

YOU
thought

NAFTA

was
scary?

wait
'til you
hear
about

APEC



EXPOSE AND OPPOSE IMPERIALIST GLOBALIZATION

scolds them with one hand while the other hand continues to shovel ever-more trade and investment - even weapons - into Indonesia? The only conclusion possible is that Canada's words are meaningless pro forma declarations, and that Canada's real agenda is trade and investment.

In the recent foreign policy review conducted by this government, Canadians made it very clear that we want human rights to be a major focus of Canada in the world. Trade can be a powerful force for good, but not when it is used to give the lie to diplomacy in support of human rights. Sadly, this government has allowed a symphony of dollars to overcome the principles of human rights that Canadians suppose to be the bedrock of our foreign policy.

The APEC process is fundamentally undemocratic. As others will point out today, it is a conclave of, not even governments, but "economies." It is a sad day when it needs to be pointed out (in the words of David Suzuki) that economies exist to serve people, not the other way around. APEC has turned this on its head.

The governments represented in APEC are often completely unrepresentative of their people. The people of East Timor are certainly not represented, although their country has been subsumed by the "economy" of Indonesia. They are still denied their right to self-determination, in defiance of repeated UN resolutions. Even the people of Indonesia are not represented. The Suharto regime seized power in a bloody military coup in 1965-6 and Suharto ranks alongside Zaire's Mobutu Sese Seko as the world's senior dictator. Elections in Indonesia are a sham, with only two opposition parties allowed, and even these banned from campaigning at the village level or criticizing the government. Opposition figures are driven from their party, like Megawati Sukarnoputri, or jailed like Budiman Sujatmoko of the People's Democratic Party and Sri Bintang Pamungkas of the United Democracy Party. The president is chosen by a house composed of a majority of presidential appointees. Labour leaders like Muchtar Pakpahan and Dita Sari are in jail, charged with treason. And we could go on.

Suffice to say that the people of East Timor and Indonesia have never been consulted on APEC, something that will make a huge difference to their lives. Much the same could be said of the people of Tibet, Eastern Turkestan and China, "represented" at APEC summit level by butchers like Jiang Zemin and Li Peng. Or of the peoples of many other APEC member "economies."

Most unfortunate of all, however, the people of Canada have not been consulted. We are confident that Canadians would oppose an economic pact with Indonesia and other repressive regimes, if given the opportunity.

The government of Canada has chosen to make 1997 the "Year of the Asia Pacific." We have no quarrel with this idea, and many of the events listed as part of the CYAP are valuable contributions towards cross-cultural understanding. However, the main purpose of CYAP seems to be to promote trade with Asia. As noted above, Canada has allowed the impression to be given internationally that our words on human rights mean nothing compared to our willingness to sell arms and open the financial floodgates to repressive regimes like Indonesia. CYAP does the same within Canada. We suggest that CYAP might better free up the money being spent on commercial ventures, and spend it instead on development education projects axed by this government. CYAP could create a great deal of useful things if it

funded a national tour by Ms Cicih Sukaesih, an Indonesian Nike worker; or if it was used to raise Canadians' awareness about labour rights in Korea; the displacement of aboriginal people from Mexico to Taiwan; the environmental damage caused by mining in the Philippines and logging in Malaysia; and so on.

Instead, we see cash going to enlarge the home of the president of the University of British Columbia so the APEC leaders can have better photo ops; to coopting youth into drawing logos for APEC, Canada's pact with dictators; and so on.

The rush to please our APEC partners has badly skewed Canada's priorities. The tendency to a the lowest-common-denominator standard on labour may mean deterioration in the conditions of Canadian working people.

The East Timor Alert Network would like to recommend:

(1) Canada should not engage in trade pacts with Indonesia until it accedes to UN resolutions regarding East Timor. There should be no expanded trade with Indonesia until it halts its routine violations of human rights in East Timor and in Indonesia itself.

(2) In any trade pacts like APEC, human rights and a social clause should be given at least equal priority with trade.

(3) Routine human rights violators like Suharto should be denied entry into Canada as war criminals.

(4) Canada should consider a "Team Canada" mission on human rights to match its trade missions to Asia. This would not be welcomed by the governments of the region, but it would be welcomed by non-government organizations that more truly represent the people.

"The thinking of the old world has altered little : where there are profits to be defended, law, justice, freedom, democracy and peace are the victims. Only the peoples of one nation can help those of another."

-Xanana Gusmao, leader of the East Timorese resistance
Cipinang prison, Jakarta, 1995

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going on here. Thanks Li-Lien. Ciao Luisa Take care

--Boundary (ID 3k7Qn1hAyTHe+nSq7lmU4w)--

Mailed
Jan 31, 97

Mail: (i)ndex (u)nread (w)rite (c)apture (d)elite (s)ave (h)elp (q)uit:

Message 2 (58 lines)

From vcn.bc.ca!jaggi Fri Jan 24 04:38:08 1997

Date: Fri, 24 Jan 1997 01:34:58 -0800 (PST)

From: Jaggi Singh <jaggi@vcn.bc.ca>

Subject: Re: APEC stuff

To: Kerry Pither <kerry@jungle.achilles.net>

cc: etanvan@web.net, etanvan@vcn.bc.ca, etantor@web.net

Hello everyone -- I'm busy right now but next week I'm hoping to put together a critique of the so-called People's Summit on APEC that the big unions and related groups are stage-managing. I will be posting it on apec-1 and will send everyone a copy when it's done.

I think talking on the phone would be very helpful as well as my critique may take a while to write. Call me any time (604-251-9914).

