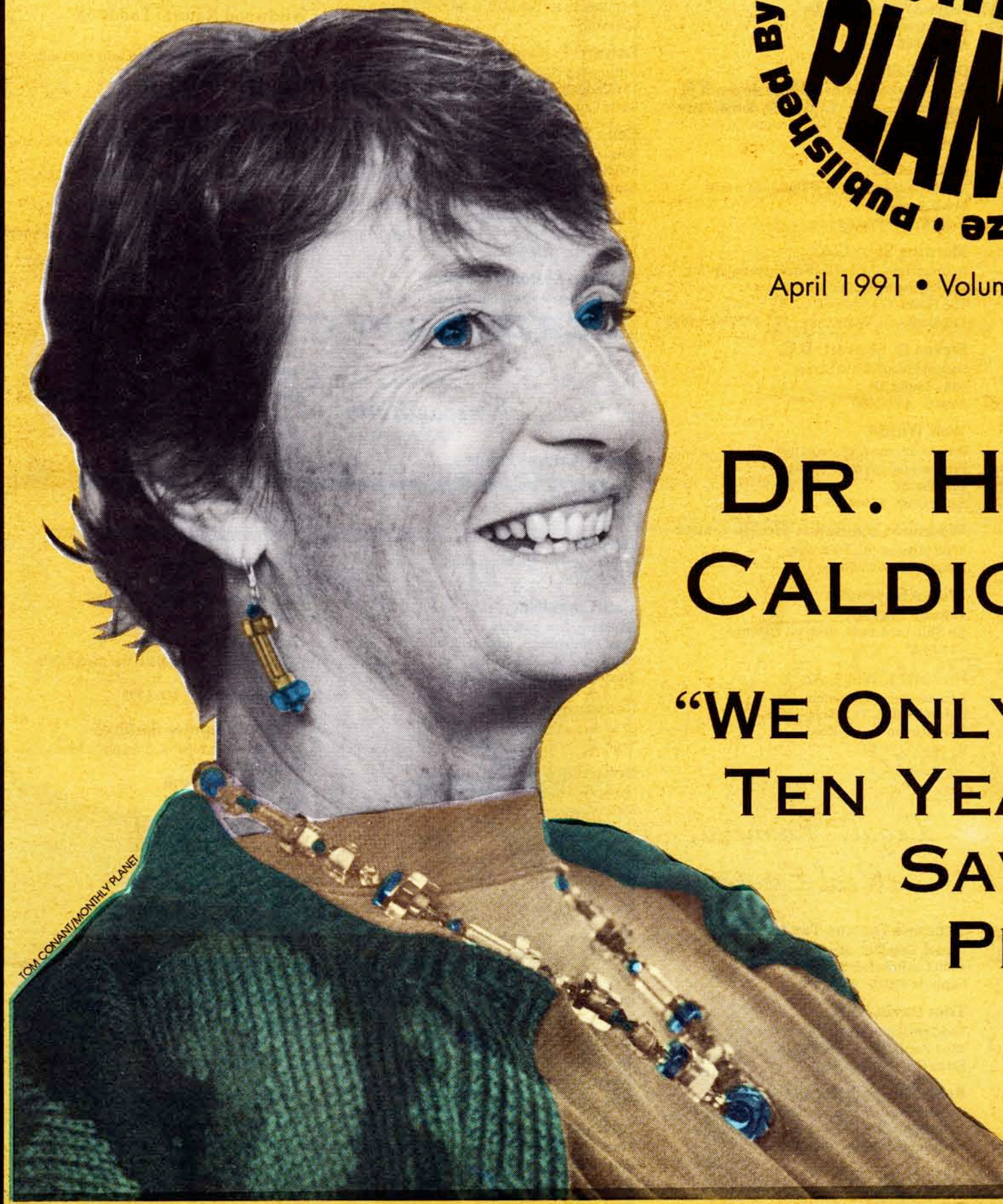


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MONTHLY
PLANET**

April 1991 • Volume 7 • Number 3



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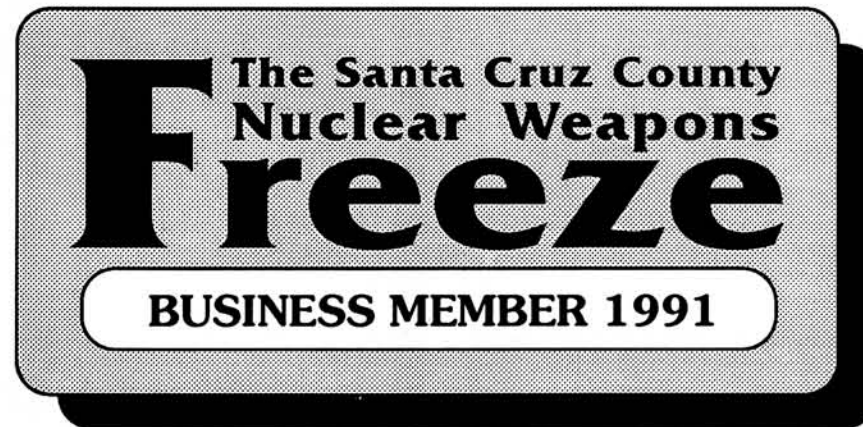
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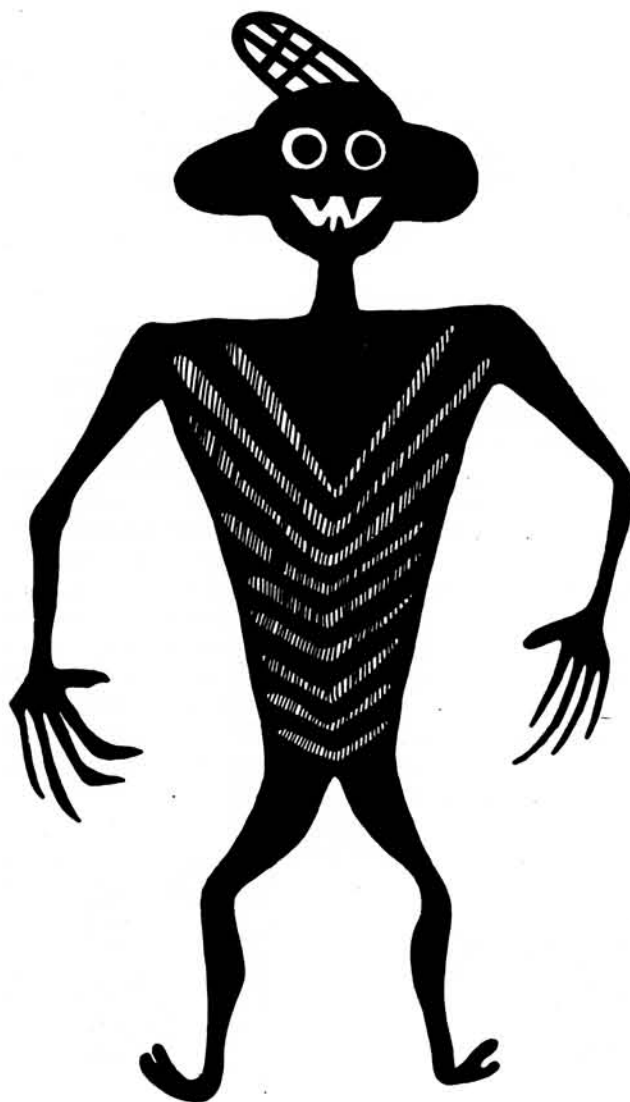
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DEADLINES

for the May
Monthly Planet
(Publication date:
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WRITE TO THE PLANET!

Send your typed, double spaced (or legibly written) letters to *The Monthly Planet*, Box 8463, Santa Cruz, CA 95061. We reserve the right to edit letters for brevity or clarity.

PARALLELS BETWEEN ISRAEL AND IRAQ

In claiming no parallel between Israel and Iraq, Mr. Brownstein [in his letter to the editor in the March *Monthly Planet*] evidently forgets the formation of the state of Israel and the manner in which the "Palestinian problem" is rooted in that formation. Using "partial" history as a shield, Mr. Brownstein attempts to mask his own violence in a seemingly "reasonable" letter.

Paragraph 1: Opening statement — Brownstein shows his initial prejudice with the careful use of the terms "occupation" (referring to Israel's 23-year "occupation" of the West Bank) and "annexation" (referring to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait).

Paragraph 2: Brownstein's use of "partial" history (World History 1967-present) is an attempt to back his prejudice and fear with unalterable "fact."

Paragraph 3: The Kicker — Brownstein shows his true colors: "Though I applaud Awad's professed belief in nonviolence, and believe the Palestinians could do their cause much good that way, I do not believe they could ever subscribe to it. Palestinians have shown they lack the patience, ethics and resolve... (for non-violence)." This is simply hate and fear, period. Brownstein attempts to further his "fear rationale" by sounding reasonable while unleashing an attack on the soundness and capability of the Palestinian people (apparently it is some genetic shortfall). Paragraph 3, from beginning to end, is an attempt to place Mr. Brownstein and Israel somehow "morally superior" to the impatient, unethical Palestinians. It somehow seems to make the problem more clear when one party is so obviously at fault.

Paragraph 4: Brownstein attempts to sound reasonable and sincere in his concern for both sides and for peace, but his obvious slant on "cause and effect" relationships makes only his inner violence evident. Mr. Brownstein, you are not a peaceful man, yet. Please understand your own inner violence. Please listen more than you talk. True peace comes when *both* sides can accept the other in totality.

Tim Shaw
Santa Cruz

SKELETONS IN THE PRESIDENT'S CLOSET

The skeletons which fill our president's closet must be haunting him in his sleep by now, while several upcoming events could bring his crimes into the light of day and into the arena of public scrutiny.

Noriega, or several of his close military understudies, could testify and show evidence of U.S. government drug importation in the trial-that-will-probably-never-happen. At least one of Noriega's knowledgeable henchmen has already been offed, and I expect the government to create a dismissal on technical grounds to avoid a trial which could point out the criminal aspects of U.S. involvement in Panama as well as Costa Rica (with Contras), or in the Bahamas.

The information the Christic Institute and Daniel Sheehan are bringing to Atlanta is enough to bring indictments against at least a dozen of Bush's closest hatchet men, although it is a civil suit which only asks for monetary damages. The question is whether there's an honest man left in the Justice Department to bring indictments against the highest officials in our government and their partners in crime within the CIA.

Remember the Senate Iran-Contra Committee hearings? Lawrence E. Walsh, special prosecutor for the Iran-Contra investigation, is giving his final report, complete with fresh indictments, within the next few months.

Documents within the prosecutor's care show that Bush not only knew of unlawful shipments of arms to the Contras, but also that he traveled to

Honduras to ensure their safe arrival to Contra camps.

Also: Don't read *A Nation Betrayed*, unless you want to hear former U.S. General "Bo" Gritz, the most decorated soldier from the Vietnam War, tell you that the U.S. fought the Vietnam War so that it could gain control of Burma's heroin market for exportation to the U.S. and the rest of the world. Which it controls to this day. It's hard to find this book on the shelves, so I ordered it through a local bookshop.

So, until you hear from me again, remember, kids:

War is peace.
Ignorance is knowledge.
Slavery is freedom,
and Big Brother loves you.

Brian Deer
Santa Cruz

DISTURBED BY PLANET'S COVERAGE

I would like to bring attention to what I consider to be an extremely dangerous trend that has evolved out of the Peace/Nuclear Freeze movement that I have observed since I moved here last year. It disturbed me greatly to read some articles in last month's *Monthly Planet* and I found some of the graphics to be particularly bothering.

In reading the interview with John Stockwell and the article "An Unsanitized Look at the War," including several of the graphics, I came away with a sick feeling that you were portraying the government as inherently greedy and evil, the "mainstream media" in conspiracy to "play down" war damage and casualties and the American public as a bunch of duped boobs (I find the interpretation of the media personally insulting, being a former journalist).

This is a very dangerous idea to internalize. By saying the government and everybody in it is evil, you are essentially saying there is *no hope*. Nobody is going to listen to you if you tell them that they are evil. If somebody came to me and told me what I was doing was evil, I'd probably say "To hell with you" and continue doing what I'm doing, just like the government

is doing now. What is needed is a mass appeal to our national feeling of self-righteousness that allowed the public to support the war in the overwhelming way that it does. By saying, because we are a good people, we must not go to war, it would allow people to truly look at their actions and try to make the best decision possible. But by saying this is a nation of evil duped conspirators, it implies there is no room for change.

Just food for thought.

James T. Snyder
UCSC
Santa Cruz

OUTRAGED BY PLANET'S COVERAGE

We write to share our outrage against your March issue and all-American media coverage of President Bush's two massacres, Panama and Baghdad. Your coverage makes it seem your intentions are innocent but the president cannot respond to reason, his intentions are bad.

In fact, your intentions are dishonest too — where do you call for his impeachment? Where do you call for congressmembers backing up the president, like Panetta, Campbell, etc., to resign as disgraces? Where do you criticize the fact that women and minorities are almost nonexistent in Congress, or that the Democratic Party merged into the Republican Party during the Iran-Contra debacle? Where do you mention that this president and many congressmembers are seated without 51 percent of the electorate voting them in? President Bush has 20,000 nukes to blow as a gift from 27 percent of the electorate voting for him, 51 percent not voting, 22 percent voting against him: 73 percent against Bush! It's criminal to allow nukes in this man's hands. Where do you call for nuclear-sane removal of nuke power plants, laboratories, and weapons facilities removal from our San Francisco Bay Area? Or at least away from major earthquake fault lines?

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*Wishing you good health & honesty,
Joseph & Mary Gorman
Santa Cruz*

WE NEED FULL DEBATE ON GATT

I would like to clarify the definition of the GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) "Fast track" amendment that was incompletely defined in my 2/24/91 letter to *The Monthly Planet*.

The current U.S. "fast track" law allows President Bush to negotiate in secret and limits Congress to a yes or no vote with no amendments allowed and a debate limit of 20 hours. It is in contrast to a congressional treaty that states that an in-

ternational agreement must be ratified by two-thirds of the Senate majority vote and may be amended by Congress. Senators Kohl (D-WI) and Conrad (D-ND) are co-sponsoring a bill that will lift President Bush's "fast track" authority. Also in opposition to "fast track" are agricultural, shipping, textile, civil aviation, steel, auto, telecommunication, timber and other raw mineral industries along with the concerned environmental communities.

In the "closed door" negotiation in Brussels, U.S. proposals would set worldwide standards of "acceptable" pesticide levels called "Harmonization"; then, forcing strict standards on imports would be illegal, leading to trade, tariffs and embargoes. Family farmers fear that "Harmonization" means unfair competition with imported products grown, processed and shipped under weaker environmental regulations.

Present legislation now being considered by Congress proposes that dangerous pesticides banned here in the U.S.

could no longer be shipped abroad where they are often used on foods grown in other countries and then exported to the U.S. It is a circle often referred to as the "circle of poison." Under "Harmonization," "circle of poisons" legislation would be severely jeopardized.

Since U.N. Codex Standard allows a number of different chemicals which are banned in the U.S., it would then be illegal for Congress to prohibit the export or reimport of those banned products.

There are several issues that involve the fast track and Codex law. These are: eroding congressional authority, preempting state governments' right to set pesticide standards (weakening other nations' environmental and consumer safety laws), and slowing the adoption of the fourth criterion which establishes social and economic values for evaluating new food chemical additives. Distinguishing between legitimate consumer and environmental protection measures

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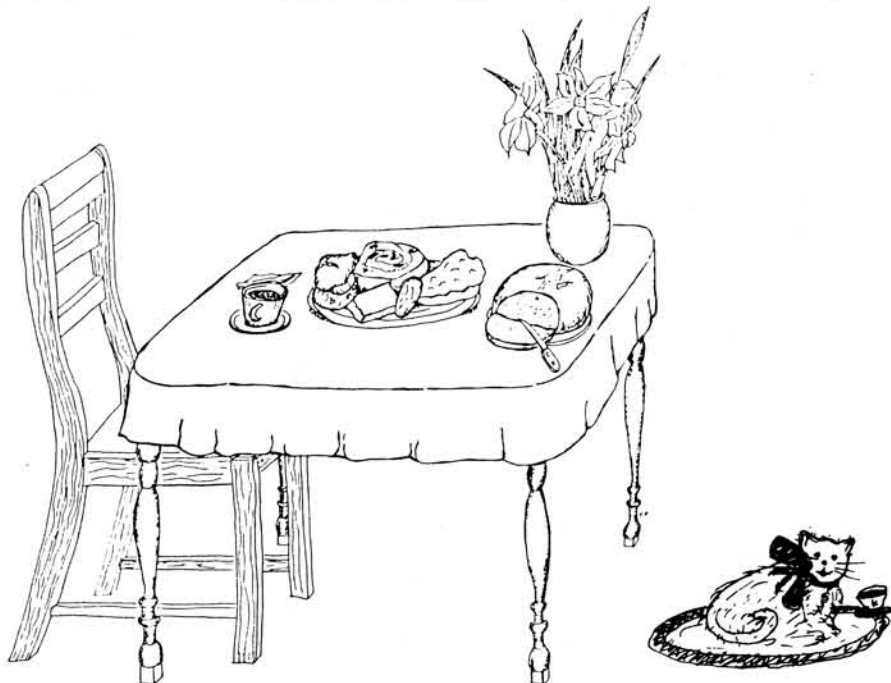
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and hidden trade barriers has become an increasingly difficult problem.

