherst and Northampton. "They all had the draft on their minds. They had every idea you could imagine about how to get out of it." Each group counseling session started with John Woolman's question, "Young man, what are you objecting to?" Answering that helped prepare the young men "to speak truth to power," she believed.

It's harder to get people's attention about nuclear weapons and military spending. "The greatest frustration in this work is to get people to

understand the reality of the military budget and get that shell off their heads," she says with an irritated sweep of her hand. If people understood how the military budget affects their lives—the amount of money that leaves their communities to support the military, instead of going toward schools and health care and job training—they would see how the military budget robs them personally.

One approach that gets people's attention is to place disarmament issues on the ballot through initiative measures. In 1980, the AFSC and Traprock Peace Center worked together on a measure in Western Massachusetts that called for freezing production of nuclear arms. Organizers took the issue to town meetings and city councils, starting local discussions and getting publicity. When it passed, it garnered national press attention. After that, the group initiated four more ballot measures on nuclear disarmament and won them all.

Frances is concerned that people who work for unpopular causes may get discouraged by lack of support in their communities. "That's why I think it's important to tell the good stories, to affirm ourselves, to say to ourselves, 'We were right all along. We should just keep doing what we're doing.'"

Stories from the past help us keep things in perspective. Last fall she studied the history of persistence and quiet activity in the Black community before the civil rights movement. "That helps me look at this period we're in now as a time of quiet preparation."

Her life has proved how effective one person can be, and she would like others to know they can do the same. "I think we all have a lot more power than we know. I would tell people not to take negative impressions from others onto themselves. We should come together and give each other credit for what we're doing."

## Special Occasions . . .

## . . . deserve special gifts.

For the next birthday, anniversary, wedding, or graduation in your circle, make your present a contribution to the AFSC. Here's a sampling of programs you can support:

**Haiti.** A campaign to collect school supplies for children is underway. A gift of \$25 will pay for shipping 12 pounds of supplies.

**New Mexico** The AFSC supplies wool yarn at cost for weaving rugs, which are sold to supplement incomes of farm families. A gift of \$50 will supply materials for one rug.

**Vietnam.** Much of our work in Vietnam is focused in communities of ethnic minorities. Mosquito nets are needed to protect families in areas where malaria is a threat. A gift of \$75 will buy nine nets.

We will send our beautiful "iris all occasion" card notifying the recipient of your generous gesture.

*Thank you!*

- \$25 for Haiti
- \$50 for New Mexico
- \$75 for Vietnam
- \$\_\_\_\_\_ for all AFSC programs

SEND TO: AFSC Development Office  
1501 Cherry Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19102-1425

A gift for:

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Occasion: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

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