BTW, there is another counter-conference that is being organized for November that has absolutely no illusions about APEC and its free-trade agenda. Moreover, unlike the paid organizers and full-time bureaucrats organizing the Peoples' Forum, this "conference" is a real grassroots effort. The tentative title for the conference is the "Festival of Resistance." I will be devoting a lot of time in the next year to this project. As well, ETAN/VAN has already formally endorsed the NO! TO APEC coalition in Vancouver which is the driving force behind the festival and has already engaged in many anti-APEC activities going back to last summer. On behalf of ETAN, I was a speaker at one of their rallies in November (I spoke about the blacklisting of Horta before APEC in the Philippines and the breakup of APCET II in KL).

I agree that ETAN has to clarify its position about APEC and the various counter-conferences. At this point, the Vancouver Steering Committee lists David and I as members on behalf of ETAN which is a bit of a joke. I will be asking to have my name removed ASAP.

riere.

I just heard it's been nominated for the Blue Ribbon award in the Int'l Toronto

Film

Restival. Bella just returned from visiting her mum in Australia - a very expensive

but

important trip for her - ETAN groups helped to raise the money - but

apparently

there are huge tel bills from organising her mother's exit from ET. Abe is doing

well. The CD is

also selling well. In fact, Abe was recently on morningside with Sheila Rogers.

The ETAN calendar project has done quite well, but sold less well than we expected

ted

overall I think.

Oh - we've got a great internal email list via cupw. So if you're going to be

a

t this

email add for some time let me know and I'

I'll get you on the list.

That's all for today. I'll put a package in the mail soon.

Peace,

Li-Lien

Mail: (i)ndex (u)nread (w)rite (c)apture (d)etele (s)ave (h)elp (q)uit:

Message 5 (45 lines)

From interlog.com!lotus Sun Jan 26 20:27:54 1997

Date: Sun, 26 Jan 1997 20:24:17 -0500 (EST)

X-Sender: lotus@mail.interlog.com (Unverified)

To: etantor@web.net, cnrmcan@web.net

From: Pemma Mentuh <lotus@interlog.com>

Subject: march for Tibet's Independence

Date: Mon, 24 Mar 1997 17:03:57 -0500 (EST)

From: maggie@web.net (Maggie Helwig)

To: cawg@web.net, elinor@arcos.org, etantor@web.net, jaymike@interlog.com, yscleo@idirect.com

Subject: anti-apec action network minutes

Cc: burch@web.net, ksimons@interlog.com, netizen@ILAP.com, yoons@idirect.com

Minutes of Anti-APEC Action Network meeting, March 17

Present: Maggie (Indonesia Solidarity Network), Bern (Philippine Solidarity Group), Mary (East Timor Alert Network), Jina (Young Koreans United), Donna (Philippine Solidarity Group), Manuel (Chile-Canada Information Committee)

Regrets: Elizabeth, Michael, Jordhen and others

We noted that we regret the accidental timing conflict between this meeting and a Tibet event & will try to avoid having such a thing happen again.

1. Planning for June.

Educational event will be on the evening of June 9. The rally will (provisionally) be earlier that day, but we will wait until Bern confirms the starting time of the ministerial meeting.

Maggie has made inquiries about getting Holy Trinity in the Eaton's Centre for the educational event and it is within our price range. She will look into City Hall for the rally, but noted that there are some concerns about the requirement to take out insurance.

We thought the best plan for the educational event is to have a few speakers on broad topics of concern to more than one country (e.g. mining), and also theatre/music/visuals.

As to the continuous presence, Toronto Action for Social Change has agreed to do from 4-6 pm on the 10th. We will try to cover all of the 10th and the morning of the 11th (assuming the rally, and people remaining after the rally, can cover the 9th).

** We need groups to think about what time slots will be best for them, and what they want to do in their time, especially if it can be visually catchy or newsworthy**

We talked about renting a room in the Royal York to hang a banner, but money is a problem as we still have no money whatsoever. There was a general discussion of the possibility of a small number of well-dressed people getting in and unfolding a banner, but no firm conclusions were reached on this.

We agreed to make up a poster that says simply "WARNING-- APEC IS COMING, JUNE 9-11", and post it around town to start getting it into people's minds. Maggie will make up the poster and talk to a friend about low-cost xeroxing.

Mary will poster Harbord from Spadina to Bathurst, and the U of T area, also Kensington Market. YKU will do Bloor from Christie to Dupont; PSG will do Bloor from Spadina to Christie; Manuel will do progressive bookstores, some community centres and churches.

We still need people who can poster Queen St, the Danforth, Cabbagetown, Church/Wellesley and other areas.

Maggie will phone people when the poster is ready.

Bern will talk to a contact at NOW about possibly getting a story there in the lead-up to the meeting.

2. Lobbying

Maggie has drafted a letter to Sergio Marchi. Some amendments to the text were suggested. Due to the small attendance, the letter will be brought back to the next meeting, but hopefully we can proceed quickly from there in getting it to Marchi, then following up with phone calls. We decided to save the postcard campaign until November.

3. Finances and budget

Both our CAW contacts are on extended leave, so there's not any real chance of money from them for our June events. Diane was not present so we couldn't talk about her fundraising proposal. Manuel suggested an event at Cafe Boheme on the Danforth; he felt we could potentially raise a lot of money there.

4. Outreach

Maggie has some names from IWD and elsewhere that she should have called for this meeting and didn't. She will call for the next meeting.

Donna will contact TEA, Manuel will contact CASNP, Mary will contact the Turtle Island Support Group. Donna will talk to a friend in the Sri Lankan community.

Mary suggested talking to Canadians Concerned about Free Trade, but some were worried they might be more protectionist than internationalist, so it was agreed to ask around about them before making any overtures. They apparently have a very nice office, though.

We should try to leaflet Mayworks events. PSG will have a film-showing at Mayworks & will try to promote our events. We also need to be present at the May Day events which CLC is organising, and Asian Heritage Month. Manuel will try to get a bit of time on Tierra Latino.

We also need to talk to CKLN, CIUT and CHRY about PSAs and also about getting someone interviewed. Bern had already left at this point but we hoped we could ask her to be the media spokesperson. Jina is willing to be interviewed but is worried she may not be completely up to speed about APEC.