As more long-term effects of various drugs and chemicals are discovered, there will be intense public pressure to tightly control what foreign substances are allowed into our food supply. We must start at the source of the production of these chemicals and lobby for our rights to ban them and their "circle of poison."

Concerned citizens should call or write their senators and encourage them to call or talk to Senators Conrad or Kohl and support this initiative.

We have seen the results of "secret" negotiations and yes or no votes in the budget process and it is clearly a disaster. For the GATT we need a full debate.

Harold Foster
The Committee for Universal Security
Santa Cruz

OUTRAGED BY CITY COUNCIL LETTER

I admire Scott Kennedy's fortitude in being the only one of the five progressive Santa Cruz city councilmembers opposed to the Gulf War to refuse to send the congratulatory letter to Bush. Other than political qualms, what could possibly motivate the others to bend to pressure from the minority to write such a letter?

The letter thanks the men and women of the armed services for a "job well done." Is the ruthless bombing of harmless civilians in an air-raid shelter "a job well done" by the men of the armed forces such as Schwarzkopf, Powell and the Commander-in-Chief George Bush? And in the end don't even the grunt soldiers and airmen who performed such ruthless acts have to take responsibility for their "jobs well done" which includes 1,000 Iraqis lost for every one of "us"?

Yes, of course soldiers made huge sacrifices and endured hardships in their pursuit of the tyrant Hussein. But to issue a statement such as the council did is to nullify all my concerns for a peaceful way to solve the problems of the world.

Why didn't the council send a similar letter after the Grenada or Panama incidents? I see no difference except in sheer numbers.

And why not send a similar letter to Bush for the work done by workers in the U.S. Department of Housing or Education for their "job well done" in fighting homelessness and ignorance on a shoe-string budget decimated by the war in the Gulf? This would give Bush another phony feather in his cap.

I am outraged by the recent action by city council.

Sincerely,
Dan Dickmeyer
Santa Cruz

DON LANE WITHDRAWS SUPPORT FOR LETTER

"Never, for the sake of peace and quiet, deny your own experience and convictions."

This is a quotation that hung on my wall through most of my youth. The principle embodied in that quotation is a

good one — and it is a principle I have tried to adhere to in my public life.

On Tuesday, March 12, at the city council meeting, I let myself and others down by ignoring that principle. I voted for a letter commending some of President Bush's actions in the Middle East even though I did not support them. I voted this way "for the sake of peace and quiet." That was a mistake. It was a mistake both because it was a denial of my own convictions and because it failed to produce any of the post-war healing that I had hoped would result. The divisions the Persian Gulf War caused in this community could not be healed by that vote.

In withdrawing my support for the council's letter, I am in no way withdrawing my acknowledgement of the difficult sacrifices those in the military made on behalf of the United States. In the end, though, I cannot join with the majority of Americans in commending President Bush. I believe the war was a costly mistake resulting in needless death, injury, and suffering for thousands of innocent human beings throughout the Persian Gulf region and the misallocation of resources that should have been used to serve the needs of Santa Cruz and other communities in the U.S.

Don Lane
City Councilmember
Santa Cruz

KEEP QUESTIONING THE GOVERNMENT

The peace movement represents a wide body of people whose goal is to educate, advocate, and lobby for a lasting peace. We want to question what we are doing as a nation, how we are doing what we are doing as a nation, and model a collective way of working together.

A military contract means someone else makes your individual moral decisions for you. Soldiers are not to question the morality of killing. It is so difficult to bring life into this world and the military mindlessly tears that life from the planet. The military does not question the fact that bombs do not only fall on soldiers but on their families as well. And does the war stop when the bombs stop falling or when the soldiers leave? War leaves widows and orphans, shattered bodies, and plenty of hatred for another war.

Government action on the conflict in the Persian Gulf was embargo, diplomatic solutions, and the military as a last resort. But what is military action? Well, it was 2,000 bombing raids a night on Iraq and Kuwait and 400,000 American soldiers.

But what about the environmental effects of the military? In August of 1990, the President's Council on the Environmental Quality declared an emergency and granted the Department of Defense an exemption from the National Environmental Policy Act. So, the Department of Defense is able to sidestep environmental review of weapons testing, construction, and production. It is important for us to know that the U.S. military produces more hazardous waste than the top five civilian chemical corporations combined, which is 400,000 to 500,000 tons of hazardous waste a year. Then

upon further questioning we discover that according to the Center for Defense Information, "The total cost of bringing U.S. military facilities into compliance with environmental laws and mending the damage they have caused could easily exceed \$150 billion."

Then there are other issues to question such as...Why are toxic waste facilities disproportionately sited in minority communities? And why is it that 12 percent of our society is African-American, yet they represent 21 percent of the U.S. armed forces? Is this a volunteer army?

My final question is on the environmental effects of war. The future is based on the past, so let us look at the environmental effects of the Vietnam War. One quarter to one half of Vietnam suffered defoliation at some point during the war. Planes dropped 13 million tons of bombs that pockmarked land with 25 million craters, displaced 3 billion cubic meters of soil and led to disease and water shortage. As well, 2 million Vietnamese died in the war. The International Union for the Conservation of Nature said, "Much of the damage probably can never be repaired."

We can also question our government's priorities...\$45 million was spent to replace one F-14 Tomcat fighter plane which matches the budget of the United Negro Fund. It took \$3 million to reactivate 150 military reservists and those monies would feed and shelter all of America's 100,000 homeless for two nights. We spent \$141 million to feed the troops for a month and those monies could feed a million children for a year through the National School Lunch Program. And, upon the end of the war we fired 10,000 teachers in California and gave notice to 71 teachers in Santa Cruz. What are we doing? Are we inheriting this land from our parents or borrowing from our children? What about the children's right to an education? I know that I just do not understand.

It is important for people to realize that learning is not a linear thing in order for us to have the self-esteem to question. I am not embarrassed to be for peace because when I was young people said that I should be embarrassed by my mother. My mother helped to establish the National Organization for Women and was the first female executive in one of the nation's top pharmaceutical companies. During that time period my father taught me that embarrassment is not an emotion to get caught up in since it is "letting other people make you feel." Let us as a people continue to not seek one answer but many answers and questions. Everyone is important and can understand what is happening and if you do not...then ask questions until you do.

Melissa Bernstein
Santa Cruz

REGISTER GREEN

Our president and Congress are more concerned with the financial holdings of their corporate cronies than the well-being of the American people. Elections are won or lost by slick media manipulation regardless of a candidates' values, campaign promises, or party ideology.

Deep distrust of politicians is evidenced in efforts around the country to limit terms of office. Only one half of our population even bothers to fulfill the minimum requirement for our electoral democracy: to vote. It's a sorry state the U.S. political system is in.

Now the Greens have decided to jump into the political arena, refusing to stay on the political sidelines like most other grassroots groups. The political wing of the movement, called the Green Party, hopes to sweep across the nation breathing new life into the electoral process. Not merely providing new solutions to old problems, the new party will question the political process itself.

Much of the ecological and social degradation we are facing today has been caused and perpetuated by misguided and outdated government policy and subsidy. We must elect people who will purge the books of socially and ecologically irresponsible legislation and define new laws and incentives which will help and encourage individuals to make the lifestyle changes that are necessary for an ecologically based, socially just society to emerge.

Currently, the Green Party of California is on a registration drive to get 80,000 Green voters registered by January 1992 in order to qualify for ballot status in the June '92 primaries. Qualification would put Green candidates' names right alongside the other parties' candidates come November, standing tall on the California political map. Neither right nor left, the Green Party will be "out in front" leading the way toward making government a positive force for peace, justice and ecology. Qualified, dynamic people, formerly disgusted with politics as usual, will see the green light and run with a party of change.

The real strength of the Green Party will come bottom-up from established grassroots organizations and local, mutually supportive community bases rather than from special interest groups or large corporate contributors. Arm-in-arm and face-to-face, neighborhood Green organisms will be the enzymes of political and social change, relinking people to the Earth and to each other and reaching outward beyond cities, counties, states, and nations. But it starts right here. Let's translate Green values and platform planks into concrete plans, policies and actions to carry out in Santa Cruz County! Let's elect a Santa Cruz Green Party candidate to office in 1992!

If you haven't registered Green yet, pick up a voter registration form at the library or post office (or call 1-800-345-VOTE). In the political party box, check "other" and write in Green. Whether or not you're one of the nearly 1,000 who've already registered Green in Santa Cruz County, everyone is invited to the first Santa Cruz Green Party Gathering, Sunday April 7 from 2 to 5 p.m. in Laurel Park behind Loudon Nelson Center. (See calendar for more details.) See you there! Live Green, smile Green...

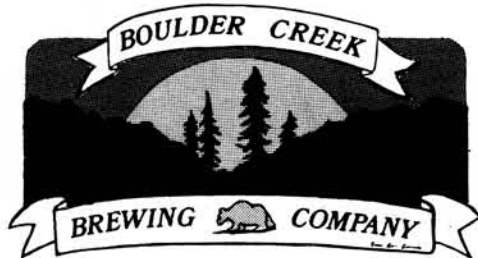
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Dr. Helen Caldicott: 'We've Got 10 Years to Save the Planet'

interview by John Govsky

Dr. Helen Caldicott, the founder of Physicians for Social Responsibility and a leading figure in the international movement for a nuclear weapons freeze, spoke at the Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium last month in a benefit for the Environmental Council. She touched on a large number of the world's problems, claiming that the Earth will die in ten years if we don't act immediately to make the changes necessary to ensure survival.

Dr. Caldicott's message, while broader than her anti-nuclear focus of the past, is no less deep. In fact, she now advocates nothing less than a complete, radical

INTERVIEW

lifestyle change for Western society, and indeed for all of the peoples of the planet. She was interviewed by The Monthly Planet on March 18 in Santa Cruz.

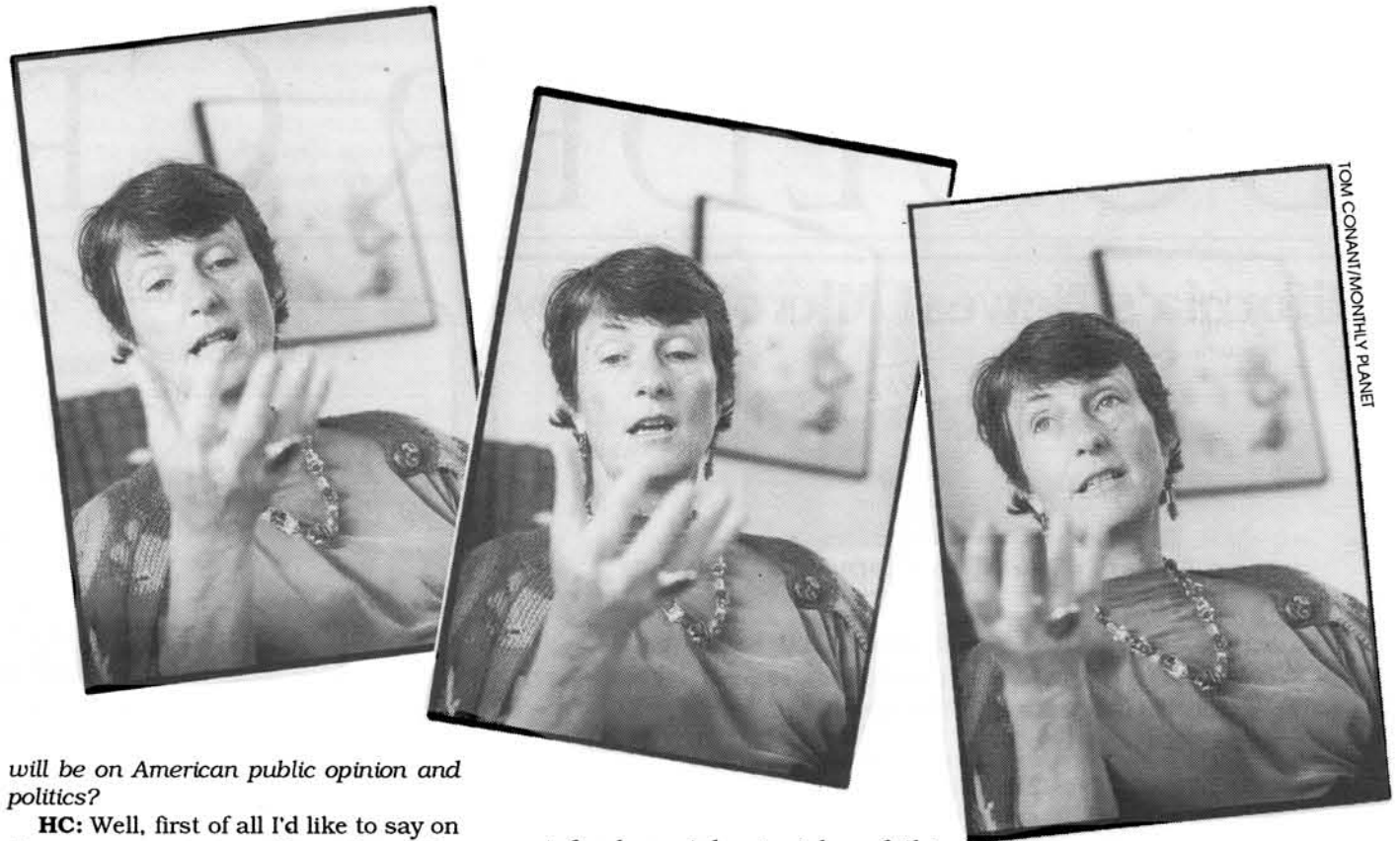
Monthly Planet: What themes will you be focusing on in your upcoming talk?

Dr. Helen Caldicott: I'm focusing on the fact that unless we act now, we only have ten years to save the planet, according to the United Nations and the National Academy of Science and many other scientific bodies, from the cumulative effects of global pollution, overpopulation, species extinction, and the ever-present nuclear threat. And that we can, in fact, save the Earth in that ten years. It's not hopeless, it's easy, because currently the world is spending a trillion dollars a year on weapons, globally, and if that was transferred to saving the Earth, we would then accumulate ten trillion dollars which could easily solve overpopulation, global pollution, species extinction, and eliminate nuclear weapons. So the money's there. The scientific knowledge and expertise is there. All we need is the political will.

MP: It sounds like you're putting more of a focus on environmental issues than you have in the past.

HC: Oh, yes, both the environmental and the nuclear weapons interdigitate. In other words, if we free the money up from the arms race, we can save the world from environmental devastation. You know, the last ten years' work leads automatically into the next ten years' work. So none of it's gone astray, except that we must remember that we haven't gotten rid of one nuclear weapon. So our work is only halfway completed in that area, let alone in the environmental area, so there's much to be done.

MP: In the wake of the Persian Gulf War, it seems that we have moved as a society and even as a planet in somewhat of an opposite direction — increased militarization and environmental devastation. What do you think the effect of this war



will be on American public opinion and politics?

HC: Well, first of all I'd like to say on the environment, it could accelerate the greenhouse effect by 30 years. It could produce massive drought on the Indian subcontinent, causing millions of people to starve to death. So that's a long-term environmental consequence that no one's really talking about.

On American public opinion, I think there are millions and millions of people who are deeply, deeply distressed about what happened and they've had cause to re-examine their whole philosophy and

most fundamental principles of this country, and that was the First Amendment.

And either America decides now it's going to continue abiding by the First Amendment and the U.S. Constitution, or it is not. And if it violates those two dictums, then it's not the country it says it is.

MP: What do you see happening in the near future in this country, politically?

“Congress is the goal, and the presidency. I mean, you've got no show if you don't run that Congress, like, no show...”

underlying *raison d'etre*. They're the people who are in the Freeze movement and the anti-nuclear movement and there are literally thousands of groups who at the height of the Freeze were mobilized. And my impression since I got here, and I've been to very conservative areas, was that every single person I spoke to has had deep and profound concerns about this last — and I don't want to call it a war, it was a massacre — this last massacre. And even though they might be wearing yellow ribbons, secretly they're very concerned, but they felt very intimidated about speaking up. And the intimidation is reminiscent of the McCarthy era, you know, and then you get back to “What is a democracy?” During McCarthy, there was no democracy, and if there is no free press, there is no democracy. Q.E.D. So this war violated one of the

HC: It's absolutely impossible to say. It's in a very big transitional phase. But one thing that's clear is that the economy is in a total disaster area. That the S&Ls are going to cost possibly a trillion dollars. That the banks, many of them are on the verge of collapse. The Bank of New England, which is a very big bank, collapsed the other day and the government only has a limited amount of money to guarantee the banks. And once that's gone, then the country's in dreadful strife. The insurance industry is also in trouble because it invested in junk bonds, and real estate deals are progressively declining in value since the recession. I think the American public's interest is transitional, it's transient, and that they'll forget about the war very shortly and we'll be back into the economy, homeless people, people can't afford health care,

the educational system's declining, the air quality is — I mean, I'm looking out at Santa Cruz bay now, and there's a pall of pollution hanging over that bay and you never see that in Australia. I mean this is one of the most beautiful places in this country and yet it's grossly polluted. Let alone the fact that the ozone's disappearing. So unless we attend to these issues the Earth will have no future and I think most people really understand that. So there are huge issues at hand and they will soon eclipse this last ghastly episode in U.S. history.

