

# Between the Lines

Nuremberg Actions, P.O.Box 13, Boulder Creek CA 95006

May 1991 #9

## DECADE OF INTERNATIONAL LAW?

Remember when the 1990's were made the Decade of International Law by the United Nations? That was shortly before the United States ran away with the Security Council, bribing, cajoling and threatening everyone but Yemen and Cuba into ignoring the premise that the United Nations was created to "save the succeeding generations from the scourge of war". Consider the following:

Article 1 of the UN Charter includes among the purposes, the bringing about "by peaceful means and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes..."

Article 2, paragraph 3 stipulates: "All members shall settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such manner that international peace and security and justice are not endangered."

Article 27: "Decisions of the Security Council on all other matters shall be made by an affirmative vote of nine members including the concurring votes of the permanent members; providing that, in decisions under Chapter VI (see 33 below)...a party to a dispute shall abstain from voting." Since the US had already fully armed the region in preparation of war, it was clearly party to the dispute. In addition, China, a permanent member, abstained from the vote.

Article 33: "The parties to any dispute, the continuance of which is likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security, shall, first of all, seek a solution by negotiation, inquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement, resort to regional agencies or arrangements or other peaceful means of their own choice."

Article 41 states that economic and diplomatic sanctions must "prove to be inadequate" before the Security Council may take action by "air, sea or Land".

Articles 42-47 include actions by the Security Council and its Military Staff Committee, which "shall consist of the Chiefs of Staff of the permanent members of the Security Council or their representatives." (Art. 47.2) This Committee has met regularly since 1945 doing little, and is now meeting seriously.

Article 47.3: "The Military Staff Committee shall be responsible, under the Security Council, for the strategic direction of any armed forces placed at the disposal of the Security Council. Questions relating to the command of such forces shall be worked out subsequently."

That is the law. The UN Charter was ratified by the US Congress, and is as binding as any other Federal statute.

Material taken from EB Women for Peace, Neiklejohn Civil Liberties Inst. and other sources.

REPORTER: Mr. Gandhi, what do you think of Western Civilization?

MR. GANDHI: I think it would be a good idea!



Abraham Zwickel, 87, blocks a weapons truck exiting CNWS

## NUREMBERG ACTIONS CELEBRATES

On Saturday, June 15th celebrations will be held at the Concord Naval Weapons Station to commemorate 4 years of continuous resistance to US war crimes around the world. Nuremberg Actions was founded on June 10th, 1987 in response to US weapons shipments to the government of El Salvador. Activists will gather at the vigil site at 10 am for a potluck brunch.

At 10:30, two speakers will address the group: Walter Huguet, the coordinator of CRECE will give an update on the rapidly changing situation in El Salvador; Karen Parker, a noted international law attorney will speak about the upcoming tribunals being organized by former US Attorney General Ramsey Clark and others to make Iraq, the US and its allies accountable for war crimes in the Middle East.

Following the speakers, the birthday festivities will begin. While activist musicians Maxina Ventura, Daniel Zwickel and Francisco Herrera inspire the crowd, participants will create a banner to be presented as a birthday card to the Commander of the base: Visions of Peace & Justice. We hope to use this opportunity to share with people working at the base our common desire for a future based on 'life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for all', as guaranteed by the founders of this revolutionary nation in their own heroic battle against colonialism and tyranny.

Please come if you can, bring food to share, and bring poems, photos, artwork, articles, etc. to include in the collage banner. Some art materials will be provided.

## NICARAGUA: REPORTS FROM THE CAMPO

Charles Gray:

While so much attention and struggle focused on the Gulf War, the media ignored Central America. The US was busy here, however, reinstating military aid to El Salvador, increasing pressure on Panama to scrap the Canal Treaty and by continuing the economic strangulation of Nicaragua and covertly aiding the Nicaraguan extreme right. Surprisingly, the US did cut off military aid, but not so-called 'economic aid' to Guatemala for human rights violations (read tortures, massacres and killings). The US action followed the torture and murder of a US businessman, Michael Devine. It did not occur while 'only' Guatemalans were being killed.

In spite of the multiple crises facing Nicaragua, the FSLN spared two of its top people for peacemaking missions to the Middle East. Daniel Ortega and Miguel D'Escoto spent much time in many capitals from Morocco to New Delhi attempting to prevent the war and then to stop it. An article in the Miami Herald credited them with having persuaded President Saddam Hussein to release the hostages before Christmas.