Next meeting: Thursday April 3, 7:30 pm, PSG (500 Huron, rear)

STOP APEC GLOBALIZATION PEOPLE! NOT PROFITS!

The leaders of the member countries of APEC, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, will be meeting in Vancouver in November, with ministerial meetings in many Canadian cities, including Toronto, leading up to that summit. Prime Minister Jean Chretien has declared 1997 Canada's Year of Asia-Pacific. But what is APEC, and what does its agenda really mean?

Maude Barlow of the Council of Canadians calls APEC, "globalization on steroids." Canada is a founding member of APEC, which aims to impose a free trade zone in the Asia and Pacific region by the year 2020. Critics of APEC contend that its unabashed pro-business agenda will mean the further lowering of working and living conditions for marginalized people in Canada and abroad. It also means cheap wages, anti-union policies, easy access to natural resources and lax or non-existent labour, environmental and human rights standards. Indigenous peoples will be particularly affected as they are dispossessed of their lands to make room for "development". APEC, as a body which exists to promote business and economic interests, has no mechanism for --- or interest in --- dealing with these issues. In fact, John Klassen, Director-General for APEC in Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs, has stated that discussion of human rights issues "is certainly not going to happen" at APEC meetings in Canada this year.

A coalition of groups working in solidarity with activists in other APEC countries has come together in Toronto to protest the APEC meetings here. Along with similar groups in other cities we call for a people-oriented economic development, which will take into account the protection of the environment and the rights of all people. We will organize events at the time of the meeting in Toronto, of the APEC Environment Ministers on June 9-11, and at the time of the APEC Summit in Vancouver.

If you would like to get involved in our work, contact the Anti-APEC Action Network at (416) 537- 7290 or 323-9726

AAAN member groups to date are: Canada Tibet Committee, Canadian Friends of Burma, China Human Rights Group, East Timor Alert Network, Indonesia Solidarity Network, Toronto NO TOAPEC Committee, and Young Koreans United (Canada)



CANADA

HOUSE OF COMMONS DEBATES

ORAL QUESTION
November 26, 1997

Human Rights

Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby-Douglas, NDP): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Foreign Affairs. Earlier this week at the APEC summit the minister stated that to avoid irrelevance, the APEC agenda must include human rights.

Will this minister explain why the prime minister then knee-capped him yesterday by saying that the APEC agenda will never include human rights? Will the minister ask the prime minister to apologize to Canadians for his disgusting joke with APEC leaders about UBC students who were pepper sprayed while demonstrating for human rights in Indonesia, East Timor, China and other APEC countries?

Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Minister of Foreign Affairs, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, in the run up to the APEC summit and during the summit, the prime minister, the ministers there and the Canadian delegation have been actively working toward an APEC that would be ensuring that its economic decisions were accountable to those who are affected by them.

It is important to note that the final declaration states "as leaders we are accountable to safeguarding and improving economic and social well-being, we commit ourselves to ensuring that APEC remains responsive to our concerns". It demonstrates that the work of the prime minister and all the delegation has been very useful in helping APEC evolve.

Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby-Douglas, NDP): Mr. Speaker, one of the leaders who was laughing at the prime minister's joke was genocidal President Suharto whose government recently threatened Indonesian participants at the APEC people's summit if they demonstrated against Suharto.

Did the prime minister raise this issue with Suharto, in between jokes of course, and what steps is our government taking to ensure the safety of Indonesians threatened by Suharto's repressive regime?

Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Minister of Foreign Affairs, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, we know that the hon. member has a very long history of super exaggeration. I think he has demonstrated this in his questions.

The fact is we have met continually with representatives of the people's summit. I can report to the hon. member that we have asked our embassy to make sure, regarding those Indonesian nationals who attended the conference, of what happened when they came back, and nothing has happened. Once again we find the hon. member engaging in the highest form of exaggeration and misinformation.

SVEND J ROBINSON, MP

BURNABY-DOUGLAS

366 WEST BLOCK, HOUSE OF COMMONS, OTTAWA, K1A 0A6
613-996-5597 ROBINSON@PARL.GC.CA



CANADA

HOUSE OF COMMONS DEBATES

ADJOURNMENT PROCEEDINGS

March 24, 1998

APEC SUMMIT

Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby-Douglas, NDP):

Mr. Speaker, I thank the House for its indulgence in permitting me to speak while seated as a result of my recent injuries.

It was on December 11, 1997, the day after international human rights day, that I posed a question to the Prime Minister concerning the role of the Prime Minister's office during the recent APEC summit in my home city of Vancouver, British Columbia.

I spoke of deep concerns about the events that took place in the time leading up to the summit as well of course as the events that took place during the summit itself.

During the lead-up to the APEC leaders summit which was held in Vancouver at the end of November 1997 it was very clear that the Liberal government refused to put human rights on the agenda of the meeting despite pleas from my colleagues in the New Democratic Party and NGO delegates across Canada to do so.

Its lack of funding for the people's summit for NGO delegates to travel from Asia demonstrated that the government was determined to stifle any dissenting opinions about the role of APEC in promoting human rights, environmental, labour and social standards.

For example, rather than bar Indonesian dictator General Suharto as a war criminal under Canadian

immigration law, the Liberal government arranged to meet with him in Indonesia prior to the summit and assure him that his security concerns would be addressed.

We saw during the APEC summit exactly how that promise to General Suharto was kept. Who could forget the images on television of peaceful protesters being pepper sprayed by the RCMP as the motorcades with Suharto and other known human rights abusers drove by?

One of the eye witness accounts from a UBC student, Darren Lund, said it all. He said that it was blatant that excessive force was used against peaceful students. He witnessed as police emptied over 20 large canisters of pepper spray indiscriminately into the crowd. He thought it was a shameful way to show students how economic and corporate interest can supersede fundamental human rights.