MP: Is there a way to take something out of all these problems and say “This is the most important danger that we face”?

HC: Yes, I think ozone destruction, because without the ozone layer there can be no life. And it's disappearing at a far greater rate than we originally thought. It's our total protection. If there was a nuclear war, we think 80 percent of ozone could be destroyed in the Northern Hemisphere, meaning if anyone went out into the sunlight after the nuclear war, they would incur third-degree sunburn within a half hour and die in a couple of days. And they'd be blinded. And every other animal would be blinded. And insects. So without the ozone there's no sight, there's no life, and that includes the plants as well. So there's an almost total hole over the South Pole, the ozone's getting thinner in the North Pole, and it's getting thinner globally. And with each 1 percent decrease in the ozone there's a 5 percent, 6 percent increase in temperature. And that's a very urgent issue which really is not being addressed.

MP: Do you see any cause for hope on

this and the other issues that you mentioned?

HC: Yes, I've got cause for hope, because I told you that if we transfer a trillion dollars, we can easily fix it. And people say, well, you're naive and simplistic, but then I came to this country in 1975 and said we can get rid of nuclear weapons and they said I was naive and simplistic. And indeed we didn't get rid of any nuclear weapons, but I think we helped prepare the way for Gorbachev to do what he's done, for the Cold War to be over, and for the whole political complexion of the world to change.

MP: There's been a lot of talk of a so-called "New World Order," which I think means different things to different people. What do you see as what should be a New World Order and specifically, what kinds of ways in a New World Order would you use to deal with people like Saddam Hussein?

HC: First of all, Hitler used to use that phrase. So I don't know why George Bush would pick that out of the litany of history and use the same term that Hitler used.

The Soviet Union is collapsing from its communist perspective, so capitalism is moving in there very fast and I think the New World Order means that the United States totally and absolutely categorically runs the whole world through its transnational connections, through the GATT talks, General Agreement on Tariffs and Trades, which means that the transnationals are going to take over. This is the plan. Every country in the world will take over its banking, its insurance policies, its insurance companies, its communications systems and its patent rights. The transnationals will hold all the knowledge in the world and all the other countries in the world will be run by transnationals. In other words, there'll be a central government which runs this government and the central government is the conglomeration of transnationals running the Congress, the White House, and all the other countries in the world. And that plan is proceeding apace in the GATT talks. That's the New World Order, and this war was only a symptom of that progressive plan.

MP: How do you think the peace movement should frame the issues? How can we best market peace right now to the American public?

HC: Well, the way I'm doing it is giving big public meetings and talking about what actually happened in that war. That Hussein did not retaliate, except for a few lousy old Scud missiles. It was an absolute, total, unilateral massacre, like Custer's, like the way they slaughtered the Indians. And it's interesting because I can have a thousand people in the audience, many of whom may be somewhat patriotic, but when they hear me talk on what war really means — war really means eyeballs floating in muddy pools of water, war means men walking around with half their brain blown away, that sort of thing. And that 60 percent of the civilian deaths in Iraq were children. And that this whole country stopped three years ago when a little girl fell down a well. Is an American child's life more sacred than an Iraqi child's life? And if

you bring it back to the basic issues, everyone knows what's right. So I would encourage the peace movement not to talk rationalities and philosophies and left-brain stuff, but rather to get down to what war really means from a human point of view.

How to proceed in the next few months? I think that you have to be very aggressive with the press. I think you must write lots of letters to the paper. But more than that, if you see any article that you disagree with or anything on the evening news that you disagree with, that you're obliged to intervene in the most stringent manner, in fact quite aggressively, to ring the editor or the production manager and say "This is not true, and you must print the truth because of the First Amendment." That's the way to go. I think people can work with Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting. And I'm thinking of coming back, maybe, for six months over the next nine, to hold big public meetings everywhere and help to remobilize and unite and inspire the peace movement to move towards 1992, which is the election year. And I think we've got a lot of things we can do then.

MP: What would you focus on in terms of a transformation? There are so many levels on which to focus.

HC: Well, all of them. When it comes to my talk, I'll probably talk for two or three hours, nonstop, so there's a lot to say. I can't say it just now. It's changing people's attitude from one of greed and selfishness to one of compassion. The politics of the past, the politics of the present, have no place in the politics of the future if we are to survive. So the politics of the future is a politics of compassion. For ourselves, for our fellow species, and for the planet. And we'll save the Earth. It's easy. We've been on the wrong track.

...What we've got to do is decide on a strategy and I think it's to educate everyone, to mobilize them and inspire them, and you say, okay, what are we going to do? Congress is the goal, and the presidency. I mean you've got no show if you don't run that Congress, like, no show — it doesn't matter what you do at the grassroots level, you're going to make no difference. Eighty percent supported a freeze, and we didn't get it. And I naively thought this was a democracy, I thought if we get 80 percent for the freeze, A. the media will give us total respect and support, and B. the Congress will represent the mandate of the people. They didn't, because the military-industrial complex controls the Congress. So let's get it back. That's the nidus of the problem. And if we get through Congress and we get in there, we change the laws, we change the — well the military-industrial complex won't have its power. We legislate them out of their power. They can make money, but they can't practice social engineering, the manufacture of consent. And they can't use our tax dollars to make weapons.

MP: It's hard to describe just how entrenched this Congress is. We have a representative here, Leon Panetta, who is extremely difficult to influence. He wins with an overwhelming majority of the vote. He voted two weeks ago to, in effect,

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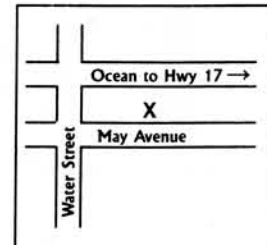


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Dr. Helen Caldicott

continued from previous page

increase the military budget, by voting for the president's supplemental request to fund the Gulf War.

HC: You run a Green candidate against him. And you mobilize all of this county, which is fairly progressive, and you kick him out. And so only when he realizes he's going to be kicked out of office will he listen to you. No other way will you make it; he doesn't need to listen to you. He'll get back in. He doesn't need to listen to you. So it's no use complaining, you've got to get to where the heart of the matter is.

MP: I agree, but I don't think it's that easy to kick these people out of office.

HC: It's not easy. So what if it's not easy?! I mean I might tell you, well it's not

so easy, you've got appendicitis, and acute peritonitis, it's not going to be so easy to save your life, so I don't know if I'll try. I don't think it's going to be hard or easy, I do it. Don't bloody procrastinate.

It wasn't easy what I did — I nearly killed myself. I lost my marriage, that wasn't easy. But was it worth fighting? It probably was. You know I think this is hard. I used to think I'm tired, and I'm nearly dying, but I know it's worth it because it's saving the world. I didn't think to myself — I mean that's the sort of egocentric thing to say, "Well, it's not going to be easy." What do you mean? I mean people who were in concentration camps in Germany, they didn't think to themselves, this isn't easy. You know, they survived. The ones who survived survived by the skin of their teeth, by absolute grit and courage. I mean, life

wasn't meant to be easy. We weren't born here to have instant food, instant sex, instant friendship, instant heating and cooling. Life wasn't meant to be easy. Life is hard.

This is a good talk, actually, because it's getting me to understand what's going on. The Americans think — and when those troops went to the Gulf, their chocolate melted, so Hershey's made a special chocolate that didn't melt in the Gulf. I mean for Christ's sake — and there were no casualties, Americans suffered no casualties except for the friendly fire; of course it's friendly fire, they shot each other. Easy? God help us, I mean what was it like for the Iraqis? Was that easy? Don't ever use that word again. Or hard. Just say "I will." You see, I'm not attacking you, it's just that I'm starting to understand how this nation thinks. In Australia, we're pretty tough. We're pretty gutsy. And we don't think it is going to be easy or not, we just do it. If we have to. A lot of us are wimps, too, but that sort of doesn't come into the vo-

cabulary in a certain sense.

MP: I know it's not easy, I've worked on this issue for ten years. But when you just say all we have to do is change the Congress, with a wave of a hand, it does bring to mind some...

HC: Procrastinating thoughts. Look, when I came here in '75, I said we can get rid of nuclear weapons. People said it's not going to be easy. We didn't get rid of any, but look what we did. And I didn't think about "but." I never said "but." But, but, but, but is procrastination. You can say, "And what next?"

MP: But one of the ways the public was mobilized on the issue was by focusing on the idea of a nuclear weapons freeze, which was something to rally around and organize around.

HC: That only came after a couple of years of me going around and talking about the medical effects of nuclear war. People grabbed the freeze when Randy wrote it, because it would seem to be convenient and the appropriate way to go, to focus the attention.

MP: Let me switch gears now and ask, personally, how do you keep going? What gives you stamina and cause to keep moving and doing what you're doing?

HC: I have a very deep and profound connection with nature. I live in a very beautiful place in Australia. And that's what nurtures me, nature. Which for me is the creation, that's God. And if I lose touch with that I lose touch with myself and my soul. I also have a very wonderful group of people I work with in Australia, and we are about to build a community of solar houses on a beautiful piece of land with tropical rainforests on it and become totally self-sufficient. Solar houses, solar hot water, solar electricity, grow all our own food, have our own cows for milk, and live together as a community. And that community of people is very supportive and loving and nurturing. So that helps me too.

MP: You dropped out of sight a few years ago, apparently very disillusioned with what was happening in the world, and many people thought you had lost hope. And of course you've resurfaced stronger than ever. What personal changes did you go through and how did you deal with your disillusionment? Right now is a time of great disillusionment for a lot of people, especially those in the peace movement.

HC: Well, I went home, only to lose my marriage as well. So that I was disillusioned with what was happening here with the nuclear arms race and Reagan's re-election, the end of the Freeze in a certain sense, and to lose my marriage. So I really hit rock bottom. I suppose you could say, but the way I coped with it was to swim the river of grief. You can't avoid grieving. And if people are in a deeply grieving situation now, I would advise them to stay with their feelings, have the courage to do it. And I'm a very impatient person so I did it fast. You know, I thrashed around and cried and I did all the rest. But out of that I got to the other side. And so you don't avoid the deep feelings of depression and disillusionment you're having, but as you go through them you'll find you get more strength and you'll get to the other side with tremendous hope and renewed strength.

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Gulf War's Effect on Budget: A Push for More High-Tech Weapons

by Shelly D'Amour

At press time, a \$42.6 billion spending bill to cover costs of the Persian Gulf War is awaiting President Bush's signature. The figure assumes \$15 billion in U.S. funds with the balance comprised of foreign contributions to the war effort. To date, the U.S. has received just under \$25 billion in allied contributions. The bill will replenish depleted weapons stockpiles, pay for modifications made to existing weapons systems to adapt them to desert and night combat, and provide \$25 million in loans to small businesses

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

in military communities throughout the United States which were economically impacted by the deployment of troops. The legislation does not address war reparations, or the promised debt forgiveness to certain member countries of the allied coalition.

The bill is part of a larger supplemental spending package approved by Congress in late March. The purpose of the supplemental, at least officially, is to fund so-called "emergency" items. In practice, both Congress and the White House have used the supplemental in past years to fund pet projects that did not make it through the initial budget process. However, last fall's restrictive budget agreement, with its introduction of spending caps, makes that practice more difficult.

Under the terms of the budget agreement, the federal budget was compartmentalized into three broad areas: military, domestic, and foreign aid. Spending ceilings were imposed on each category with the understanding that any increases in a given area had to be offset by cuts in the same area. For example, increases to the B-2 Stealth bomber program would have to be offset by cuts in another military program. The positive aspect to this arrangement is that domestic programs cannot be cannibalized to feed the Pentagon's insatiable appetite. The down side is that social spending programs are forced to compete against each other for ever-dwindling funds. Any savings realized in the military budget cannot be expended on human services. This system effectively eliminates the possibility of a peace dividend.

Since items contained in the supplemental bill are "off-budget," they are not subject to spending caps. They exist in their own little world and quietly eat away at whatever deficit reductions were achieved in the previous year's budgetary process. Elements of the U.S. peace

community lobbied unsuccessfully for Congress to subject the costs of the Persian Gulf War to the current year's military spending cap, a strategy which would have required significant cuts in other military spending programs.

It appears that the president is using a relatively minor item in the supplemental spending bill in order to pick a fight with congressional Democrats. House Ways and Means committee chair Dan Rostenkowski (D-IL) inserted an \$8 million request into the supplemental education bill to fund a new building at his alma mater, Loyola University. The educational bill sped through congressional committee review without much comment, but hit a red light at the desk of Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Director Richard Darman who pulled the Rostenkowski item out for more thorough scrutiny. A March 29 *Los Angeles Times* article indicates that administration officials have highlighted the item as an example of the kind of "pork-barrel spending" which "will no longer be tolerated."

The OMB is vested with the authority to choose those items which it feels do not appropriately belong in the supplemental package and which, if approved, would exceed the spending caps assigned by Congress. At issue is whether such an item meets the supplemental "test," that is, does the specific funding request reflect a "dire emergency" situation which

President Bush has submitted a \$5.2 billion funding request to the Congress for Star Wars — up 77 percent from the current year's \$2.9 billion figure.

was not foreseen or otherwise planned for in the current year's budget. Despite the fact that the U.S. has been engaged in the Persian Gulf since last August, actual and projected costs were not planned for in the existing military budget. Therefore all costs related to Operations Desert Shield/Storm which are not covered by allied contributions will be paid for outside of the budget caps, i.e. through deficit spending. Although Rostenkowski's pet project probably does not meet the supplemental test, clearly neither



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does the war.

What makes the situation even more curious is the fact that Rostenkowski is a strong Bush supporter. Why would the Bush Administration deliberately embarrass and alienate one of its strongest Democratic allies? Are Republican officials feeling so secure in the wake of the U.S. military victory that they engage in petty squabbles with the Democratic leadership purely for the exercise?

If so, the Democratic leadership could turn the tables. The very fact that the OMB director has line item discretionary power over the supplemental is due to the structure of the budget agreement worked out between the Congress and the White House last fall. The Congress has already attempted once to take this discretionary power back from the OMB and place it under the auspices of the Congressional Budget Office, an arm of the Congress.

Democrats aren't the only ones adept at padding the budget, however. Congress disallowed a \$2.8 billion request for fuel costs for the military worldwide. The Pentagon argued that the request was justified because oil prices rose throughout the globe due to the Persian Gulf War. Hence (in their view) fuel costs for the military anywhere are war-related. (Try that one on your tax return this year.) Additionally, the Pentagon "enhanced" the numbers of Patriot missiles reportedly used in combat to include 300-500 more. Congress cut the request back to include only replacement numbers, but agreed to include the additional Patriots in next year's military budget.

Aside from the supplemental, the House passed a special \$1.1 billion economic aid package for Persian Gulf vet-

erans which provides health and education benefits as well as help in coping with loan payments. The Senate approved \$500 million. The legislation is currently in conference committee. The president has indicated that he will sign the bill.

California Democrat Mervyn M. Dymally has introduced H.Con.Res 56, expressing the sense of the Congress that federal agencies should not engage in activities which threaten the civil liberties of Arab Americans. The resolution also calls on the Congress to protect Arab Americans from hate crimes and other forms of discrimination. Since the deployment of U.S. troops to the Gulf last August, incidents of anti-Arab American activity have been on the rise in the United States. The FBI has also been accused of harassing Arab Americans, particularly those involved in pro-Palestinian causes and other political activities.

FEDERAL BUDGET

The fiscal year 1992 budget is currently in mark-up in its respective House and Senate Budget Committees. At this stage, the budget committees are reviewing the Bush Administration requests and making recommendations on how the budget should be divided among the 13 appropriations subcommittees. From there, subcommittees will hammer out the line-item details and produce an authorizations bill sometime in late May.

The administration sent Congress a \$1.45 trillion budget package for fiscal year 1992. Included in the request is \$295.2 billion in military outlays, repre-

continued on next page



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High-Tech Weapons

continued from previous page

senting a 1 percent decrease over the current year's budget. Increases are sought for Star Wars, the Midgetman nuclear missile, the Stealth (B-2) bomber, advanced air-launched missiles, and SRAM-T air-to-ground missiles.