Land hunger is perhaps the most volatile issue in the Nicaraguan countryside. The Right seeks to pit the ex-contra campesinos against the campesinos of the cooperatives, insisting that the land for the ex-contra must come from the cooperatives, even though most of the productive land is held by private landowners. Though ten years of war certainly polarized the campesinos, there are those who are forming new alliances of poor campesinos and poor ex-contra against the rich land-owners. The association of farmers (UNAG) and the

FSLN are trying to unite the campesinos whether ex-contra or not. It is amazing to see cooperative members who were displaced by the war and who lost many loved ones due to contra violence now recognizing the ex-contra as land hungry peasants who need help.

Dorothy Grenada, on the Women's Health Clinic:

The demand for health care grows. Where previously we saw 15 people of an afternoon, we now see 30-40. People are sicker, especially children. During the Min. of Health strike our work load understandably increased. Now, though the strike is over, there are few medicines and often no workers in the Health Post. We're using more herbal remedies, reserving manufactured medicines, especially antibiotics, for selected cases.

Many ex-contras are coming to us for help. These men are usually sad, worried and present with stress-related problems. As I try to loosen the knotted muscles in their necks, I am reminded that they too are victims, perhaps more so, because they don't even have the dream. Mothers' sons all. To donate medicines or other help, contact the Nuremberg Actions office.

## COLLATERAL DAMAGE OVER THE YEARS

A survey of the death count in some of the United States more recent and well-known wars would wipe out the entire populations of some US states, if equivalent US deaths were tallied.

	<u>Population</u>	<u>War Deaths</u>	<u>US Equivalent</u>
Iraq	17 million	200,000	3,000,000
Panama	2 million	3,000	375,000
Nicaragua	3 million	40,000	3,200,000
El Salvador	5 million	70,000	3,500,000
<u>Vietnam</u>	<u>45 million</u>	<u>2,500,000</u>	<u>13,500,000</u>
Total			23,575,000

## 21 YEARS AFTER KENT STATE

### CAMBODIA STILL A NIGHTMARE

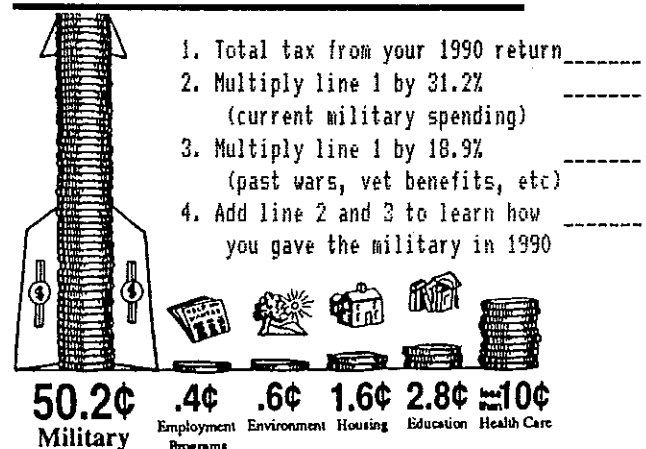
Every day more Cambodians, primarily civilians, lose lives and limbs in violence related to the civil war. This year they face imminent famine because the rice harvest is down 30% due to mines in rice fields, lack of money for fertilizer and a scarcity of rain. Mines injure between 600-1000 people each month. The war has displaced 200,000 people inside the country and driven others to flee to Thailand. The displaced people have no way to meet their basic food needs and are vulnerable to mines when they leave the camps to forage for food. Even the camps are vulnerable to attack. Each Cambodian death adds to the several millions killed violently since 1968 by US blanket bombings, the killing fields of the Khmer Rouge from 1975-79 and the present civil war.

All signs point to the Khmer Rouge manipulating the UN Peace Plan to gain control of Cambodia very soon. As the struggle continues, we must renew our commitment to prevent the further genocide of the Cambodian people. As Americans, we must take responsibility for our government's role in Cambodia's troubles. As members of Nuremberg Actions we must remember that Concord Naval Weapons Station provided 80% of the bombs used in Indochina, and continues to provide the weapons of mass destruction and terror that keep people subjugated all around the Pacific Rim.

For more info: Campaign to Oppose the Return of the Khmer Rouge, 318 4th St. NE, Washington DC 20002, 202-544-8446.

According to retired Colonel David Beckworth in November 1990, the US has spent \$8,000,000,000,000 on the military since 1947. Of that, \$3,000,000,000,000 has been since Reagan took office. At the same time, there are 67,000,000 Americans living below the poverty line. Of the entire world's annual military budget, 1/3 is spent by the US.

## YOUR PIECE OF THE PENTAGON



## PENTAGON PEACE RIBBON

The Peace Ribbon Project is a grassroots movement to make panels for a November 17, 1991 Washington DC event to put a peace ribbon around the Pentagon. The project's goal is to reprioritize our nation's resources from a military focus to social, human and environmental needs.

If you can help organize participants in your group, school or area, contact Pat Hawkins at PO Box 2121, Aptos CA 95001, or call 408-688-7021 until 9 pm.