There were many other violations. Protesters were detained without charge and forced to sign release conditions that abrogated their right to protest by saying they would not return to UBC during the APEC meetings.

There is the case of Jaggi Singh, who was arrested while walking with his friends to the student union building at UBC. He was forced to the ground by a plain clothes policeman, thrown into an unmarked car with tinted windows and driven away to a detention centre in the outskirts of the city. It sounds more like Argentina in the 1970s than Canada in the 1990s.

SVEND J ROBINSON, MP
BURNABY-DOUGLAS

366 WEST BLOCK, HOUSE OF COMMONS, OTTAWA, K1A 0A6
613-996-5597 ROBINSON@PARL.GC.CA

Women protesters were being singled out for strip searches in prison. Police forcibly removed the Tibetan flag that was flying at the graduate students' centre. Aboriginal Musquem Chief Gail Sparrow was prevented from speaking on human rights, and law student Craig Jones was arrested for peacefully holding signs that read "free speech", "democracy" and "human rights", even though they were posted outside the APEC restricted security zone.

I call today on our government to order an independent public inquiry into these very serious events. An inquiry by the RCMP Public Complaints Commission is not enough. Certainly it can look into the complaints against the RCMP, but we must look into the role that the Prime Minister's Office played, for example, in interfering directly in the agreement that was arrived at between the University of British Columbia and those who were involved in the RCMP in organizing this meeting.

Finally, as former MP Marion Dewar said, in this, the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, pepper spraying protesters is no way for Canada to demonstrate leadership.

Mr. Nick Discepola (Parliamentary Secretary to Solicitor General of Canada, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, in response to the hon. member's question I would like to essentially put things in the proper perspective first.

The APEC conference and the security evolving around the APEC conference was one of the largest events in Canadian history. It involved over 3,000 police officers.

As international law dictates, it also involved Canada having a responsibility to protect the 18 heads of state who were attending the conference.

To that end, there were clearly defined zones for the demonstrators to freely demonstrate in public view of the 18 heads of state who were attending.

There were numerous complaints received since that incident and those complaints have been addressed directly to the Public Complaints Commission.

The Public Complaints Commission, as we know, is an independent administrative tribunal. It also has civilian members on it. They have the power to review all the complaints. They have the power to even conduct investigations and hold hearings. We look forward to those hearings.

On December 3, the Chair, Shirley Heafey, began the investigation into the RCMP's actions. On February 20,

1998, she also indicated that there would be a public interest hearing, which the member is calling for.

The hearings will start on April 14, 1998. We have every confidence that the Public Complaints Commission will do its job, that it will investigate everything it feels is necessary to investigate. We await the report.

In view of that report and the investigation that is ongoing, I would like to limit my comments at this stage.

Gabor Melli,8/25/97 5:10 PM,Arrest Suharto campaign

1

X-BlackMail: cs.sfu.ca, cs.sfu.ca, melli@cs.sfu.ca, 142.58.111.1
X-Authenticated-Timestamp: 17:13:10(EDT) on August 25, 1997
From: Gabor Melli <Gabor_Melli@cs.sfu.ca>
Subject: Arrest Suharto campaign
To: etantor@web.net, etanvan@web.net
Date: Mon, 25 Aug 1997 14:10:52 -0700 (PDT)
MIME-Version: 1.0

a file under War crimes + Suharto.

Hi,

I recently received the Aug/24 etan-all mail out that finished with a "WAR CRIMES CAMPAIGN" section. For the last two weeks I've been investigating this issue and have gathered some supporting information. Below I've included my initial report to another ETAN-Vancouver member who is interested to help on this. Since then I've gathered and summarized the recent flurry of newspaper articles on the topic of extradicting Pol Pot to Canada. Anyway tell me if you are interested in my findings and on how to hook up (or organize) the working team.

Cheers,

--Gabor

Forwarded message:

> From melli@cs.sfu.ca Fri Aug 15 14:35:47 1997
> Subject: 08/15 ArrSuh progress report
> To: bobs@vcn.bc.ca (robert strang)
> Cc: etanvan@vcn.bc.ca
>
> Bob,
>
> I've finally found out some information through the RCMP and the Web,
> so here's a progress report:
>
> - The Canadian Jewish Congress directed me to the RCMP's "War Crimes
> and Special Investigations Enforcement Program" and to the War Crime
> Legislation. I have pursued the RCMP thread, but have not located a
> copy of the legislation.
>
> - The local number for the RCMP that the CJC gave me (264-2257) did
> not answer yesterday or today so I called the local RCMP directly.
> After my giving them my name and phone numbers they were able to
> forward my request to Ottawa. Soon after I was called by Corporal
> Rob Fnukal (613-990-8905) of the War Crimes/Immigration/Passport
> division. Corp. Fnukal mentioned that their division's role is to
> investigate alleged past and current War Crimes & Crimes Against
> Humanity by people who are in Canada. (this sounds promising for
> us). Further; their mandate comes from the legislation passed in
> 1987 and that a current copy of the Criminal Code under section
> 7(3.71/76). (I have a copy of the Criminal Code at home and I hope
> that it is recent enough - maybe it's on the Web). In B.C. Jakob
> Luchens was extradited under this law. Corp. Fnukal asked whom/
> what I was interested in pursuing, and I told him that I needed
> to do some research before proceeding further. The general number
> for this division is 613.990.8481.
>
> - I searched the Web and found the following sites:
>