The success of the Patriot missile has inspired the Pentagon to go all out in efforts to revitalize the Star Wars program. Funding for Star Wars has been in a steady state of decline over the last several years because Congress deemed the price tags too high and the technologies too futuristic to invest in. The diminishing Soviet threat to the West further lessened congressional interest in the program.

When Ronald Reagan presented the Star Wars concept to the nation in 1983, he envisioned a kind of giant space umbrella that would protect the United States from all incoming missiles. That was \$24

billion for the Strategic Defense Initiative, or G-PALS for short. G-PALS is a combination of space and ground-based technologies, including the "Brilliant Pebbles" concept which was popular a few years ago. The system is designed, in theory, to protect against a limited attack of up to 200 incoming missiles. The cost projection at this point is \$41 billion. Since all of the ideas are literally still on the drawing board, nobody can predict how much G-PALS would actually cost.

One of the central technical difficulties of the Star Wars program is that radar devices cannot discriminate between decoys and warheads. An offensive attack might shower thousands of decoys upon a target. Defensive missiles would be expended in an attempt to knock out as many of the incoming "missiles" as possible. Not until they enter the atmosphere does it become apparent which are decoys and which are warheads

Congressional Democrats, especially those who voted against the war, are eager to appear pro-American by voting on the side of a "winning" weapons system.

billion ago, most of which has been spent on developing exotic technologies that have proved unworkable. Federation of American Scientists spokesperson John Pike estimates fully a third of that money "just disappeared into rat holes and nobody knows where it went."

The Bush Administration scaled down the Star Wars program and gave it a new focus — that of a missile defense system — and moved away from the previous emphasis on protecting populations. The performance of Patriot missiles in the Gulf War has regenerated interest in developing missile defense technologies. President Bush has submitted a \$5.2 billion funding request to the Congress for Star Wars — up 77 percent from the current year's \$2.9 billion figure.

According to a March 10 *Los Angeles Times* article, the Pentagon has developed a defense scenario they call Global Pro-

(warheads are heavier and fall more rapidly than the lighter decoys). At that point there is almost no time to respond successfully, and the probability of an incoming warhead making impact is greatly increased.

Congress will consider the future of the Star Wars program against the backdrop of a changing world in which more and more countries are gaining access to ballistic missile technologies — in some cases courtesy of U.S. military corporations. It is estimated that 24 Third World countries alone will possess ballistic missiles by the end of the century, according to the *Los Angeles Times*. Most have a delivery range and a damage capability roughly equivalent to the Iraqi Scud. However, a 1500-mile-range missile is currently under development in India. Clearly, the answer is not to be found in developing technologies designed

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to outsmart aggressors. Rather, it is imperative that Congress focus on reversing the proliferation of weapons by working to end the international arms trade, with a particular eye to the U.S. role in the sale of arms to other countries.

In a similar vein, the performance of the F-117 Stealth fighter-bomber in the Persian Gulf has raised hopes in the Pentagon that Congress will change its mind and look favorably upon the B-2 Stealth program. The B-2 was virtually consigned to history last year when Congress indicated it would fund no more than 15 of the 75 planes requested by the Pentagon. Like the Star Wars program, the B-2 has some rather questionable technological aspects as well as being the most expensive fighter plane in history. In testimony before the House Armed Services Committee, the Air Force attempted to put a new face on the B-2, shifting its focus away from that of a purely nuclear system to that of a conventional weapon.

No one in Congress is willing to concede 75 B-2s to the Pentagon, but certain statements made by the Armed Services panel indicate they are considering a possible increase to 36 planes. One rationale behind this change of heart is that congressional Democrats, especially those who voted against the war, are

eager to appear pro-American by voting on the side of a "winning" weapons system. With 1992 elections just around the corner, Republicans have promised to have a field day with anti-war Democrats. It is up to pro-peace voters to encourage representatives who voted against the war to remain true to the courage of their convictions, and not allow themselves to be bullied into voting for expensive and dangerous weapons systems.

EL SALVADOR

At this writing, President Bush is due to release \$42.5 million in military aid to the government of El Salvador. The aid is part of an \$85 million package, half of which was withheld last fall by Congress due to the deteriorating human rights situation in El Salvador, and the failure of that country to successfully prosecute the November 1989 executions of six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper and her daughter by Salvadoran security forces.

At the time the aid was escrowed, Congress stipulated it could be released only if Salvadoran rebels engaged in acts of violence against civilians, or failed to negotiate in good faith with the government. President Bush determined that these conditions had been met following the apparent execution-style murder of two U.S. servicemen after their helicopter was shot down by Salvadoran guerrillas on January 2nd. Senators Dodd (D-CT) and Leahy (D-VT), together with Representatives Moakley (D-MA) and Murtha (D-PA), have authored a letter asking the president to refrain from releasing the military funds.

Meanwhile, Senator Brock Adams and Representative Jim McDermott, both Washington Democrats, have introduced the "Peace, Democracy and Development in El Salvador Act." The bill prohibits all military aid to the government of El Salvador; requires the withdrawal of all U.S. military advisors; prohibits U.S. covert operations in that country; establishes a fund for reconstruction; and restricts economic support funds (ESFs)

to meet human needs. The bill is in need of co-sponsors. In past years, certain kinds of military aid were routed through ESFs at times when direct military assistance was prohibited by Congress.

The March 10 elections in El Salvador have brought a change to the composition of the National Assembly, and with it renewed hope for the possibility of peace and an end to the brutal military reign. The release of military aid at this juncture would send the worst possible message both to the military and to the people of El Salvador who have looked so long for an end to the U.S.-financed violence in their country.

ACTION: Contact President Bush immediately by calling the White House Comment Line and tell him not to release the \$42.5 million in military aid to El Salvador. Contact your representative and senators and ask them to sign on to the Adams/McDermott bill.

Shelly D'Amour is the legislative editor of The Monthly Planet.

Contact Your Representatives

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Senator Alan Cranston
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-3553 / (415) 556-8440

Senator John Seymour
720 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-3841 / (415) 556-4307

Congressman Leon Panetta
339 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-2861 / (408) 429-1976
(16th congressional district)

Congressman Tom Campbell
313 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-5411 / (408) 245-4835
(12th congressional district)

Hotlines

These organizations run regularly updated taped messages on current legislation:

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(Council for a Livable World)
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Friends Committee on National Legislation
(202) 547-4343

Central America Legislative Hotline
(Central America Working Group)
(202) 543-2282

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(American Peace Test reports on activities at the Nevada Test Site)
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AFTERMATH OF THE GULF WAR:

by Joseph A. Palermo

As we go to press, the United States Army occupies an area in south-east Iraq roughly equal in size to the state of West Virginia. Kurdish rebels control several towns and villages in the northeast, and Saddam Hussein's forces are savagely putting down the Islamic fundamentalist Shiite uprising in the south. The United States still controls Iraqi airspace and has forbidden Iraq from using fixed-wing aircraft against the insurgents. Competing rebel forces are dismembering Iraq in a prolonged crisis that will continue until either the central government regains control over what is left of the country or there is a balance of power established between the warring factions.

Meanwhile, the Bush Administration sits back and watches, bemoaning the chaos in Iraq while pretending the bomb-a-minute air war played no role in preparing the ground for the current bloodbath. Much of the bombing in southern Iraq was the mission of B-52s and in early February these giant planes began bombing the outskirts of Baghdad. Massive aerial bombardment tends to produce unpredictable political hybrids in devastated Third World countries. Sixteen years ago this month in Cambodia, the Khmer Rouge rode the backs of American B-52s into power only to commit genocide against their own people while the United States government pretended it had nothing to do with it. The fighting going on inside Iraq is a direct consequence of the U.S.-led war of destruction.

On March 22, the United Nations published a report on Iraq which paints a grim picture of a society that has been chewed up and spit out by a faceless, technologically advanced military machine. The United Nations delegation was led by U.N. Under-Secretary-General Martti Ahtisaari and consisted of officials from the International Commission of the Red Cross, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the World Health Or-

ganization, and other U.N. agencies.

The delegation traveled throughout Iraq from March 10 to 17 and divided itself into five special working groups focusing on food and agriculture; water, sanitation and health; transportation and communications; energy; and refugees and other vulnerable groups. The report begins:

Nothing that we had seen or read had quite prepared us for the particular form of devastation which has now befallen the country. The recent conflict has wrought near-apocalyptic results upon the economic infrastructure of what had been, until January 1991, a rather highly urbanized and mechanized society. Now, most means of modern life support have been destroyed or rendered tenuous. Iraq has, for some time to come, been relegated to a pre-industrial age, but with all the disabilities of post-industrial dependency on an intensive use of energy and technology.

The report goes on to describe a societal nightmare in Iraq with 90 percent of the industrial work force "reduced to inactivity"; powdered milk so scarce that only "sick children on medical prescription" can receive it; and a desperate food shortage with "widespread starvation conditions a real possibility." Water contamination is so widespread there has been "a fourfold increase in diarrhoeal diseases among young children." The bombing destroyed over "9,000 homes" (including 2,500 in Baghdad and 1,900 in Basra) and has created "a new homeless of 72,000 persons." Medical services are virtually nonexistent. There is no electricity to pump or purify water, and water output is only 15 percent of normal. One U.S. bombing sequence destroyed a production plant for livestock vaccines that was part of a United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization regional project. The report concludes:

It is unmistakable that the Iraqi



people may soon face a further imminent catastrophe, which could include epidemic and famine, if massive life-supporting needs are not rapidly met. The summer, with its often 45 or even 50 degree temperatures (113-122 degrees Fahrenheit), is only weeks away. Time is short.

The United States and its coalition partners dropped more tons of bombs in six weeks on Iraq than were dropped in all of World War II. The Pentagon labeled all energy and water-pumping facilities in Iraq "military" targets, and thus crippled the country's ability to provide electricity and clean drinking water to the population. The United States bombed food warehouses and processing plants, telephone communications centers, roads, bridges, and water purification plants. In the view of the U.S. military all of these were not "collateral damage" but "legitimate military targets." This is one of the reasons why former U. S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark, who toured Iraq

in February, called the bombing "criminal."

According to U.S. Air Force General Merrill A. McPeak, the United States dropped 88,500 tons of bombs on Iraq and Kuwait. Of these 88,500 tons, only 7 percent (or 6,520 tons) were so-called smart bombs (bombs with laser or television guidance systems that improve accuracy). This means that the vast majority of bombs used in the war were clumsy, inaccurate "dumb" bombs. A senior Pentagon official told reporters that the 81,980 tons of unguided bombs had an accuracy rate of only about 25 percent. Calculations based on the information provided by General McPeak and the senior official suggest that 26,363 tons of bombs hit targets, and 62,137 tons missed. The Air Force's definition of a successful "hit" is when a bomb strikes within 100 feet of its target.

Without exception, every videotape the Pentagon made public was of a "smart" bomb successfully destroying its target. But this kind of direct hit only represented about 2 to 3 percent of the 88,500-ton

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scribing the scene out of Kuwait, pilot told a reporter: "Daytona Beach bumper to bumper. Other pilots spoke 'turkey shoot' and the U.S. airfields, coming and going. Pilots were hurried along the 15-mile highway. The pilot said to contain the of recyclable metal. Lone Ranger, U.S. remnants of a pipe been cut off and jammed highway. "They had said Brig. Gen. H. commander of the hundreds of vehicles highway, not one pilot told reporters burning vehicles t

Air Force General turkey shoot in n "When enemy army retreat, often in d what is known in exploitation phase this phase that there are achieved from c that a general's obligation and that "often c brutal things. This bloody den Gulf War could h: President Bush all to withdraw peace offered to do before ground war. But P to teach the Iraqis of Kuwait and the sentence upon the of whom were you

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Perhaps the culminating event of the Persian Gulf War was the slaughter of Iraqi soldiers and refugees fleeing Kuwait on the road to Basra that was fittingly dubbed the "Highway of Death." De-

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Perhaps the culminating event of the Persian Gulf War was the slaughter of Iraqi soldiers and refugees fleeing Kuwait on the road to Basra that was fittingly dubbed the "Highway of Death." De-

scribing the scene on the jammed roads out of Kuwait, pilot Brian Kasperbauer told a reporter: "This was the road to Daytona Beach at Spring Break; just bumper to bumper. Spring Break's over!" Other pilots spoke of the massacre as a "turkey shoot" and "fish in a barrel." At the U.S. airfields, planes were reportedly coming and going so fast that technicians were hurriedly handing up any kind of bomb available. The wreckage along the 15-mile stretch of road is now said to contain the world's largest supply of recyclable metal. To the theme of *The Lone Ranger*, U.S. pilots murdered the remnants of a peasant army that had been cut off and jammed up on a desolate highway. "They had nowhere to run," said Brig. Gen. Henry Shelton, deputy commander of the 101st Airborne. Out of the hundreds of vehicles caught on the highway, not one reached Basra. One pilot told reporters, "there were too many burning vehicles to count."

Air Force General McPeak spoke of the turkey shoot in more analytical terms: "When enemy armies are defeated, they retreat, often in disorder, and we have what is known in the business as the exploitation phase," he said. "It's during this phase that the true fruits of victory are achieved from combat." McPeak added that a general's obligation is to his troops, and that "often causes us to do very brutal things. That's the nature of war."

This bloody denouement to the Persian Gulf War could have been avoided had President Bush allowed the Iraqi military to withdraw peacefully from Kuwait as it offered to do before the U.S. launched the ground war. But President Bush wanted to teach the Iraqis a lesson for the pillage of Kuwait and therefore issued a death sentence upon the retreating army, most of whom were young conscripts.

In the last two years President Bush has sent U.S. troops four times into combat situations in the Third World and has successfully presided over two large-scale wars. This war has set a dangerous precedent: as long as the press can be censored and reduced to lapdog obedience and as long as the blood and killing are

kept off the boob tube, and as long as the war is short and American casualties are low, the U.S. military can do this again virtually anywhere it wishes. Bribing and browbeating enough client states into a coalition and vilifying the enemy are relatively simple additional preconditions. A.J. Muste, the American pacifist, wrote in 1941: "The problem after a war is with the victor. He thinks he has just proved that war and violence pay. Who will now teach him a lesson?" As the war ended,

The United States
and its coalition
partners dropped
more tons of bombs
in six weeks on
Iraq than were
dropped in all of
World War II.

President Bush proclaimed: "By God, we've finally kicked the Vietnam syndrome once and for all." If this is true, who will teach George Bush a lesson?

On July 25, 1990, U.S. Ambassador to Iraq April Glaspie told President Saddam Hussein: "What we have no opinion about are inter-Arab disputes such as your border disagreement with Kuwait. I was in the American embassy in Kuwait during the late sixties. The instructions we had at that time were that we should have nothing to do with this issue and that the issue was not connected with U.S. concerns. James Baker has directed our official spokesman to emphasize this instruction." Ms. Glaspie's account of

the July 25 meeting is contained in a classified cable which the State Department refuses to make public on the grounds of "diplomatic confidentiality." But after the Iraqi Foreign Ministry released the above transcript on September 11, a senior State Department official told *The New York Times* that it was "essentially correct." Other senior officials from the State Department acknowledged that they never ordered Ms. Glaspie to go back and deliver a tougher message after they received her cable of the meeting. And just prior to the invasion, both Assistant Secretary of State for Near East and South Asian Affairs, John Kelly, and State Department spokesperson Margaret Tutwiler made public statements that the United States "had no security agreements with Kuwait." At that time the Central Intelligence Agency was reportedly briefing President Bush on Iraqi troop movements on the Kuwaiti border and was predicting an imminent invasion.

Ms. Glaspie's recent testimony before the House and Senate Foreign Affairs Committees raised more questions than it answered. The State Department has kept her "locked up" (in the words of Rep. Dante Fascell) inside the State Department throughout the war. In her testimony, Ms. Glaspie, who is a career foreign service officer known for her extensive contacts and shrewd political assessments in the Arab world, claimed she had indeed warned Saddam Hussein that an invasion of Kuwait would illicit a negative U.S. reaction, but these remarks were omitted from the Iraqi transcript. Since the State Department will not release her cable of the meeting, we are left with a puzzling and incomplete record of the crucial diplomatic exchanges between the United States and Iraq just prior to the August 2 invasion of Kuwait.

Some observers view this July 25 meeting as giving Saddam Hussein a "green light" to invade Kuwait. The diplomatic record as it stands can either be interpreted as incompetence on the part of the State Department or as a calcu-

continued on next page

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Aftermath of the Gulf War

continued from previous page

lated manipulation to trick Hussein into invading in order to provide a pretext for "demilitarizing" Iraq. But the pre-invasion diplomatic record may be considered moot. As Adolf Hitler remarked to senior officers on the eve of World War II, "The victor will not be asked later on whether or not he told the truth. In starting and waging a war, it is not right that matters but victory."