## NEVADA TEST SITE SUCCESS

### From American Peace Test:

We recently completed a successful six day action at the Nevada Test Site from April 3-8 that brought together an unprecedented new alliance of people committed to ending nuclear weapons testing.

The action was organized in cooperation with the Western Shoshone National Council, the National Association of Radiation Survivors and the Alliance of Atomic Veterans. Spiritual leaders and representatives from 8 Native American nations, Downwinders, Atomic Veterans and over 1500 activists from across the country came together for 6 days of teach-ins, ceremonies, rallies and nonviolent direct action involving over 650 arrests.

The action was announced in New York this January by the newly-formed Global Anti-Nuclear Alliance after the US blocked efforts to complete negotiation of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty at the UN conference. The new level of international coordination was evidenced by simultaneous actions in Japan, Tahiti, Great Britain and the Netherlands, and by the presence of representatives of movements from 8 countries, including Tahiti, Japan, USSR, Australia and the Marshall Islands.

### Upcoming PEIS Hearings:

The DOE has been forced by environmental groups and public pressure to hold a series of nationwide Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement public hearings on their little known plans to spend billions of tax dollars to rebuild the nuclear weapons complex and continue nuclear weapons testing, production and environmental destruction for 60 more years! Speak out to the DOE's PEIS hearings by attending one in your area.

May 8	Miamisberg OH	May 15	Livermore CA
May 22	Los Alamos NM	June 5	Las Vegas NV
June 12	Washington DC	July 10	Columbia SC
July 17	Idaho Falls ID	July 24	Amarillo TX
July 31	Richland WA	Aug. 21	Atlanta GA
Aug. 28	Dak Ridge TN		

For more info: PEIS Task Force, 1350 New York Ave. NW Suite 300, Washington DC 20005, 202-624-9351.

## HANFORD WA. DISASTER

An EPA report investigating contaminated groundwater conditions at Hanford has disclosed the startling fact that enough plutonium to build 40 Nagasaki type bombs is contained within one 300 acre site at Hanford.

EPA regulators have also uncovered new evidence that over 100 million gallons of radioactive and chemical waste have been dumped directly into Hanford soils, some of which is finding its way into groundwater and eventually the Columbia river.

The contaminants come from the 177 tanks at Hanford, used to hold highly radioactive materials on an 'interim' basis, and were dumped into cribs, ditches and deep wells. 63% of the volume and 37% of all nuclear wastes generated by the US government since WWII are at the Hanford nuclear reservation.

The chemical wastes include tons of sodium, nitrates, cyanide, sulfates, phosphates and fluorides, while the radioactive elements include various isotopes of cesium, plutonium, technetium, strontium and cobalt--all dangerous to the environment and to people.

The liquids dumped into the soil were not the result of leaks, but deliberate releases of chemical and radioactive materials into the soil. Additionally, another 750,000 gallons is estimated to have leaked from the high level waste tanks.

For info: Coalition Organizing Hanford Opposition, c/o W2122 Dean, Spokane WA 99201, 509-325-3475.

## YOU ARE WHAT YOU EAT

Trabajadores Desplazados, a group of laid-off Green Giant frozen food workers from Watsonville CA, has begun a boycott campaign for 'jobs, justice and environment' against Pillsbury-Green Giant and its parent company Grand Metropolitan of Great Britain. Semi-skilled workers are taking on a multinational corporation with 1990 pre-tax profits of \$1.7 billion.

After averaging 14 years, on-call day and night, processing and packaging locally grown vegetables and earning \$7.61 per hour with medical and retirement benefits under union contract, hundreds of Green Giant workers in Watsonville learned that their jobs were gone. Pillsbury-Green Giant announced their relocation of vegetable production to Irapuato, Mexico, paying employees there about \$4 a day with few benefits.

By relocation to Mexico, Pillsbury-Green Giant increases annual profits by \$5 million on reduced wages alone, according to Teamsters Local 912 representing the laid-off workers. The company also profits from lower operating costs because of Mexico's minimal enforcement of environmental protections.

The displaced workers ask you to boycott all products of the Pillsbury-Green Giant corporation, and Grand Met's Burger King and Haagen Dazs.

For info: Boycott Pillsbury-Green Giant, 434 Main St. #222, Watsonville CA 95076, 408-728-5671.



## TRACK RECORD:

May 1st, 1991 is the 1420th day of continuous resistance to US war crimes at the Concord Naval Weapons Station. During the last month, a variety of creative gatherings and actions took place mostly organized by S. A. Appleby of Nuremberg Actions Marin. These included a flag washing and public wailing, and at the nuclear complex, a Good Friday cross planting, an Easter morning service and a strawberry and plum tree planting several days later. At both the cross and fruit tree plantings, arrests were made for trespassing. Arrested this month at the Weapons Station were Dorothy Brownold, David Duncombe, S. A. Appleby, Sue Crane, Victor Garcia, and Greg Getty (six times).