- > - <http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/html/warcrime.htm>
- > A one pager of the "RCMP War Crimes and Special Investigations
- > Enforcement Program"
- >
- > - <http://soma.crl.mcmaster.ca/ukes/demjanjuk/deschene.005>
- > A lengthy May'87 critique of the "Report of the Commission of
- > Inquiry on War Criminals by the Honourable Jules Deschenes,
- > Commissioner, 30 December 1986".
- >
- > - <http://www.mennonitecc.ca/mcc/onb/1987/11-27.html#6>
- > In late August the House of Commons passed a bill whereby
- > people suspected of having committed war crimes, or crimes
- > against humanity, can be tried in Canadian courts. Soon
- > thereafter, the government assigned 40 people, from the
- > Justice Department and the R.C.M.P., to the task of invest-
- > igating possible cases. Their search for evidence is to
- > extend to foreign countries, including several in Eastern
- > Europe. But prosecutions are to be launched only where the
- > evidence is strong. The normal rules to ensure that accused
- > people get fair and equitable treatment in Canadian courts
- > are to be observed. In addition, "any defences available
- > under international law, both at the time of the commission
- > of the crime and at the time of the trial, will also be
- > available". Officials refuse to speculate on how many such
- > trials may be held in Canada.
- >
- > Regards,
- >
- > --Gabor
- >
- >
- >

maggie@web.apc.org,11/20/97 3:34 PM,JP: Alatas confident Canada can han

X-BlackMail: gn.apc.org, gn.apc.org, maggie@web.net, 194.202.158.
X-Authenticated-Timestamp: 17:23:38(EST) on November 20, 1997
Date: 20 Nov 1997 14:34:31 -0500 (EST)
Reply-To: Conference "tapol.etimor" <tapol.etimor@conf.gn.apc.org>
From: maggie@web.apc.org
Subject: JP: Alatas confident Canada can han
To: Recipients of conference <tapol.etimor@conf.gn.apc.org>
Sender: Conference to Mail Gateway <conf2mail@gn.apc.org>
Precedence: bulk
Lines: 48

From: maggie (Maggie Helwig)

/* Written 12:53 PM Nov 19, 1997 by igc:fbp in web:reg.easttimor */
/* ----- "JP: Alatas confident Canada can han" ----- */
From: "John M. Miller" <fbp@igc.apc.org>
Reply-To: "John M. Miller" <fbp@igc.apc.org>
Subject: JP: Alatas confident Canada can handle demos

JAKARTA POST

November 18, 1997, Tuesday

Indonesia confident Canada can handle possible protests

JAKARTA (JP): Indonesia is confident that the Canadian government can ensure that possible demonstrations against leaders attending the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meeting in Vancouver next week does not get out of hand.

While acknowledging demonstrations are a form of public expression, Minister of Foreign Affairs Ali Alatas maintained that it should be done in an orderly manner.

"We hope the Canadian government will be able to control demonstrators so they don't pose a risk to the heads of economies as well as other participants," Alatas said.

"People are free to protest and they can have varying opinions, but it isn't proper for them to use harsh words," he added.

President Soeharto is scheduled to attend the annual APEC leaders' meeting in Vancouver from Nov. 24 to Nov. 25.

A large Indonesian government contingent will also be arriving ahead of Soeharto, to attend preceding meetings, led by the Coordinating Minister for Production and Distribution Hartarto.

Canada has a history of being a strong critic of Indonesia's human rights issues. A strong East Timor lobby is also known to be prevalent in Canada.

It is feared that Soeharto's arrival in Vancouver will be met by a large demonstration, and officials here are wary of a possible repeat of the events which transpired in Dresden, Germany in 1995.

While visiting this quiet German town, about 100 demonstrators surrounded a museum which Soeharto was visiting, throwing anti-Indonesian pamphlets and shouting profanities.

Though Soeharto remained calm throughout the incident, waving and smiling at the crowd, many were alarmed at the protesters' close proximity to the President.

German officials promptly apologized for the incident.

Alatas said yesterday that demonstrations and protests are common in countries like Canada. While expressing a tone of caution, Alatas did not seem worried that possible anti-Indonesian protests would get severe.

There is no need to worry about possible demonstrations against the Indonesian government in Vancouver, Alatas remarked.

maggie@web.apc.org,11/25/97 11:47 PM,NEWS: Citizen's arrest of Suharto t 1

X-BlackMail: gn.apc.org, gn.apc.org, maggie@web.net, 194.202.158.2
X-Authenticated-Timestamp: 08:35:37(EST) on November 26, 1997
Date: 25 Nov 1997 22:47:47 -0500 (EST)
Reply-To: Conference "tapol.etimor" <tapol.etimor@conf.gn.apc.org>
From: maggie@web.apc.org
Subject: NEWS: Citizen's arrest of Suharto t
To: Recipients of conference <tapol.etimor@conf.gn.apc.org>
Sender: Conference to Mail Gateway <conf2mail@gn.apc.org>
Precedence: bulk
Lines: 83
MIME-Version: 1.0
X-MIME-Autoconverted: from 8bit to quoted-printable by gn.apc.org id NAB21998

From: maggie (Maggie Helwig)

/* Written 8:05 AM Nov 25, 1997 by kerry@jungle.ottawa.on.ca in web:reg.easttimor */
/* ----- "NEWS: Citizen's arrest of Suharto t" ----- */

From: kerry@jungle.ottawa.on.ca (Kerry Pither)
Reply-To: kerry@jungle.ottawa.on.ca (Kerry Pither)
Subject: NEWS: Citizen's arrest of Suharto today

News Release - East Timor Alert Network (ETAN)

November 25, 1997

CITIZEN'S ARREST OF INDONESIAN PRESIDENT SUHARTO ~ TODAY

OTTAWA ~ Members of the East Timor Alert Network will attempt a citizens' arrest of Indonesian President Suharto in Vancouver today.

For almost one year, ETAN and its supporters have been calling on the Canadian government to either bar Suharto from entering Canada, or arrest him when he gets here ~ but requests to the RCMP, the Prime Minister, the Foreign Affairs Minister, and the Immigration Minister have been ignored.

Calls to bar Suharto or put him behind bars have been backed by NDP MP Svend Robinson, the Canadian Labour Congress, the National Action Committee on the Status of Women, and the Council of Canadians.

Thirteen exiled East Timorese and two Indonesian dissidents made a special trip to Canada to make this request and were not even granted a meeting with the government.