Now that the "legitimate" feudal dictator of Kuwait has been "rightfully" restored to the throne, Kuwaiti security services and vigilantes have been ar-

nassed Kuwaiti resistance fighters seize a Sudanese couple, strip the woman naked, make her dance by firing at her feet, stand her husband in front of her and fire three bullets into his chest, killing him. Their offense: They had forgotten to take the Iraqi-issued license plates off their car. At press time, these types of "mopping-up" operations pose a continuous threat to the lives of over 175,000 Palestinians living in Kuwait.

To ensure that the Emir of Kuwait will not be uncomfortable as order is restored in his beloved homeland, the Kuwaiti government signed a \$1.5 million contract with the Army Corps of Engineers to

"The Persian Gulf War may turn out to be the most environmentally destructive conflict in the history of warfare."

— Christopher Flavin, vice president of the Worldwatch Institute

resting, beating, torturing, and executing Palestinians and other groups suspected of collaborating with the Iraqis. Other potential enemies of the regime have been loaded into buses and shipped out to a desolate area just outside the Kuwaiti border. The country is under martial law, which means those who are enforcing the law can be as martial and as lawless as they please. For example, Robert Fisk wrote in the British newspaper, *The Independent*, "When three Kuwaiti soldiers began to beat up a Palestinian boy on a bicycle in Hwali, Colin Smith of *The Observer* and I intervened, physically restraining the Kuwaiti troops and ordering them to lower their weapons...But the (American) Special Forces troops accompanying the Kuwaitis did nothing to help. When I asked the American officer why he allowed the Kuwaitis to beat up civilians, he replied, 'You having a nice day? We don't want your sort around here with your dirty rumors. You have a big mouth. This is martial law, boy, F*** off!'" Another correspondent from *The Independent* wit-

manage the restoration of the sumptuous Bayan Palace, the new home of the Al-Sabah family. Four hundred workers have installed gold-plated bathroom fixtures and doorknobs, Italian marble floors, and silk brocade wall coverings. The palace complex has 108 apartments in all, each with a master bedroom, six smaller bedrooms, living room, dining room, kitchen, and two large reception rooms. Each apartment has nine separate bathrooms. The extra space is evidently necessary to house the Emir's 55 wives (at last count) and over 70 children. When asked how the Kuwaiti government could justify installing the Emir's gold-plated bathroom fixtures before other people even have running water, Bader Qabandi, the engineer overseeing the project, replied, "The Emir must have a place to live and work." Thomas Jefferson, who created the Army Corps of Engineers in 1802 to enhance Enlightenment ideals among citizen soldiers, would probably be surprised if he could see his creation used to rebuild a palace for a king.



GIVE PEACE A CHANCE!

We all long for peace on earth. Peace on earth starts with peace within. There are as many wars going on within as without. Wars within that remain unattended eventually result in outer conflict—the kick the dog syndrome. As one inner part battles another, conflict breaks out between partners, with children, between friends or with strangers. How much better to deal with inner conflict before it erupts in our outer world. Outer conflict can be resolved much faster when each person acknowledges his or her part in it, but first it is necessary to recognize what that part is. Therapy can help disentangle all those inner warring parts,

and it can help individuals involved in outer conflicts work through to resolution.

Joan Forest is a licensed Marriage, Family and Child Therapist with training in Switzerland in Jungian Therapy. She leads a continuing Monday evening dream group from 7:30-9:30 P.M. in which participants will have a chance to explore the myth by which they are living their lives while working on their dreams.

Joan works at Redwood Therapy Center, 6005 Highway 9, Felton, a peaceful 15-minute drive from downtown Santa Cruz. Call Joan at 335-4210 for individual appointments or for more information about groups.

While the Emir settles into his new palace, his devastated kingdom is literally burning. There are now an estimated 600 oil wells burning out of control in Kuwait, consuming between five and six million barrels of oil each day (more than Kuwait's previous production). The burning wells are releasing into the atmosphere over 100,000 tons of smoke each week, and are emitting pollutants such as carbon monoxide, nitrous oxide, polyaromatic hydrocarbons, and sulfur dioxide. One of the principal environmental concerns is the acidic "black rain" that is certain to damage crops, taint water supplies, and lead to the buildup of chemicals in the food chain as livestock and other animals ingest contaminated grass and water. A gigantic black cloud covers much of Kuwait and parts of Iran, and is now being carried by the prevailing winds to Pakistan, Afghanistan, and northern India. "The Persian Gulf War may turn out to be the most environmentally destructive conflict in the history of warfare," Christopher Flavin, vice president of the Worldwatch Institute, told a news conference in early March. His colleague Michael Renner, a research scientist, called it "an unprecedented atmospheric disaster" and "an enormous unplanned experiment in the atmosphere."

The several oil spills in the Persian Gulf (the largest in history) have wiped out Saudi Arabian shrimp beds and inflicted heavy damage on sea birds, turtles, and coral reefs. The full scope of the environmental damage is impossible to assess because at press time military security restrictions have cut off access to satellite photographs normally used in such evaluations. No one really knows how much oil has been dumped into the Gulf in the two major spills, one at Kuwait Sea Island terminal and one at Iraq's offshore loading terminal at Mina al-Bakr. But estimates made in mid-February were over 500 million gallons.

Everything representatives of the peace movement said would happen if President Bush decided on war in the Gulf has happened: ecological disaster, the "Lebanonization" of Iraq, the wanton destruction of civilian lives and property, and no resolution of the deeper Middle East problems such as the distribution of wealth and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The Arab world is seething with frustration and contempt toward the West for its support of dictatorial monarchies. Iraq has been reduced to a "pre-industrial" society and the smashed water and sewage systems mean that many children will die from germ warfare of a very effective sort. There is a severe economic crisis in the entire region and little mention is made of the fact that American and allied soldiers killed as many as 175,000 Iraqis, most of whom were young draftees. (In terms of the U.S. population, that would be 2,415,000 dead Americans.) If one accepts the idea that economic sanctions against Iraq would have worked, as two former joint chiefs of staff and the current CIA director did during congressional hearings, then the Gulf War was a tremendous waste of resources and human life.

Joseph A. Palermo teaches United States history at Hartnell Community College in Salinas, California.

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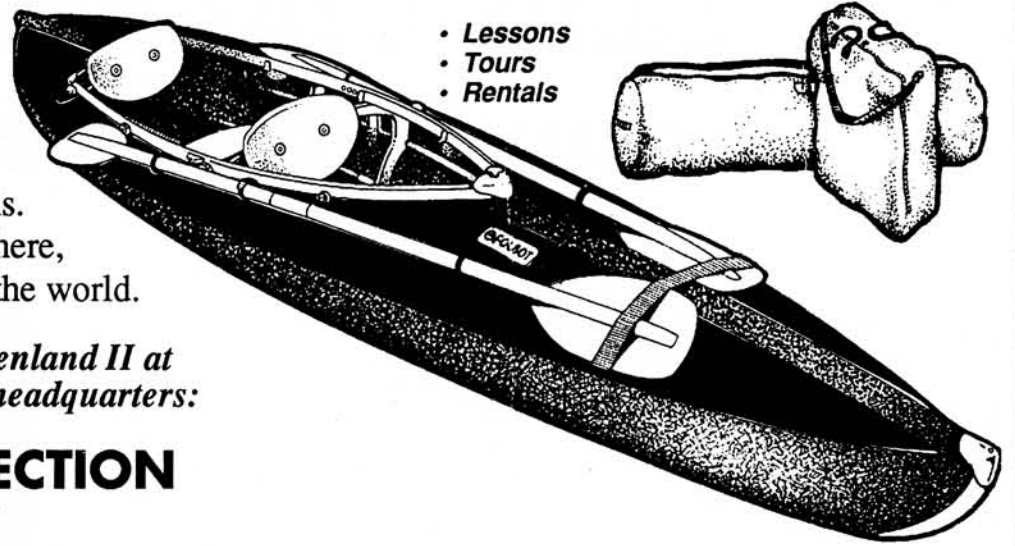
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 OR HOW PAUL

Santa Cruz Activist Returns From Trip to the Middle East

by Julie Marten

From March 2-12, I visited the Middle East to deliver needed medical supplies and to witness the impact of the war on the civilian populations in the region. I was a Santa Cruz representative to a national delegation sponsored by the Fellowship of Reconciliation, Witness for Peace, and Middle East Witness. Although it was impossible for us to visit Iraq, we were able to visit Jordan, Israel, and the occupied territories, and we spoke with

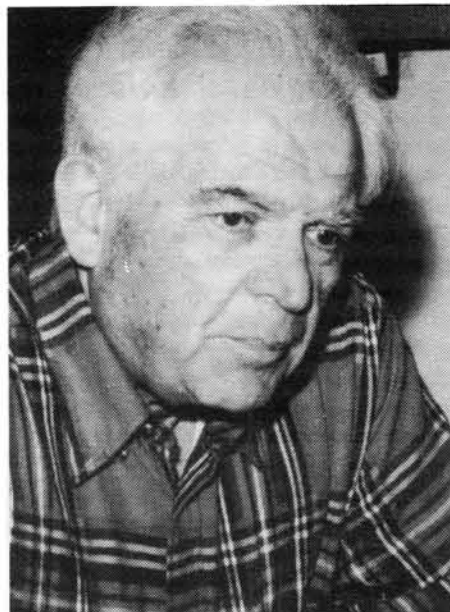
heard about the crisis enveloping the entire region.

Kamel Abujaber, the secretary general of the Jordan World Affairs Council, said that he had "met over 500 journalists from all over the world...and the consensus of correspondents is that between 80-100 thousand were killed in the last three or four days of battle, when the Iraqi army was retreating! It was a murder of the Iraqi troops, in the light of day...Do you know that they entered some of those so-called bunkers, found the soldiers and literally had to lead them out by the hand [because] they were so petrified?! The cruelty with which this battle was done was unbelievable."

Despite the slaughter of the Iraqi troops, Abujaber and others repeatedly insisted that the most profound atrocities were suffered by Iraqi civilians. "They want Americans to think that it [the war] was not against civilians," observed Abdallah Al Khatib, the president of the General Union of Voluntary Societies, "but it was against civilians from the beginning. A bombardment of Baghdad was a bombardment of civilians!"

Matti Peled, a reserve general of the Israeli army, asserted that the tactics used by the U.S. forces were not only brutal, but completely unnecessary as "strategic bombardment is the destruction of the backbone of the military industry complex, so that there is no way to resupply...Iraq has no capability of producing bombs, airplanes...[so] the logic of strategic bombardment would require bombing of Germany, France and the U.S.! They systematically destroyed all of the Iraqi civilian infrastructure...I think this is only terrible modern vandalism."

The Iraqi people's ability to sustain themselves has been completely shattered. Coalition forces have destroyed most or all of their water systems, water purification plants, sewage systems, power plants, factories, and communication systems. According to a journalist



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Matti Peled, a reserve general of the Israeli army, on the allied bombing: "They systematically destroyed all of the Iraqi civilian infrastructure...I think this is only terrible modern vandalism."

for the *Jordan Times* who was in Baghdad from March 5-10, the people "are scared to death because they don't have clean water." He described how the Iraqis are now forced to drink from ditches, swamps, and the Tigris River, all of which are infested with disease and carry feces. "From what I heard," he said, "they couldn't sleep for 40 days. Iraqis just want to look inward and rebuild, not think about the war, about Palestinians, about anything anymore...they are so traumatized that they want to forget it."

Unfortunately, the horror has only begun. Because of the U.S.'s refusal to provide genuine humanitarian aid or to help rebuild the vital functions it destroyed, the Iraqi people may suffer a slow genocide.

The Jordanian people have also suf-

fered intolerably as a result of this war. They have lost loved ones in the Gulf War, such as the 100 Jordanians killed during the bombing of an air raid shelter, and their economy has been wrecked. Jordan suffered a 77 percent reduction in their GNP during the crisis. At the same time, they have hosted over one million Kuwaiti and Iraqi refugees in transit and temporarily assimilated another several hundred thousand refugees. The result, according to Crown Prince Hassan, has been that a million Jordanians have dropped below the poverty line, 250,000 of them malnourished children. With the U.S.'s newfound disapproval for Jordan and the resulting withdrawal of economic aid, the nation could slide into a catastrophic economic crisis.

Nowhere did I feel the presence of the war so strongly as in the occupied territories of Gaza and the West Bank. As a result of the 47-day, 24-hour-a-day curfew "all of the population of Gaza (and almost of the West Bank) was in jail," said a young Palestinian journalist. This became the catalyst for unprecedented numbers of arrests, beatings, and miscarriages, as well as deaths by shooting and denied hospital access. Crops rotted in the fields and people were unable to earn their daily wages for six weeks.

According to the director of the one private hospital in Gaza, Palestinians "were one of the peoples most affected by the Gulf War, economically and psychologically. My children were severely upset. You can't imagine the whole Strip for six weeks under curfew. Children are not allowed to go outside; families are not allowed to take their children to the hospital."

Constant exposure to the blatant double standard displayed in the handling of U.N. resolutions regarding occupations only added outrage to the Palestinians' situation. "We [the Palestinians] have over 100 resolutions, let's...apply them," insisted Hanan Ashrawi, a prominent advocate for a Palestinian homeland in accordance with Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. She went on to say, "There's no such thing as a benign occupation; you are deprived of your freedom, constantly subject to humiliation, a denial of your identity...How would you feel if your kids came home from school and said 'Mommy, we were tear gassed today?'"

I was repeatedly told by Palestinians, Jordanians, American diplomats, and Israeli peace activists that the Palestinian question was absolutely critical, and that there would be no lasting peace in the Middle East until it was solved. "This is literally the mother of all problems of the Middle East," asserted Kamel Abujaber, "including the Gulf War. If the Arab-Israeli conflict is not settled, nothing in the Middle East will [be] settle[d]."

ACTIVIST'S NOTEBOOK

journalists and intelligentsia who gave us a clear picture of the devastation the U.S. had savagely wrought upon Iraqi people. In this article I will try to present an accurate picture of what I saw and

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Immediate, serious negotiations on the Palestinian situation are imperative, but they cannot take place without legitimate representation of the Palestinian people. "I do not know a single Palestinian," stated Abujaber, "who is not a PLO in his heart, who is not dedicated to Palestine in his heart, and not willing to fight for it." Whether or not their commitment is actually so complete, however, is less important than the basic concept of self-determination which demands "that it is for the Palestinians to decide who they are represented by."

When the six-week curfew was imposed upon the Palestinians as a "security measure" during the war, the mounting frustration of occupation exploded into desperation, which, I was warned, could completely destabilize the situation. "The Intifada proves that we are peace seekers," stated Yonis Elgaro, Director of the Bar in Gaza. "We cried for peace through our blood, through our children. We cannot say how long it will last before it becomes violent." Dr. Zaedi, the Director of the Red Crescent in Gaza, added that "the new generations will be more radical than we are because they have seen nothing just or fair. So we are afraid that it will become more complicated."

In the past few weeks, we have begun to see the horrifying results of this desperation in the upswing of violence in the territories. With each story I read in the newspapers, I hear echoed the words of a Palestinian/Jordanian journalist who expressed that he was "...either going to die with dignity or live with dignity...we'd rather die than keep living like dogs in the longest military occupation in the 20th century." The recent escalation of violence is an indirect consequence of the U.S.-initiated war. It could become a tragedy of equal proportions if the Israeli soldiers and people follow the advice of Israeli police minister Roni Milo to "shoot to kill" any Palestinian brandishing a knife with the possible intent of killing a Jew.

We must take immediate steps to pressure our representatives in Congress to examine the war's impact on the region. From a humanitarian viewpoint, it is inexcusable to deny aid to the Iraqis to rebuild the essential infrastructure destroyed by U.S. forces. Furthermore, as violence escalates in the occupied terri-



DEAN METCALF/MONTHLY PLANET

Crown Prince Hassan of Jordan expressed "hope that a moment can come when people are regarded as people...That this demonizing that has taken place these last few months can stop. There should have been diplomacy, but the fact remains that there was only one meeting...War is a breakdown of humanity."

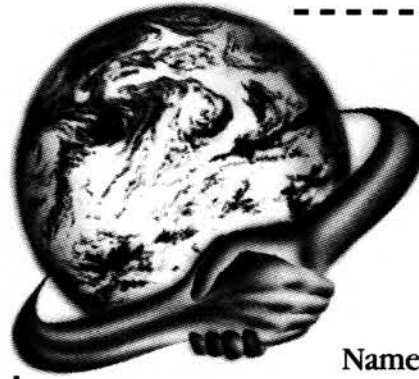
tories, we must demand that our policymakers act decisively to apply U.N. resolutions to end the occupation and work toward lasting peace in the Middle East.

Julie Marten is a sociology student at the University of California, Santa Cruz, and is an active member of Santa Cruz Students for Social Responsibility. She and journalist Dean Metcalf will speak at a presentation entitled "Eyewitness Update: the Gulf War's Impact on Israel and Palestine" on Sunday, April 7, 7:30 p.m. at the Resource Center for Nonviolence, 515 Broadway, in Santa Cruz. A \$2-5 donation will be asked at the door.

