

NONVIOLENT DAILY NEWS from INNATE

All the news that will fit on two sides!

Belfast,
29th January 1993

IRISH GND CONTINUE COMMITMENT TO 'CHILDREN OF CHERNOBYL'

Irish GND has been renewing its commitment to work on the after effects of the Chernobyl disaster of April 1986, and in particular their commitment to send medical aid to 2 hospitals and 2 orphanages. They'll be visiting again in April when they will be filming a documentary about the situation, and taking out a ton of medical supplies. The horrendous figures just emerging include 13,000 killed by the 'clean-up' operation and another 70,000 permanently disabled; meanwhile there has been a 92 per cent increase in childhood cancers and leukemia, and a doubling in birth deformities. A quarter of prime agricultural land in Belarus (neighbouring republic to the Ukraine where Chernobyl is situated) has been lost and may be contaminated for thousands of years.

IGND will be pressing the EC and the UN for a more widespread political response to the situation. Meanwhile they will be again welcoming children affected by Chernobyl in the summer; about 100 children will be hosted in around 8 centres during the month of July, and see the children as ambassadors for the situation. IGND has a 12 minute video available for hire (postage) and would welcome financial contributions to their separate 'Children of Chernobyl Fund'. The January 1993 issue of 'Peace News' contains an article by Adi Roche on the situation and IGND's response. Children of Chernobyl Fund, c/o Irish GND, 8 Sidneyville, Bellevue Park, St Lukes, Cork (021 - 506411).

'CREATIVE RESPONSES TO CONFLICT' - John Paul Lederach visits Belfast

John Paul Lederach, professor of sociology at the Mennonite college in Harrisonburg, Virginia, and a respected practitioner in mediation who has previously worked in Central America and is currently involved in Somalia, will be visiting and working with the Conflict Mediation Network. He will be speaking at a public meeting on 'Creative responses to conflict' on Wednesday 3rd March at 10.30 am - 1 pm in the Friends Meeting House, Marlborough Park North, and anyone interested is welcome. Further information from; CMN, Bryson House, 28 Bedford Street, Belfast BT2 7FE, phone 438614.

CORRYMEELA COMMUNITY GETS NEW LEADER

The Corrymeela Community has a new leader from February - Trevor Williams will be taking over from John Morrow who has been leader for over a decade (and who in turn took over from Ray Davey). Congratulations to Trevor Williams who is well known for his former role in religious broadcasting, and has most recently been Church of Ireland Minister in Newcastle, Co Down. Meanwhile good luck to John Morrow who'll continue to be based in Belfast, working with the Irish School of Ecumenics. Corrymeela Community, 8 Upper Crescent, Belfast BT7 1NT (phone 325008).

ALTERNATIVES TO VIOLENCE PROGRAMME

The Alternatives to Violence Programme (AVP) is an exciting way to address issues of violence and nonviolence, and was developed by Quakers for work in prisons in USA. It uses workshop exercises which look at core values of nonviolence - respect, affirmation, trust, and building on these, including good listening and dealing with situations in life where anger develops. An AVP network is shaping up in Northern Ireland, composed of people working in probation and others, and aiming to work with offenders. Further information from Brendan McAllister at CMN, phone Belfast 438614.

QPEP PUBLISH 'WEE PEOPLE'

The Quaker Peace Education Project (QPEP) has published a pamphlet entitled 'Wee people - conflict resolution skills in primary schools' written by Eileen Healy, and intended as a resource for teachers primarily. It covers many different aspects of exploring this subject with this age range. It's available at £1.50 including post from; Quaker Peace Education Project, Magee College, Northland Road, Londonderry BT48 7JL (ph. 0504-265621). Their annual report is well worth getting too!

REPORT BACK ON QUITO

Mary O'Rawe represented the Peace People, Fellowship of Reconciliation and INNATE at the IFOR (International Fellowship of Reconciliation) Council meeting in Quito, Ecuador, and at the seminar on 'Beyond the 500 years: Discovering our common struggles against oppression and colonialism'. She'll be giving a report on this (all welcome) at 7.30pm on Wednesday 10th February in Fredheim, 224 Lisburn Road, Belfast 9.