„Last summer U.S. Secretary of State Madelaine Albright recognized the value of Canadian war crimes legislation and asked the Canadian government to use it to indict Pol Pot,& said Kerry Pither, an ETAN spokesperson. „We are asking the same for Suharto ~ we have the legislation, let's use it,& she said.

Since coming to power in the mid-sixties, Suharto's military has killed up to a million Indonesian civilians, and illegally invaded and occupied East Timor ~ where over one third of that population, at least 200,000 East Timorese have died since.

Printed for etantor@web.net (East Timor Alert Network/Toronto)

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The killings continue in East Timor, where just last week on November 14 Indonesian troops fired on students killing at least two and wounding several others.

Chantal Tie is an immigration lawyer who testified at ETAN's mock war crimes tribunal held for Suharto on Parliament Hill on November 12. „Our government has made a public commitment to keep people who commit crimes against humanity out of Canada ~ this means people who commit genocide against a civilian population,% said Ms.Tie.

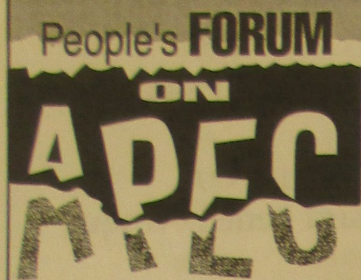
„We have the power to keep them out or remove them under section 19 (1) (j) of the Immigration Act and we should do so. The only circumstance under which they should be permitted to enter Canada is if Canada has the jurisdiction to try them for their crimes and is prepared to do so,% she said.

Today in Ottawa, ETAN members will visit the Immigration Minister, Madame Robillard, in her office on Parliament Hill, to personally appeal to her to carry out her responsibility under the Immigration Act.

-30-

For more information contact ETAN/Vancouver at (604) 688-4191, or Kerry Pither at cell phone: (613) 795-1586, or visit ETAN's web page at www.etan.ca
The Jungle BBS -- Ottawa Ontario 207.216.196.35 port 3004

PRESS RELEASE



GROUPS WILL DEMONSTRATE AT APEC TRADE MINISTERS MEETING

Saturday, May 10, 1997

3:00 - 5:00

Sheraton Hotel

1201 René Levesque Blvd. West

Montreal: A coalition of local non-governmental organizations and trade unions will demonstrate outside a meeting of APEC Trade Ministers in Montreal this week. The groups oppose the type of trade liberalization promoted by APEC including the separation of trade policy negotiation from social policy concerns.

"APEC commitments are being made without an assessment of how they affect the rights of peoples, workers, women or the environment" said Dominique Caouette of the Forum Populaire sur l'APEC. "There is mounting evidence that unrestricted free trade is increasing the exploitation of workers, wreaking havoc on the environment and legitimizing undemocratic states. Increased trade has not led to democratisation of autocratic states, nor to an increase in human rights in APEC countries. It has not protected Canada's social safety-net".

Demonstrators say that the APEC Trade Ministers Meeting is really a dialogue between "economies" and business, and that the interests of the people are notably missing from the discussion. APEC members refer to themselves as economies in order to accommodate the three China's (the Peoples Republic, Taiwan and Hong Kong) at one table.

"It is only the big monopoly corporations for the few powerful countries that benefit under free trade. APEC's real goal is to allow big businesses to make more superprofits at the expense of the working people," says Joey Calugay of the No To APEC! Network.

Demonstrators point to the case of Muchtar Pakpahan, an Indonesian trade unionist who is currently on trial and could be sentenced to death for his part in organizing an independent trade union in Indonesia. They also cite the military occupations of East Timor and Tibet as reasons why Canada should not be rolling out the red carpet for representatives of Indonesia and the People's Republic of China. They are concerned about increased environmental disasters such as the Placer Dome tailings spill last year in the Philippines.

"This is ridiculous", said Thubten Samdup President of the Canada Tibet Committee. "How much pride are Canadians willing to swallow for a few bucks?"

For more information: Dominique Caouette, (514) 747-1532, Michel Lambert, (514) 982-6606

Participating Organizations: Alternatives, Canada Tibet Committee, Centre international de solidarité ouvrières (CISO), Coalition d'appui aux villageois de la baie de Calancan (Philippines) Confédération des syndicats nationaux (CSN), Conseil central du Montréal Métropolitain de la CSN, Development & Peace, Forum populaire sur l'APEC, McGill University's Centre for Developing Area Studies (CDAS), No To APEC! Network (Pinay, Centre for Philippine Concerns, Montreal Coalition of Filipino Students, Student Christian Movement), East Timor Action Network (RATO/ETAN), Réseau de solidarité avec le Mexique (RSM), Revue Option-paix.

COMMUNIQUÉ DE PRESSE

MANIFESTATION DE GROUPES POPULAIRES À L'OCCASION DE LA RENCONTRE DES MINISTRES DU COMMERCE DE L'APEC



Samedi, le 10 mai 1997, 15:00 - 17:00
Centre Sheraton 1201 ouest, boulevard René Lévesque

Montréal: Une coalition formée d'organisations non-gouvernementales, de syndicats et de groupes populaires organise une manifestation, samedi le 10 mai en marge de la réunion des ministres du commerce des pays membres de l'APEC qui a lieu cette semaine. Cette coalition s'oppose au type de libéralisation économique proposée par l'APEC, notamment l'exclusion des questions de politiques sociales dans les négociations sur les politiques commerciales.

«Des engagements de la part des membres de l'APEC sont pris sans même avoir préalablement évalué quelles seront les conséquences sur les droits des peuples, des travailleurs, des femmes ou quel sera leur impact sur l'environnement» souligne Dominique Caouette du Forum populaire sur l'APEC. «Un nombre grandissant de faits indiquent que le libre-échange non-réglé se traduit par une plus grande exploitation des travailleurs(euses), une dégradation environnementale accélérée, et tend à légitimer des états non démocratiques. Une augmentation du commerce extérieur ne conduit pas nécessairement à la démocratisation de gouvernements autoritaires ou bien à un plus grand respect des droits de la personne. Au Canada, ce processus n'a certainement pas protégé le système de sécurité sociale.»