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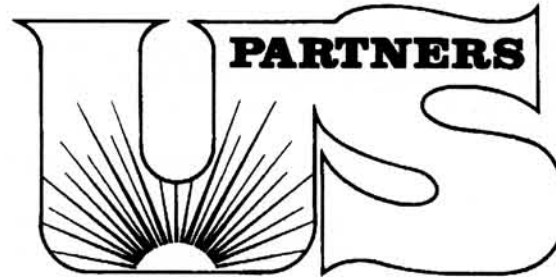
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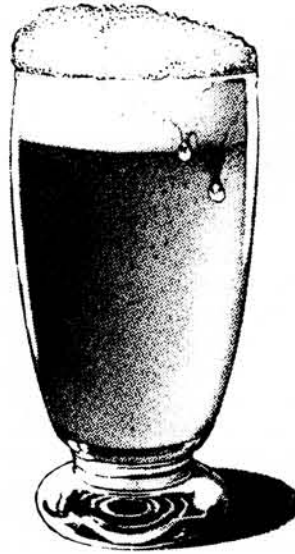
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Pundit Watch

Throughout the latter part of the Persian Gulf War, the folks at Greenpeace have posted — on the PeaceNet computer network — a weekly report entitled "Pundit Watch." In this final edition of Pundit Watch, reprinted here, they examine the damage done to the press's role as societal watchdog by public criticism and Pentagon pressure. They also award medals and commendations to those Pundits who performed in extraordinary fashion.

AWARDS AND COMMENDATIONS FOR MILITARY COVERAGE:

MEDAL OF OIL

Garrick Utley, NBC Meet the Press, 3/3: "Do we fully understand the magnitude of what we have achieved?...The Age of Empires is over, and the troops will come home. The rulers of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia know who their protector is now. Indeed, they know that they are now in fact American protectorates. This war was fought for many reasons, but one result is that it has given us for years to come a secure supply of oil at free-market prices."

DISTINGUISHED SERVILE CROSS

Scripps-Howard White House correspondent Ann McFeatters, in an op-ed in the 3/1 *Chicago Tribune*: "In 100 hours, George Bush and his band of able assistants restored America's can-do spirit...He created a feeling of pride in America's prowess abroad that had waned since the sorry days of the Vietnam War...In the end, the president's critics retreated in shame-faced silence as he declared victory over a demolished tyrant...The war had a movie-script happy ending: The good guys won, and a supporting cast of millions felt the future looked a lot better than they had hoped."

GOOD CONDUCT MEDALS

NBC's Brad Willis, who took steps to turn in correspondents who had violated pool-coverage rules; and Charles Kraut-

hammer, who crowed that "press management was a great untold success of the war." ("Inside Washington," 3/9).

ORDER OF THE PURPLE PUNDIT I

Pat Buchanan, who went from opposing the war on isolationist grounds, to praising Star Wars for what it didn't accomplish with the Patriot Missile, to praising Arab nations' security police for "keeping public sentiment from boiling over," to leaping on the \$600 toilet seat bandwagon with both feet. Spoken like a true Nixonian, Pat.

PURPLE PUNDIT II

George Will, who early in the war praised Ronald Reagan, not George Bush, for the war's military hardware. (ABC David Brinkley, 1/27). Will surrendered in *Newsweek*, 3/11, citing Bush's placement of a portrait of virile Teddy Roosevelt in the White House, replacing Reagan's favored portrait of Silent Cal Coolidge.

BRADLEE WRITING VEHICLE COMMENDATION

Nora Boustany, "Retreat of the Anti-War Activists," *Washington Post*, 2/4: "An aging group of hippies and veteran peace junkies, ranging from 78-year-old grandmothers with arthritis to Hare Krishnas and long-haired, bandana-wearing, muddled-aged anti-war activists, returned here (Amman) this morning...This diverse group of eccentrics and idealists, many of whom 20 years ago helped change the course of history in a movement to end American involvement in a foreign war, now seems like a sad relic from a different era. They were powerless to make a dent, even in newspaper headlines" (except this one).

BRONZE STARS

Displaced Cold-War novelist Tom Clancy, *LA Times*, 2/28: "There is no truer measure of any society than its armed forces...They will come home with their heads up. Like their fathers and grandfathers did 45 years ago, they went away to do something important. They have stopped an evil force. They will have saved people from something...When they come home, it's your job to remember



ELIZABETH WILLIAMS/MONTHLY PLANET

who they are, and whom they worked for." William Raspberry, *Washington Post*, 3/1: "At almost every turn, Bush, by doing the exact opposite of what I thought was prudent, proved himself to be the better judge of human nature, of the will of the American people, and of the character of Saddam Hussein. Thus my perverse claim of credit for the outcome. Without my advice as a sort of negative guideline, Bush might not have known what to do."

Thomas Oliphant, *Boston Globe* 2/27: "Now that the end game has begun, the time has come — especially for those of us who make most of our living cuffing the guy around — to recognize the magnitude of Bush's triumph."

Mona Charen, *Boston Globe*, 3/4: "Pride over a brilliant military victory is not misplaced. A successful war, while never something to seek to prove one's prowess, does provide a measure of a nation's excellence. War measures technology, organization, engineering skill, discipline, cohesiveness, productivity, intelligence, and spirit."

QUOTING THE GLOATING

This may be a bit too predictable, but Pundit Watch explored a motherlode of throbbing postwar adrenals. In scarcely over a week's time, the Commentary pages of the *Washington Times* revealed the following prose, fit for WWII newsreels:

Cal Thomas, 2/28: "The Democrats still haven't learned their lesson. Frustrated that no one pays much attention to her whiny voice anymore, Rep. Pat Schroeder, Colorado Democrat, complained on CNN that she worries we might not be able to pay the bill for the war. Don't cry, Pat. If unpaid bills remain after our allies ante up, we can put out some collection

buckets along the routes of the hundreds of victory parades that will welcome the troops home. Americans will be happy to help pay the price for those who have made us proud that we helped another nation rid itself of an occupying tyrant and rid ourselves of the ghost of Vietnam."

William Murchison 2/28: "The liberation of Kuwait, the basic objective of the war, matters deeply. But more than that, America has been liberated. What is, excuse the '80-speak, the bottom line here? It is that we're number one."

Wesley Pruden, 3/1: "We're entitled to see some noses rubbed in the success, the noses of the 'peace' activists who hate America, and the apologists for those peaceniks, with their tedious recitals about what jerks American soldiers are, how their weapons won't work, and why as Americans they're doomed always to fight for a rotten cause. Some of them afflicted with National Public Radio's view of the world, are still at it in the wake of Desert Storm."

Ken Adelman, 3/1: "For among the sundry surprises surrounding the Gulf War was the sorry state of church pronouncements on one of the clearest moral choices of our time."

William Rusher, 3/6: "The triumphant end of the Gulf War makes it possible, at last, to make sense of the 20th century: to understand the ferocious impulses that fueled its wars, and to identify the nations and tendencies that have emerged victorious at last."

Ben Wattenberg, 3/6: "Pundits and experts usually don't attack each other publicly. They should start. The quality of experts, pundits and journalists is even more important to our national well-being than the quality of our quar-terbacks."



Dancing Man Imagery

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Georgie Anne Geyer, 3/6: "Then there is the key question of manners. The old foreign correspondents were renegades and rascals, but they were also mannerly bon vivants. Too many of the new ones, obsessed with personal ambition and little else, are arrogant, superior and removed (value-free, some put it) from society and from authority. Thus, they have gone on endlessly and fruitlessly on themes that never had any geopolitical validity ('the Arabs won't fight,' the 'Republican Guard are terrors,' George Bush is 'in over his head.')

Fred Singer, 3/5: "In the view of most experts, too much has been made of such environmental dangers; oil fires are a common occurrence...While the Kuwaiti clouds may create regional problems, they do have a (tiny) silver lining. Thanks to Saddam, we will now have the opportunity to study the fate of smoke from large fires under ideal conditions. (The U.S. government has spent a great deal of money in the past few years on such fire tests to verify the computer models.) With reconnaissance and weather satellites overhead, we can trace the dispersion of the smoke particles and their lifetime in the atmosphere [sic] before they are washed out by rain."

DAMAGE CONTROL

The allied military victory was months in the planning, but the strategic triumph scored by the Pentagon over the press was in the works for 20 years. Throughout the war the ideal of a free press was at once a weapon for both the Iraqis and the allies, and a target for the American public. We asked several media observers what the long-term damage will be.

The most consistent failing of the war's coverage is lack of context. For American television news consumers, the air war was defined not by its devastation, but by what became a nightly air power highlights film.

"The media was cut out of the picture of the totality of the effort," said Bill Arkin, Greenpeace's military research director. "The military was able to please the media. They didn't explain the B-52 bombing campaign, the damage from the air war in general. We never got an overview from the field of the war. One would have hoped that we would have gotten that from the reporters back home." But Arkin added that there was little evidence that the field reporters, the Pentagon correspondents, and the retired generals compared notes with each other. Bill Kovach, former *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* editor and curator of the Neiman Foundation at Harvard University, added that the press must make its coverage less reactive, redirecting reporting to "what institutions do, rather than what they say they do."

An important test of press performance in the war will be the willingness to apply context and examine the war's impacts on Iraq, the Gulf region, the U.S., and the world. To date, the deep issues, contradictions, and tragedies of the war have gone largely unchallenged. "Bush kept saying that he had no quarrel with the

people of Iraq. Saddam Hussein is still in power and there are 100,000 dead Iraqi troops and civilians," said *Rolling Stone's* media critic, Mark Hertsgaard.

Sydney Schanberg, Pulitzer-winning columnist for *New York Newsday*, added that public opinion would guide news editors' decisions on whether to pursue in-depth post-war reporting. But *New York Times* reporter Craig Wolff questioned the value of aggressive hindsight: "The fact that somebody is able to dig out the story three years afterward is useful...but it doesn't change the course of events at the time." Wolff urged news organizations to "Wake up to the fact that if they don't defend the issue of access to information then we're on a scary road toward controlled information." Schanberg cited an instance where Pentagon pressure affected the public's access to dissenting information. He said that the CBS "America Tonight" program rescinded an invitation to Schanberg when Pentagon spokesman Pete Williams refused to appear opposite Schanberg, who is a plaintiff in a federal civil suit challenging Pentagon press coverage rules.

The standing ovation given by the Pentagon press corps to Lt. Gen. Thomas Kelly on Kelly's retirement last week was a fitting symbol of the success of the military's basic press training. Intensive preparation for doing battle with the press has been s.o.p. for senior officers since Vietnam. The Defense Information School at Fort Benjamin Harrison in Indianapolis and the National War College in Washington are training grounds for the New World Order of military public relations. For his part, Schanberg tempered his criticism of press restrictions with kind words for the competence of Pentagon briefers. "I don't think you could have better guys to carry out the policy. But the press should never have accepted it. The press should have applauded Kelly and attacked the policy."

The growing pressures to convert network news divisions into formidable profit-makers will also continue to exact a toll on news quality. Scaled-down ad revenues and skyrocketing war-coverage costs are expected to translate into further staff cuts and bureau closures at the networks. Big ticket items including foreign reporting and in-depth investigations will be further hampered. The future of CNN's ambitious investigative team is rumored to be cloudy. And the network news brass have some disturbing ideas for belt-tightening: *New York Times* TV reporter Bill Carter wrote on March 4 that pool coverage — so widely loathed by journalists during wartime — would increase: "The most likely place to begin pool coverage is Washington, where official statements and briefings have often been covered by multiple network camera crews." While economic pressures may force even greater uniformity on news coverage, there's little discussion about how the press can avoid getting snookered next time by a web of restrictions. "We're going to have to plan as effectively for our future as the military do," said Kovach. If so, nearly 20 years' worth of catching up is in order.

I GUESS YOU HAD TO BE THERE

"Diane Sawyer on 'Nightline' told a syrupy story of a soldier carrying a dead Vietnam buddy's flag with him across the desert, and raising it over the U.S. embassy in Kuwait. Only one problem: correspondent Forrest Sawyer, who was on live with her from Kuwait, told her it wasn't true. Undaunted, Ms. Sawyer ended the broadcast by saying that even if it wasn't true, perhaps one day such a flag would fly over the embassy." Robert Goldberg, "TV: The Antiseptic Tube," *Wall St. Journal*, 3/4.

FRED BARNES DISCOVERS CURE FOR VIETNAM SYNDROME

Filling in for the absent Morton Kondracke as The McLaughlin Group's most unctuous member, Fred Barnes suggested this week that demolishing Iraq only once just won't do. In the face of reports of brutal Republican Guard repression of Iraqi dissidents, Barnes said that the U.S. "may have to send troops into Baghdad as a humane gesture." McLaughlin's office pool this week focused on Saddam Hussein's political life span: Pat Buchanan said the Iraqi leader would be sending out resumés by "the end of the year"; Fred Barnes said he'd be out by "maybe 1992"; Eleanor Clift guessed "three to six months"; John McLaughlin said he'd likely "be there indefinitely"; Jack Germond, displaying vision, refused to take the question seriously.

HELPFUL HINDSIGHT

Carter era Middle East expert Gary Sick described early US intelligence reports on Saddam to *Time* (3/11): "I don't recall reading anything other than that this was a man who was ruthless and dangerous, but who nonetheless, as with the Shah, was a man you could do business with."

THERE HE GOES AGAIN

Oliver North, not inexperienced at selling things to Middle Eastern governments, has closed a \$948,000 deal for bullet-proof vests for Kuwaiti officials (*Times-Mirror*, Leesburg, VA, 3/6) Perhaps the worst Punditry of all came from the originator of the old bromide that crime doesn't pay.

SIGNS OF THE TIMESES

New York Times headline, 3/6: "Rebellion May be Subsiding;" same news, same day, *Washington Times*: "Rebellion Gathers Momentum in Iraq."

ROLL THE FINAL CREDITS

Thanks to the contributors, writers, researchers, and distributors of Pundit Watch: Bill Arkin, Fred Barnes, Julie Brenegar, Pat Buchanan, Andrew Davis, Peter Dykstra, Jack Germond, Abner Grossman, Patty Johnson, Josh Karliner, Morton Kondracke, RJ Matson, John McLaughlin, Lisa Milz, Blair Palese, Jeanne Whalen, and Matt Wuerker.

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Media Linguicide and Class Wars

by Norman Solomon

The New World Order came to U.S. mass media with a vengeance. It is not necessary to kill the First Amendment to smother free speech. Corporate America can choke the national windpipe by paying the piper and calling the tune.

Nor is it necessary for propaganda to be 100 percent unanimous to be effective. In fact, democratic pretensions are enhanced by the spice of controversies. Much media attention, for instance, focused on Pentagon press restrictions. "The new guidelines guarantee pack journalism — the worst form of reporting — and allow the military to orchestrate and control the news before it reaches the American people," CBS News president Eric W. Ober complained at the outset of the war.

Despite such rhetoric, however, neither CBS nor any other major media institution joined in the lawsuit filed in mid-January by some small media outlets and a few journalists to overturn the Pentagon rules. In reality, the big media went along with the warmakers.

In a typical mainstream riff, the *Washington Post's* deputy managing editor, Robert Kaiser, argued for more openness as a boost for the war effort:

"Any attempt to withhold bad news, or put a false shine on it, will diminish the public support the military wants and needs." The *Wall Street Journal's* TV columnist, Dorothy Rabinowitz, saw a need for the press to serve its masters more directly. Bemoaning two decades of the media's supposed "extreme adversarial relationship with government," she urged that the press eschew any semblance of neutrality in wartime.

Such center-right debates have involved differences more apparent than real. "The system of providing information on the war has worked reasonably well," Kaiser concluded after two weeks of massive bloodshed. Rabinowitz wrote that U.S. media "are in fact doing extremely well under the circumstances."


Most editors and reporters didn't like the Defense Department's rules for war coverage from Saudi Arabia and the front. Besides imposing a media pool system and requiring approval from U.S. officials for dispatches, the regulations insisted that a military escort be present during interviews with troops.

But the press focus on Pentagon censorship served as a lightning rod to draw attention away from the media's self-censorship. The government did not force the news media to rely on the narrow



range of pro-war analysts that dominated the network airwaves and news pages. No federal agency forced the mass media to cheerlead the war.

Beneath the surface, the warmakers and war reporters have plenty in common. "Deep down, you're a good bunch of guys," three-star Army General Thomas



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Kelly told journalists at the Pentagon in early March. As *USA Today* put it, "despite some flare-ups during the daily give-and-take," Kelly "was popular among reporters." With the war over, Kelly retired with a fond farewell: "I'd just like to say that, believe it or not, I've enjoyed this little interlude. I got a lot of letters from people who really don't understand the hurly-burly and give-and-take of a press briefing, and at no time were you ever impolite to me and at no time did I ever become offended."

Makes sense. With thousands of Iraqis being incinerated by U.S. bombs each day, why should the press be impolite or offensive to a Pentagon briefer?