NEVE SHALOM/WAHAT AL-SALAM SUMMER WORKSHOPS

The School for Peace at the above in Israel will be organising two workshops in English open to international participants; 1. Dealing with conflicts for community leaders, July 11-15, 1993, and 2. Training workshop for groups in conflict, June 20-29. If interested you need to let NS/WAS know by March 15, and more details and an application form will be sent to you. INNATE has preliminary details, including cost, or contact directly; The School for Peace, Neve Shalom/Wahat al-Salam, DN Shimshon, 99761, Israel.

'DE EXPEDITIE' SUMMER INTERNATIONAL TRAINING, NETHERLANDS

De Expeditie's summer English-language international training for nonviolence will take place this year from 31st July - 14th August. The programme is longer this year with a 2-day gap in the middle (which can be used to visit projects); the first half will be on conflict resolution at a personal level, the second on nonviolent social change. Cost range 375 - 650 Dutch guilders (= UK£142 - 246). Additional information from INNATE or directly from De Expeditie (bookings to be made by 30th June); De Expeditie, Schirmelponninkade 30, 3813 AE Amersfoort, Netherlands (ph 033-753001).

BELFAST CAAT CONTACT WANTED

CAAT/Campaign Against Arms Trade, the British-based campaigning organisation working on a range of arms trade issues, is looking for a Belfast-based volunteer local contact. CAAT, 11 Goodwin Street, London N4 3HQ (ph 071 - 281 0297).

CATHERINE HANNA GIVEN PAT JOHNSTON AWARD

Catherine Hanna, veteran peace activist from Ballynafeigh in Belfast, has been given the first Pat Johnston Award for Peace and Justice, awarded by representatives of the Peace People and the CAJ/Committee on the Administration of Justice.

PEACE PEOPLE GET NONVIOLENCE VOLUNTEER

American volunteer Tiffany Danitz will be working for 1993 with the Peace People on nonviolence issues, at home and abroad. 224 Lisburn Rd, Belfast BT9 6GE, ph 663465.

IVS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR CROATIA

IVS/International Voluntary Service are looking for volunteers to work with children in refugee camps in Croatia - no specific language or other skills required. Contact George Thompson at Belfast 238147 (122 Great Victoria Street, Belfast 2).

ANTI-NUCLEAR FAST, August 1993

International Peace Bureau/IPB is hoping to coordinate fasts and actions on nuclear weapons at the time of Hiroshima/Nagasaki days, August 1993. Further information from INNATE or IPB, Rue de Zurich 41, CH-1201 Geneva, Switzerland.

TIBET SUPPORT GROUP - IRELAND

The issue of the Chinese invasion and treatment of Tibet has been getting more of an airing recently. The Tibet Support Group and ECO-Tibet have produced a useful facts leaflet on 'Tibet - a crisis for the world'. Tibet Support Group, 15 Cherry Court, Killiney, Co Dublin (01-821702) or ECO-Tibet, 14a Ailesbury Rd, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4.

WOMEN OVERCOMING VIOLENCE

This was the title of a conference in Thailand organised by the WRI Women's group in association with local groups and involving women from 63 countries. It started on 25th November - International Day Against Violence Against Women - and ended on 1st December - which WRI celebrates as Prisoners for Peace day; this symbolised perfectly the links the conference was making between militarism and the violence against women - the war against women which goes on in all countries every day, even in peace time. Since the conference has ended the world media have taken up 2 issues; the systematic rape of women in ex-Yugoslavia, and the harassment of women by UN 'peacekeeping' troops in Cambodia.

Proposals from the conference include 1) celebrating 25th November (as above) 2) celebrating 8th March, International Women's Day, and the work of women in crossing the line in regional conflicts 3) supporting Thai groups working on prostitution. Further details in Jan and Feb 'Peace News' (55 Daws Street, London SE17 1EL) or next 'WRI Women' (same address) or contact Veronica Kelly at Cork/021-292527.

- This newsheet produced by INNATE (nonviolence network), 16 Ravensdene Pk, Belfast 6.