Les groupes qui manifesteront samedi affirment que la rencontre des ministres du commerce n'est qu'un dialogue entre des «économies» et le milieu des affaires et que les intérêts des populations restent complètement marginalisés durant les discussions. Au sein de l'APEC, les pays membres s'identifient comme des «économies» afin apparemment d'éviter les controverses autour de la question des trois Chines (la République populaire, Hong Kong et Taiwan) qui sont assises autour de la même table.

«Ce ne sont que les grands monopoles privés des pays les plus riches qui bénéficient du libre-échange. Le véritable objectif de l'APEC est de permettre au grand capital privé d'obtenir des profits mirobolants aux dépens des travailleurs et travailleuses,» souligne Joey Calugay du Réseau contre l'APEC.

Les manifestants citent le cas de Muchtar Pakpahan, un syndicaliste indonésien qui est présentement en cour pour sa participation à la formation d'un syndicat indépendant dans son pays et qui pourrait recevoir une sentence de mort. Ils soulignent également que l'occupation du Timor Oriental et du Tibet par l'Indonésie et la République populaire de Chine respectivement sont deux raisons plus que suffisantes pour lesquelles le Canada ne devrait pas dérouler le tapis rouge devant les représentants de ces deux pays. Enfin, ils sont préoccupés par les désastres environnementaux d'origine non naturelle tels que le déversement de produits miniers toxiques par la compagnie canadienne minière Placer Dome survenu l'an dernier aux Philippines.

«Tout cela est aberrant», s'exclame le président du Comité Canada-Tibet M.Thubten Samdup, «Jusqu'à quel point, sommes-nous disposés ici au Canada à ravalier notre fierté et nos principes pour quelques dollars de plus?»

Pour plus d'information, contactez: Dominique Caouette, (514) 747-1532, Michel Lambert, (514) 982-6606

Les organisations qui participeront à la manifestation sont: Alternatives, le Centre d'études sur les régions en développement (CERD) de l'Université McGill, le Centre international de solidarité ouvrière (CISO), la Coalition d'appui aux villageois de la baie de Calancan (Philippines), le Comité Canada-Tibet, la Confédération des syndicats nationaux (CSN), le Conseil central du Montréal métropolitain de la CSN, Développement et paix, le Forum populaire sur l'APEC, le Réseau d'alerte pour le Timor Oriental (RATO/ETAN), le Réseau contre l'APEC (Pinay), le Centre d'appui aux Philippines, la Coalition des étudiants philippins de Montréal, le Mouvement des étudiants chrétiens), le Réseau de solidarité avec le Mexique (RSM) et la revue Option-Paix.



Manila People's Forum on APEC 1996

**Manila Declaration
and
Plan of Action**

**Manila Midtown Hotel
Malate, Manila, Philippines
21-24 November 1996**

KYOTO DECLARATION

Statement From The 1995 NGO Forum On APEC Kyoto, Japan

As representatives of more than 100 non-government organizations and trade unions, advocating the interests of millions throughout the region covered by APEC, we fully support cooperation among countries and their peoples. However, we unanimously reject the basic philosophy, framework and assumptions of the model of free market and trade liberalization embraced by the APEC agenda. This model does not lead to freedom; it negates the developmental and democratic aspirations of the people.

Economic growth and promotion of trade are not ends in themselves. Genuine development must be centered on the needs of people and nature, and deliver real social and economic justice. The form of indiscriminate unregulated economic growth and trade which APEC advocates delivers the opposite of this -- its consequences are socially unjust and ecologically unsustainable; it imposes irreversible social and environmental costs; and it enables governments to abdicate their responsibilities to their citizens and leave them at the mercy of transnational corporations and international financial institutions who are accountable to no one.

Genuine development must also affirm the fundamental, civic, political, economic, social and cultural rights of individuals and peoples, and the obligations of states to promote and protect such rights. Governments who are members of APEC, must, through cooperation, ensure that people are guaranteed basic rights to food, human dignity, integrity of communities, environmental security and self-determination. The APEC liberalization agenda is irreconcilable with these goals. Violations of political freedom, rights of association, labour rights and freedom of speech accompany economic liberalization in many parts of region.

We note with particular concern that member governments of APEC have participated in inter-governmental conferences on the rights of the child (New York), the environment (Rio), human rights (Vienna), population and development (Cairo), social development (Copenhagen) and women (Beijing). Despite their participation, none of the commitments made in those conferences is visible in the APEC process. Rather, the consequence of this form of economic and trade liberalization violate the fundamental rights to which they agreed.

- ratify and effectively implement all major labour and human rights instruments, including the basic ILO conventions, and guarantee the freedom of movement for all people within the region, especially refugees and indigenous peoples;
- impose effective constraints, including a code of conduct, on the operations of transnational corporations to ensure their accountability and responsibility to the people of the region;
- recognize food security as a basic human right and accept responsibility to ensure food security for all their citizens;
- take steps to protect farmers and the land rights and tenure of women and indigenous peoples;
- protect biodiversity, ban the plunder by transnational corporations of indigenous resources and knowledge systems and all attempts to patent life forms, and reject intellectual property rights regimes which facilitates such exploitation;
- protect the rights of women and migrant labour, and defend children from exploitation of all kinds.

We call on people's organizations within the region to:

- take our own initiatives to facilitate economic co-operation among the people;
- document the consequences of economic and trade liberalization on the people; and
- strengthen solidarity networks for resisting injustice and promoting positive economic and social change.