In the wake of the war, we have more reasons than ever to deflate illusions about the U.S. mass media. To justify unconscionable priorities that favor wealth and centralized power over human life and social justice, the news media routinely engage in what might be called "linguicide" — the steady destruction of language as an instrument of meaning.

When the slaughter of civilians is called "collateral damage," that's linguicide.

When a dictatorship like Saudi Arabia which routinely tortures political dissenters is called a "moderate" government, that's linguicide.

When a few missiles fired at Tel Aviv are called weapons of terrorism while thousands of missiles fired at Baghdad and Basra are called technological marvels, that's linguicide.

War news coverage was not a departure from the usual media pattern; it was an intensification. Amid the daily onslaught of mediocrity, we are conditioned to lower our standards, to be grateful for the less-bad. Those who were shocked by National Public Radio's blatant pro-war propaganda, for example, should listen

Mass media evade
links between
foreign and
domestic policies.

more critically in the future. With few exceptions, they will find foreign policy reports on a short leash from the White House, the State Department and Capitol Hill. Instead of contributing money to NPR affiliates dutifully airing "All Things Considered" and "Morning Edition," we should be providing funds and energies to support authentic community-based radio stations that draw on such sources as Pacifica News.

This year, via dominant channels of mass communication, we have seen breathtaking dedication to deceit. We live in a society so sick that it cannot begin to acknowledge the depths of its own sickness. In communities across the United States, we keep hearing that there is no more money to fight AIDS or educate children. The powers-that-be withhold funds for health care, housing and jobs from people who need them. Billions can be found for going to war, but at home it's the same old story. "A nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on

programs of social uplift," Martin Luther King, Jr. pointed out, "is approaching spiritual death."

A key aspect of the U.S.A.'s military rampage in the Middle East has been virtually taboo as a subject for mass media discussion in this country: The Gulf War was a class war. The U.S. news media abhor class war...from the bottom up. But the ways that the rich impose their will and sustain their privilege are commonly depicted as mechanisms for stability and progress.

Soon after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait last August, *The New York Times* provided a "news analysis" by staff reporter Andrew Rosenthal from Washington: "President Hussein of Iraq has been trying to drive a wedge between the region's ordinary citizen and the oligarchies, like those of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, which have thrived on oil profits for decades and enjoyed American support." Saddam Hussein's unpardonable crime was his threat to the ruling elites in the Middle East that provide huge profits for West-

ern corporations — and not only oil companies. Kuwait holds stock in nearly all of the 70 biggest firms in the New York Stock Exchange. Estimates of Kuwaiti investments in the U.S. and British economies range up to \$250 billion.

Apt symbols of the war were the grisly corpses of Iraqis strafed and burned along the highway north of Kuwait City: massacred while in retreat, carrying VCRs and the like, Third World soldiers looting a sheikdom. The news media brought us those images, but avoided the class-war implications.

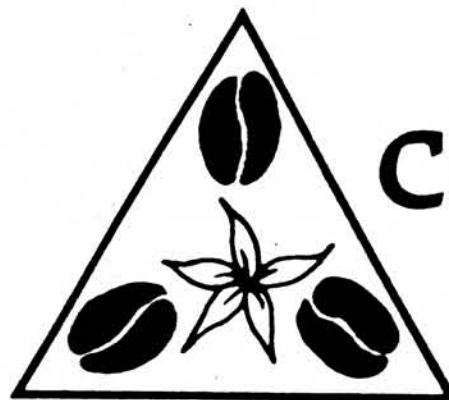
Mass media evade links between foreign and domestic policies. But the same U.S. power structure, with the same priorities, shapes both — and never calls a cease-fire in its class war. On the weekend of March 9/10, *The New York Times* saw fit to feature two black men in page-one above-the-fold photos. The Saturday picture showed a sergeant hugging his daughter at a New York air base homecoming. The Sunday front page carried a picture of three African-

American boys looking at their father's flag-draped coffin.

But 45 percent of the black children in this country are living below the official poverty line, for reasons that have everything to do with government policies. No amount of flag-waving can change such grim facts.

Media often ascribe the White House's weaknesses on domestic issues to a lack of vision. Actually, Bush's problem is that politicians and mass media have difficulty fogging up the real conditions that people face in their day-to-day lives. With an economy based on extreme inequities, U.S. society is a cauldron of unexpressed anger. As attention shifts closer to home, the Bush administration and the mass media may have trouble keeping the lid on.

Norman Solomon, co-author of Unreliable Sources: A Guide to Detecting Bias in News Media, is on the advisory board of the media watch group Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting (FAIR).

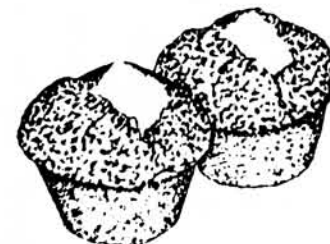


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Rainbow Coalition 432 Winchester Dr., Watsonville 95076	761-0861	Senior Citizens Legal Services, Watsonville 127 E. Beach St., Watsonville 95076	728-4711		
Rainforest Futures 518 Meder St., Santa Cruz 95060	426-9251	Senior Outreach Services 104 Walnut Ave., Santa Cruz 95060	688-0400		
Republican Central Committee 107 Dakota St., Santa Cruz 95060	429-8030	Seniors Council 234 Santa Cruz Ave., Aptos 95003	685-1325		
		The Shelter Project 323 Spreckles Dr. #B, Aptos 95003			

To update this information, or to add your organization, call *The Monthly Planet* at 429-8755. Mailing labels for this list are available for \$2.00 from the Santa Cruz Action Network, 458-9425.

If each U.S. household increased the energy efficiency of major appliances by 30%, we'd reduce the demand for electricity by the equivalent of 25 large power plants.

Substituting a compact fluorescent light for a traditional bulb will keep a half-ton of CO₂ out of the atmosphere over the life of the bulb.

If we all installed "low-flow" shower heads, we could save billions of gallons of water every year...without ever noticing it.

If every American family planted just one tree, over a billion pounds of "greenhouse gases" would be removed from the atmosphere every year.

It all begins with you, and the things you do everyday at home.

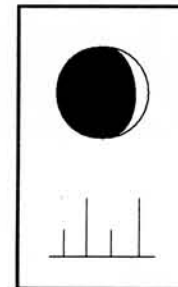
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PEACE & JUSTICE CALENDAR

All events listed are in Santa Cruz unless otherwise noted.

Calendar items must be typed or legibly written and sent (along with any photos) to *The Monthly Planet*, 320-G Cedar St, Santa Cruz, CA 95060. We do not take calendar items over the phone. We must receive your listing no later than 5 p.m. Tuesday, April 23 for inclusion in the May issue (publication date: Thursday, May 2).

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

National Day of Protest for U.S. out of the Middle East and to Fight Injustice at Home. To remember Dr. Martin Luther

King on the anniversary of his assassination (April 4). Assemble 11 a.m. Dolores Park, 8th and Dolores, San Francisco. Rally 1 p.m., Jefferson Square Park, Turk and Laguna Sts. Sponsored by Emergency Committee to Stop the U.S. War in the Middle East, African American Coalition Against War, and Mobilization to Bring the Troops Home Now. Santa Cruz carpool info: 427-4533.

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

Green Party Gathering. Featuring Mindy Lorenz, first Green Party candidate to run for Congress. Come meet other Green Party registrants. Find out what the Green Party is doing in Santa Cruz and how you can help. Bring a drink or dessert to share. Everyone welcome. Loudon Nelson Center, 2-5 p.m. Info: 427-2792 or 423-2220.

Kate Luna, dramatic artist and comedienne, in a one-woman benefit performance for the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. 7-9 p.m., Kuumbwa Jazz Center, 320 Cedar St. Sliding scale \$5-\$10. Info: 438-6094.

"Eyewitness Update: The Gulf War's Impact on Israel and Palestine." Two Santa Cruz residents, recently returned from the Middle East, Julie Marten and Dean Metcalf, will present a talk-slide presentation. Co-sponsored by the Re-

source Center for Nonviolence and Middle East Witness. Resource Center for Nonviolence, 515 Broadway. \$2-\$5 donation requested at the door. Info: 423-1626.

MONDAY, APRIL 8

"Crimes of the New World Order at Home and Abroad." Speaker, Michael Parenti, author and lecturer. A benefit for *People's World* newspaper. Reception 5:30 p.m.; presentation 7 p.m., Loudon Nelson Center, 310 Center St., Santa Cruz. \$3-\$5 sliding scale. (\$10 donation for reception and presentation). Info: 426-5324 or 728-8824.

"Moscow Politics 1991: Struggles for Legality." A talk by Dr. Jane Burbank, professor of history at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Stevenson Conference Room. UCSC, 3:30-5 p.m. Sponsor: Stevenson Program on Global Security. Info: 459-2833.

FRIDAY, APRIL 12

Ramsey Clark Video of the war's effect on Iraq, with a talk by Julie Marten who has recently returned from the Middle East. This video shows what they wouldn't let us watch on American networks. Loudon Nelson Center, 301 Center St., 7:30 p.m. Donations requested. Sponsor: Santa Cruz Students for Social Responsibility. Info: 458-2719.

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

"Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes," Santa Cruz Film Premiere. Produced and directed by George Levenson; narrated by Liv Ullmann; solo guitar music by George Winston; drawings by Ed Young; and based on the book by Eleanor Coerr. Set in 1955, the film is a true story of Sadako Sasaki, a 12-year-old Japanese girl born in Hiroshima who developed leukemia from radiation caused by the atom bomb. Sash Mill Theater, 2:30, 3:30, 4:30, 5:15 p.m. Children \$3, adults \$5.

The Santa Cruz Tea Party to demonstrate concern about the use of taxes. Gather at Farmer's Market at Cathcart and Cedar Sts. at 10:30 a.m. and march to a rally at noon at the wharf. Featuring speakers from labor, the peace movement, women's movement, and city government. Following the rally, there will be a symbolic tea-dumping in the harbor. There will be music and all are asked to bring their own signs. Carpools back to the Farmer's Market start at 1 p.m. Sponsored by the Santa Cruz County Peace Economy Campaign, a broad-based community coalition. Info: WILPF 425-7618, RCNV 423-1626 or the Freeze 458-9975.

Tax Day Protest and Information presented by Watsonville Peace Coalition. Open mike, food, music, information tables. 12 noon, Watsonville Plaza in front of the Post Office.

SUNDAY, APRIL 14


"Making the Connections: Feminism, Animal Rights and Racial Liberation," a slideshow presentation and panel discussion. Panel includes Michelle Anderson, feminist and animal rights advocate; Jamie Lee Evans, Women of Color Task Force Director of United Communities for Human Rights; Maritza Nevarez, Hispanic feminist animal rights advocate; and Ray Gwyn Smith, author of essays and articles on animal rights and animals in the wild. Music by Sylvia Skefich, singer/songwriter, animal rights activist and feminist. Co-sponsored by the Progressive Animal Rights Alliance and Students for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, UCSC. Sliding scale admission \$3-\$6, with proceeds going to the above groups. Classroom Unit 2, UCSC, 7 p.m. Info: 426-5072.

"South Africa Now and The A.N.C." Speaker, David Reed, Co-Chair, Bay Area Free South Africa Movement. Part of the Foreign Policy Action Series. Benefit for *People's World* newspaper. 7 p.m., Loudon Nelson Center, 310 Center St., Santa Cruz. \$3-\$5 sliding scale. Info: 426-5324 or 728-8824.

MONDAY, APRIL 15

Tax Day Rally. Santa Cruz County Building/Courthouse. 12-2 p.m. Sponsor: the Peace Ribbon Action Coalition. Info: 688-7021.

it's the NUCLEAR freeze
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FRIDAY, APRIL 19

Celebrate the "Rights of Spring" at the Hemp Hop. Dance to Pele Juju and more. Louden Nelson Center, 301 Center St., Santa Cruz, 7-11 p.m. 5-\$10 at the door. Sponsors: Cannabis Conversations and the Holy Hemp Buddies. Info: 685-1241.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

Big yard sale to benefit the Nuclear Weapons Freeze. 642 Sherman St. (off King St.). Spend your money for peace. To donate items or for more information, call Janet, 426-7902.

An evening with Alexander Cockburn, speaking on "New World Disorder." Introduction by James O'Connor. A benefit for *Capitalism, Nature, Socialism* (CNS), an international journal of theory and politics which combines the themes of history and nature, society and environment, and promotes the ideals of ecological socialism and feminism. 8 p.m., Calvary Parish Hall, 532 Center St., Santa Cruz. Tickets \$8, available in advance at Bookshop Santa Cruz. Light buffet and wine reception, 6:30-7:30 p.m., \$25 total. RSVP reception attendance by April 15. Info: 459-4541.

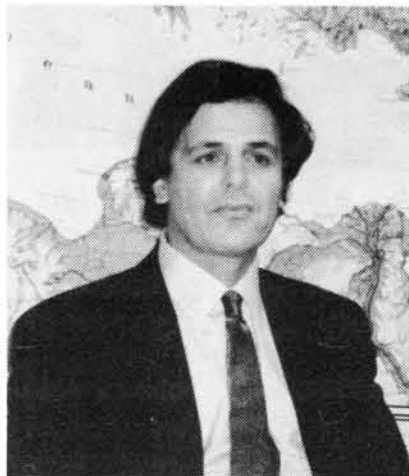
SUNDAY, APRIL 21

Earth Day Santa Cruz. Earth Week will be the week preceding Earth Day. This year Earth Day Santa Cruz will emphasize the diversity of the environmental work and actions in our community. There are many individuals, organizations, businesses and schools which are making a difference in the quality of the environment and the earth. They are asking you to sponsor, lead, or integrate Earth Day into your own group's events this spring. Look at what you have accomplished since Earth Day 1990, and where you are going in the future. Communicate your achievements, vision, and goals in this year's Earth Day celebration. Earth Day Santa Cruz is serving as a clearinghouse for information for local Earth Day plans and events. For info or to become part of the local Earth Day network: 426-2286.

CALPIRG presents the Santa Cruz 1991 Earth Day Celebration! Bands, speakers, booths, displays, bike-a-thon, raffle. A variety of interests with an emphasis on alternative energy and conservation will be presented. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., San Lorenzo Park. Info on sponsorship, biking, booths, or volunteering: 459-4649.

"Media's Role in the Gulf War." Speaker, Chuck Idelson, *People's World* Reporter. A benefit for *People's World* Newspaper. 7 p.m., Louden Nelson Center, 301 Center St., Santa Cruz. \$3-\$5 sliding scale. Info: 426-5324 or 728-8824.

continued on next page



Dr. Khalil Barhoum To Speak on the Gulf War In Santa Cruz

The public is invited to hear Dr. Khalil Barhoum speak and answer questions at the Public Seminar of the Social Action Committee of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 6401 Freedom Blvd. (about 1 mile off of Highway 1), Aptos, Thursday evening, 7 p.m., April 18th, 1991. A \$2 donation is requested.

Dr. Khalil Barhoum was born in Bethlehem, Palestine, and earned a B.A. in English Language and Literature from the University of Jordan in 1973. He graduated with a Master's and a Ph.D. in Linguistics from Georgetown University in 1985. Since then he has taught in the Department of Linguistics at Stanford University. He has been a frequent guest on TV and radio talk shows, and has contributed op-ed pieces and analytical essays on the Gulf crises to many magazines and newspapers.

In a recent article in *MED* (Middle East International, based in London), he wrote that "Many in the Arab world maintain that all these wars (six wars over the past four decades) have been aimed primarily at frustrating any Arab attempt toward weakening or at least challenging Israel's hegemonic power in the region and, in the process, prolonging the Palestinian agony by disingenuously blaming it on Arab intransigence and inflexibility... America's unwavering support of fabulously rich and undemocratic Arab regimes over the years has had the effect of circumventing attempts at a new Arab order that recognizes the Arab masses' socio-economic grievances and restores their basic political and human rights, particularly those of the Palestinians."

He also believes that this last war ominously promises, "...to leave unresolved the underlying causes that have given legitimacy to Saddam's message and contributed to his present popularity among the Arab masses: the continuing Palestinian tragedy and Israel's unchallenged will in the region, the Arab 'haves and have-nots,' and longstanding Arab aspirations for self-sufficiency and unity."

For further information call 684-1401.

ONGOING EVENTS

MONDAYS:

Coalition for Nicaragua regular meeting. Meetings held on the second Monday of every month are educational and include both historical information and current events and action. Free and open to the public. 7-9 p.m., Louden Nelson Center, 301 Center Street. Info: 458-0303.

San Lorenzo Valley Peace Coalition meetings — Mondays at United Methodist Church, Boulder and Mountain Sts., Boulder Creek, 7 p.m. Info: 338-7040.

Santa Cruz Action for Big Mountain meets at the Louden Nelson Center, 7 p.m. Info: 464-8633.

Progressive Animal Rights Alliance meeting. 7:30 p.m., 409 Washington Street. Info: 426-5072.