Efforts to 'disappear' the vigil escalated sharply this month, with a tire slashing and many signs, chairs and the literature table being stolen or destroyed during night hours in numerous separate incidents.

In addition to many trucks, eighteen movements of death trains took place, with a total of 122 loaded munitions cars, 108 of them highly explosive bombs and related materiel.

This month, Congressman George Miller's office revealed a plan to go into effect as soon as July to move Concord's missile maintenance facility to Seal Beach in southern California, which would involve trucking missiles to and fro through highly populated areas. Engineering work would go to another weapons station in Yorktown, VA. Miller sights anti-nuclear sentiment in the Bay Area, protesters and union disputes as the likely cause. The move would cost Concord 190 to 270 civilian jobs, depending on who you believe.

While Nuremberg Actions would like to see the base closed permanently, we do not feel that justice is served by moving work to non-union areas and endangering residents along the proposed route. According to James Wright, the local union president, the Navy will have to spend \$18 million to duplicate existing facilities at Seal Beach. "It's going to end up costing the taxpayers more money in the long run," Wright said.

Rev. David Duncombe has been charged with 6 counts of munitions blocking for his first arrests following jail time and probation for numerous counts of blocking last year. He will go to trial on June 19th. Dorothy Brownold, arrested on the same day as Duncombe, was also charged. It remains to be seen if this is a new hardline policy across the board, or a focus on Duncombe in particular. Greg Getty faces arraignment on May 8th.

This newsletter is the mostly monthly publication of Nuremberg Actions, and is sent to N.A. supporters who request it. Additional donations make it possible to distribute it more widely for educational purposes.

The goal of the newsletter is to support citizens' rights in calling for just, sustainable non-exploitive policies from government and business alike, through nonviolent, creative and responsible means. Submissions accepted to 20th of month. Editor and Publisher: Jennifer Viereck

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## CALENDAR

### AT THE TRACKS:

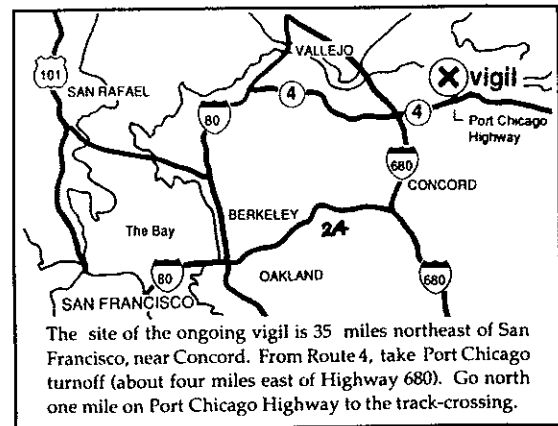
- 5/9--9 am Redwood Friends, Sonoma Co., War Tax Resisters Nonviolence discussion with David Hartsough of AFSC.
- 5/19--10:30 am Buddhist morning of Meditation. Sitting and walking. Rides leave Berkeley Zen Center at 9:15, 1933 Russell St.
- 6/15--10 am Nuremberg Actions 4th Anniversary Celebration: Visions of Peace and Justice with Walter Huguet of CRECE and Karen Parker, international law attorney. Music with Maxina Ventura, Francisco Hererra and Daniel Zwickel. Bring food to share and material for the Peace and Justice banner/collage to be presented to the base at 1 pm.

You can contact the vigil directly at PO Box 1637, Pittsburg CA, 94565, or leave a message at 415-689-9620.

### IN THE AREA:

- 5/18--6 pm Peace Coalition of Monterrey Co. Chicken Mole Dinner, 986 Hilby Ave. Seaside. \$8 adult, \$4 child  
Call 408-754-1705 for more info.
- 5/25--8 pm Pete Seeger Concert to benefit the Middle Eastern Children's Alliance, Berkeley Community Theatre. Only Bay area performance this year. 415-548-0542.
- 5/30--7:30 pm Children of Fire, Palestinian video with discussion at La Pena Cultural Center, 3533 Shattuck, Berk. \$3. 415-861-1552.

For a complete listing of Bay Area peace events and active organizations, send a SASE to wonderful ordinary person Ken Cheetham, PO Box 11232, Berkeley CA 94701-2232.



\_\_\_\_ Please send me more information about Nuremberg Actions.

\_\_\_\_ Please send me the monthly newsletter Between the Lines.

I enclose a donation of \$15 \_\_\_\_ Other \$ \_\_\_\_ to cover costs.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_