TUESDAYS:

Persian Gulf Peace Committee — Meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at Louden Nelson Center, 301 Center St., Santa Cruz, 7:30 p.m. Info: 427-2024.

California Hemp Initiative training and networking for petitioners on April 9 and 16 at the Louden Nelson Center, 301 Center St., Santa Cruz, 7-9 p.m. Call the Hemp Hotline, 479-4094, for more info.

"Open Michelle," a women's open mike. 7:45 - 9:45 p.m. Come early to sign up for a performance spot. Women only. YWCA, 303 Walnut. \$1 donation at door. Info: 429-7924.

HIV Positive Drop-In Support Group. Meets every Tuesday night at 7 p.m. at the Santa Cruz AIDS Project (SCAP) office, 1606 Soquel Avenue. All HIV+ individuals are welcome. No fee. Facilitators: Terry Cavanagh and Mark Evans. Info: Wendy at SCAP 427-3900.

WEDNESDAYS:

Santa Cruz Greens regular meeting. Meets first and third Wednesday of the month. Environmental Resource Center, 212 Locust Street (enter from Union Street), 8 p.m. Info: 476-5957 or 335-3216.

Student Power. A UCSC student group working for better representation on campus. Meeting is upstairs at the UCSC Student Center, 12:15 p.m.

UCSC Anti-Growth Group. Meeting is upstairs at the UCSC Student Center, 4 p.m.

THURSDAYS:

AIDS/ARC Support Group meets Thursdays 4-6 p.m. Facilitator: Alan Dampsey. Info: 427-3900.

12-Step Group for People with HIV. Meets every Thursday night from 6-7 p.m. at Trinity Presbyterian Church Fireside Room, 420 Melrose. All HIV+ individuals involved with or interested in any 12-step program are welcome. No fee. Info: Wendy at SCAP, 427-3900.

Open Gatherings. Small group discussions sponsored by the Corporation for Shared Responsibility, a non-profit educational organization. Cafe Pergolesi, 418 Cedar Street, 7 p.m.; Cafe Cameleon, 320-C Cedar Street, 9 p.m. Info: (415) 322-4303.

SATURDAYS:

Bystander CPR. Second Saturday of the month. Shortened version of the regular Basic Life Support Course. Taught by Santa Cruz Firepersons. Co-sponsored by Health Development Foundation of Community Hospital. Free. 303 Walnut Avenue, 9 a.m.-noon. Pre-registration required. Info: 426-3062.

SUNDAYS:

Earthbeat. A KZSC (88.1 FM) program in search of justice, peace and environmental sanity. Hosted by Tom Kruzik, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Santa Cruz Action for Big Mountain meets at the Louden Nelson Center, 7 p.m. Info: 464-8633.

Santa Cruz Students for Social Responsibility meetings — Sundays at Third Floor Lounge, Adams Dorm, Cowell College, UCSC, 7 p.m. Info: 458-2719

Consider the Alternatives radio program from SANE/FREEZE on KAZU (90.3 FM), 4 p.m. An international affairs program airs 4-5:15 p.m. Info: 375-7275.

Morning Coastal Ceremony Gathering to renew our commitment to preserve and protect the Earth, and to enjoy community spirit. First Sunday of each month. 8 a.m., Lighthouse Field. Info: 425-8921.

PEACE & JUSTICE CALENDAR

continued from previous page

Aileen Vance and Rafael Manriquez will appear in a concert of political and multi-cultural music as part of a tour entitled "Crossing Borders/Cruizando Fronteras." Kuumbwa Jazz Center, 320 Cedar St., Santa Cruz, 7:30 p.m. \$8 in advance (from Bookshop Santa Cruz); \$10 at the door. Info: 425-5762.

MONDAY, APRIL 22

Slide show/talk on Israel and the Occupied Territories. Christopher Bolin, Janjaap Dekker and Donna Coutie will present slides from their recent fact-finding tour of Israel and the Occupied Territories. Discussion will follow. Calvary Episcopal Church, 532 Center St. Info: 458-0476.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

Trainig/networking for petitioners for the Hemp Initiative Loudon Nelson Center, 301 Center St., Santa Cruz, 7-9 p.m. Info: 479-4094.

MONDAY, APRIL 25

Nuclear Weapons Freeze Coffeehouse Featuring The Harmony Grits. Zachary's Restaurant, 819 Pacific Ave., Santa Cruz, 7-10 p.m. \$3-5; Benefits the Nuclear Weapons Freeze. Info: 458-9975.

FRIDAY, APRIL 26 - SUNDAY, APRIL 29

National Grassroots Safe Energy Conference. The conference, which commemorates the fifth anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster, will focus



SADAKO

and the thousand paper cranes

This is a true story of a young Japanese girl who has become a modern heroine of peace.

Sadako Sasaki was born in Hiroshima in 1943. She was two when the atom bomb exploded, and until she was eleven, she grew strong and healthy. Then she began having strange, dizzy spells. Sadako had leukemia, "the atom bomb disease." When she was hospitalized, her closest friend came to her and told her of the Japanese tradition that if she folded 1,000 paper cranes, she might be granted her wish to be well again. With courage and faith, Sadako began folding...

What unfolds is a poignant tale beautifully animated with rich pastel and watercolor drawings by Caldecott award winning artist Ed Young and is told by Liv Ullmann with a solo guitar soundtrack performed by George Winston.

Showing at the Sash Mill Cinema, April 13th, at 2:30, 3:30, 4:30, 5:15 pm. Tickets \$3 for children; \$5 for adults. Crane folding and instructions in the theater courtyard all afternoon.

the nation's attention on the need for safe energy and efficient technologies, thus ending reliance on inherently unsafe nuclear power. Hundreds of activists from all over the country, as well as experts, scientists and officials, are expected to attend and create a non-nuclear National Grassroots Energy Strategy. Sponsored by Nuclear Information and Resource Service, Safe Energy Communication Council, and Greenpeace. Info: NIRS, 1424 16th St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20036. Info: (202) 328-0002.

SATURDAY, APRIL 27

Peace Ribbon Encircling The Pentagon, for the redistribution of the military budget to take care of urgent human and environmental needs. For info about making peace ribbon panels, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Peace Ribbon Action Coalition, Box 2121, Aptos, CA 95001. Info: 429-6479.

Vicki Neville Coffis and Steve Palazzo Concert For Kids benefit for Planned

Parenthood of Santa Cruz County. 11 a.m., Kuumbwa Jazz Center, 320 cedar St., Santa Cruz. \$5 adults, \$3 children. Info: 425-1551.

SATURDAY, MAY 4

Workshop in Holistic Resource Management, "Seeking Practical Solutions to Restoring Land, Wildlife, and Communities." With Allan Savory, founding director, Holistic Resource Management. This is a process that has demonstrated success in restoring natural resources and the communities that depend on them throughout the world. This method manages each situation as a whole unit composed of the people involved, including their values and culture, and the land and financial resources available to them. Presented by The Habitat Restoration Group and the University of California, Santa Cruz; Agroecology Program. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Stevenson College, Room 150, UCSC. Info: The Habitat Restoration Group 439-5500, the UCSC Agroecology Program 459-2321, or the

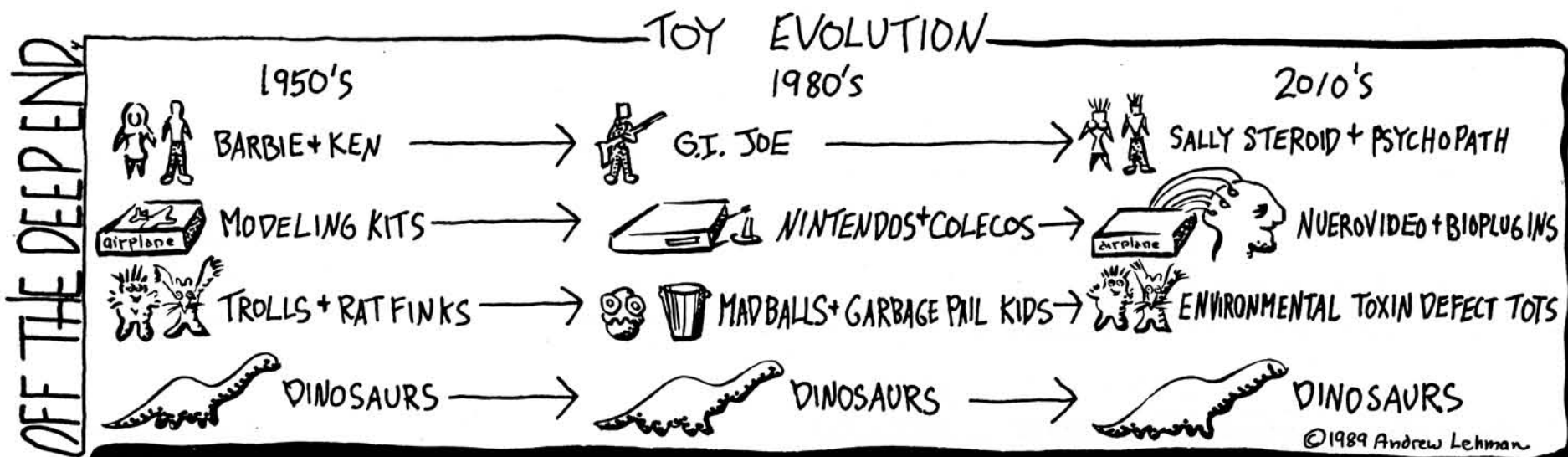
Center for Holistic Resource Management (800) 654-3619.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

Trainig/networking for petitioners for the Hemp Initiative Loudon Nelson Center, 301 Center St., Santa Cruz, 7-9 p.m. Info: 479-409.

THURSDAY, MAY 16

Eco-feminist singer/songwriter Alice DiMichele will be performing two shows with fiddle player Roberta Greenspan at the Kuumbwa Jazz Center on Thursday, May 16th. The shows will be recorded and from the recording will come Alice's fourth album titled, "Live In Santa Cruz." Two shows, 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. Tickets are \$6 in advance and \$8 at the door and can be purchased at Cymbaline Records and The Herb Room. Childcare and interpretation for the deaf are available by prior request. The deadline to register for childcare is May 10th. Info: 688-7014 or write at 3671 Redwood Dr., Aptos CA 95003.





ZACHARY'S DOES TOFU!!!

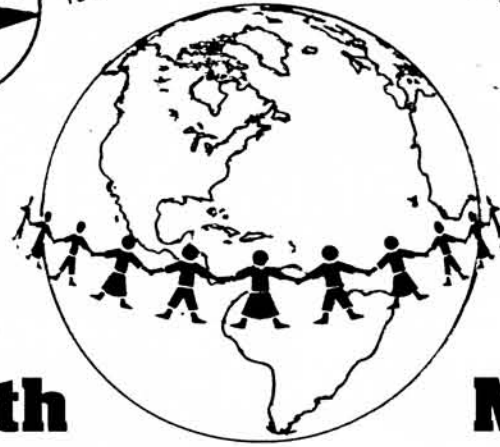
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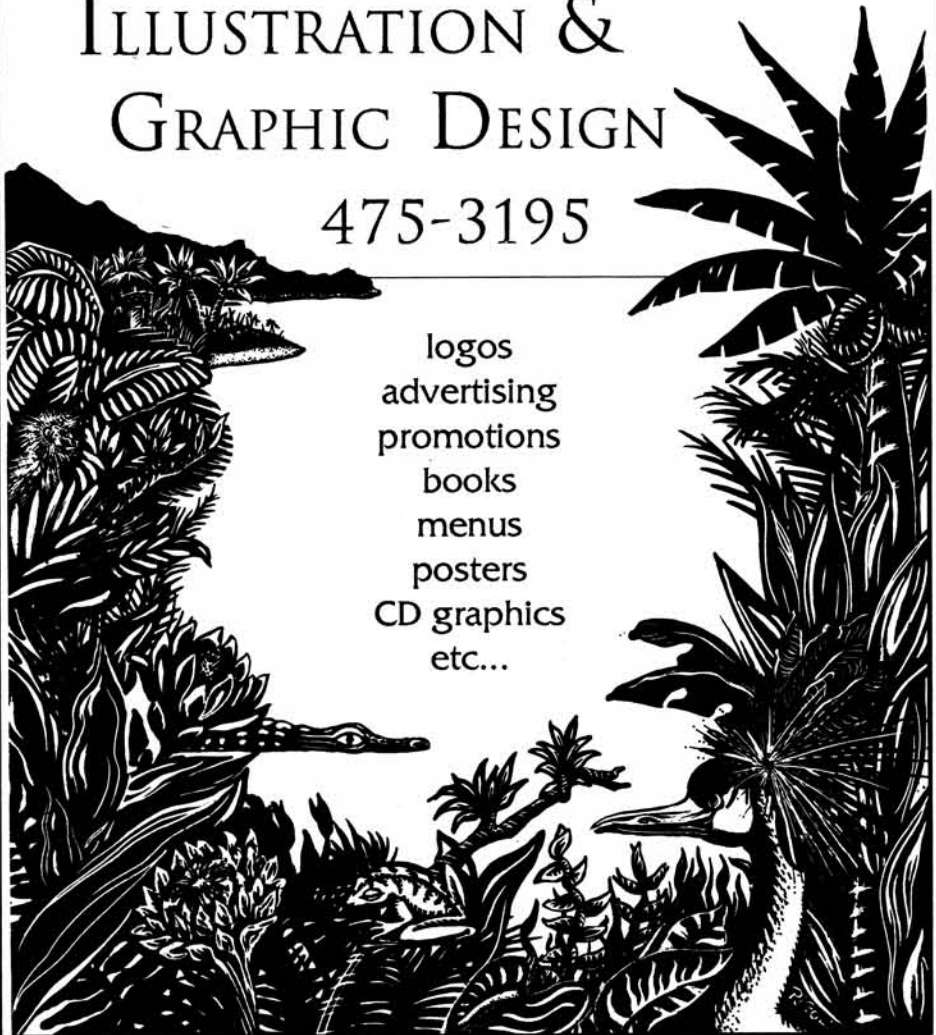
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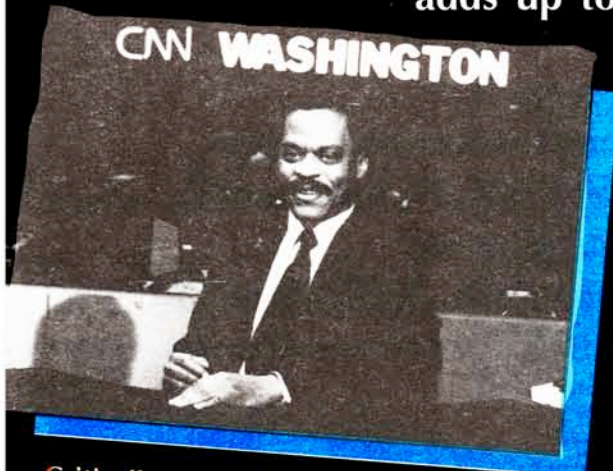
Sun-Thurs: Noon-11pm
Fri-Sat: Noon-12am

Women's Morning Sundays 9 am-12 noon

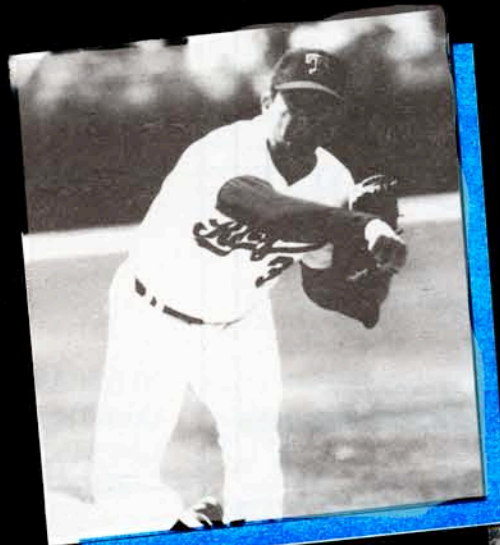
FREE CABLE TV INSTALLATION

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National Cable Month is a special month of Cable TV quality and variety. From movies, comedy and music to sports, news, education, family entertainment and much, much more. It all adds up to TV you've gotta see!!



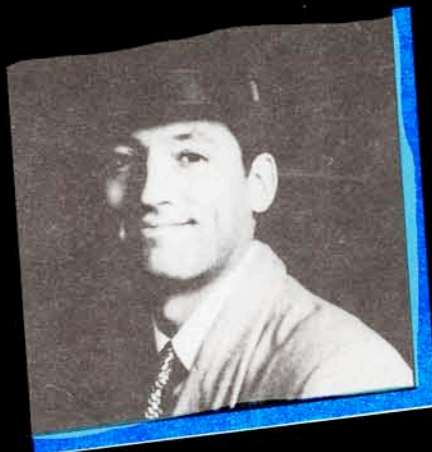
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April 8 on ESPN



World Premiere Movie
"Never Forget"
April on TNT



Original Series
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