November 14, 1995
Kansai Seminar House
Kyoto, Japan

Preparations are currently underway for the 1996 People's Forum on the APEC--the parallel summit of people's organizations, NGOs and social movements from across the Asia Pacific--to be held in Manila. For further details, please contact OMI C. ROYANDOYAN of the Philippine Peasant Institute at Rm. 319 PSSC Bldg. Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City or through telephones 929-6211/922-9621 loc. 314/339/309 and telefax 924-3767.

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X-Authenticated-Timestamp: 23:04:31 (EST) on March 08, 1998
To: etan-all@etan.ca
From: kerry@jungle.ottawa.on.ca (Kerry Pither)
Reply-To: ETAN-ALL <etan-all@etan.ca>
Date: Sun, 08 Mar 1998 22:16:31 -0500
Subject: Souham: The limits of free speech
Organization: The Jungle BBS - not in Kansas any more
X-Gateway: FirstClass Gateway for SMTP/NNTP (Mac68K) version 1.02
Sender: <etan-all@etan.ca>
Precedence: Bulk
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List-Subscribe:
<mailto:requests@mail2.jungle.ottawa.on.ca?subject=subscribe%20etan-all>
List-Unsubscribe:
<mailto:requests@mail2.jungle.ottawa.on.ca?subject=unsubscribe%20etan-all>

The Ottawa Citizen

Sunday 8 March 1998

The limits of free speech

By: Jack Aubry

"When Canada joined APEC in 1989, it was said that Canada could teach its values to those countries where human rights are routinely violated. After Vancouver 1997, there are those who question whether Canada has been the teacher or the student."

[Full page story with many pictures, available (for now at least) at
<http://www.ottawacitizen.com/national/980308/1672747.html>]

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When APEC leaders came to Canada, the Prime Minister's Office took a keen interest in the message they would get from Canadians. Jack Aubry reports.

Craig Jones stood in front of his residence at the University of British Columbia holding a sign that proclaimed a principle long endorsed in Canada. It said simply: "Free speech."

In front of him were five RCMP officers.

"I'm still amazed at what happened next," says Mr. Jones, a third-year law student, Liberal voter and former member of the military reserves. "I didn't think this kind of thing could happen in Canada."

Mr. Jones discovered that free speech was a fragile concept for 48 hours during November's Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation summit.

The police grabbed his sign and pulled him to the pavement, striking his head against a fence as he fell. He was handcuffed and his personal effects were confiscated. He ended up at the Richmond Detention Centre with seven others in a small two-metre by three-metre cell without bunks, toilets, blankets or running water.

The most memorable media images from those days -- Nov. 24 and 25 -- were of demonstrators on a road pepper-sprayed by the RCMP. Less was seen of the

students taken to jail or threatened with arrest for carrying signs promoting democracy.

In the recriminations that have followed, evidence has emerged to suggest the unprecedented clampdown cannot be put down merely as zealous policing. Documents point to the direct involvement of the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) in Ottawa.

There are some who suggest the repression fulfilled a Canadian pledge to one of the more notorious dictators on the APEC invitation list.

When Canada joined APEC in 1989, it was said that Canada could teach its values to those countries where human rights are routinely violated. After Vancouver 1997, there are those who question whether Canada has been the teacher or the student.

APEC began in 1989 as an Australian initiative and is essentially an economic forum for issues such as trade initiatives, trade barriers and customs procedures. It is made up of 18 different economies where half of the world's economic growth is likely to take place in the next decade.

They are called economies rather than countries because of the participation of three Chinese economies -- the People's Republic of China, Chinese Taipei and Hong Kong. The leaders' forum began in 1993 and a different member is the host each year.

In planning for the 1997 forum in Vancouver, federal organizers chose to hold the last day of the two-day meeting -- Tuesday, Nov. 25 -- at UBC's Museum of Anthropology. The site was chosen because it would provide a retreat away from the city centre where leaders and their senior advisers could meet in relative isolation.

UBC had been the site for the Clinton-Yeltsin Summit in 1993 and it had gone off without incident.

But in September, students started to focus on the upcoming APEC forum and Indonesia and China, in particular, were criticized for their human rights records. Some student groups, such as APEC Alert, declared opposition to the summit being held at the university.

The opposition apparently did not go unnoticed in Indonesia.

Early on the second morning of the summit, Jodi Morris joined friends at Green College on the UBC campus to put together signs to display along the route to be taken by the leaders' motorcade.

A 25-year-old graduate student in counselling psychology, Morris had never been one to show up for demonstrations previously, but the APEC debate on campus that fall had made her more politically aware.

The red paint was still wet on her "Freedom of Speech" sign when she and a few friends assembled at about 8 a.m. behind a chain-link security fence on the college lawn.

Green College, which was Morris's graduate residence, was located inside the summit's security zone and alongside the motorcade route to the museum. It presented a

special problem
for the RCMP.

A specially designated area across from the college, in front of the law school, had been earmarked for student protests. Demonstrators were to go to the area at the top of a hill about 70 metres from the road, where they would be almost invisible to the motorcade.

But Green College students such as Morris and Jones had the special opportunity to use their front lawn so that the leaders might actually see them as they drove by. Or so they thought.

Morris believes the protesters at Green College caught the RCMP off guard. What happened next "really opened my eyes. I never dreamt this could happen in Canada."

Separate from Jones and his signs, Morris says her group was first told to leave the sidewalk because they were blocking pedestrians. Then they were told they would be arrested if they held up signs.

Another graduate student, Laurie Aikman, had her small cardboard sign -- "People not profits" -- taken by the RCMP.

After a few preliminary cars in the motorcade passed by, an Mountie ordered Morris to give up her sign or be arrested. She went around the corner of her residence and stashed it along the wall.

Without signs, Morris and some of her colleagues, regrouped and painted their hands red to wave to the passing motorcade. It was intended as a symbolic gesture to indicate the leaders had blood on their hands, but the move backfired.

"I'm afraid the leaders were going by too quickly in their cars and they waved back to us as if we were gawkers coming out to welcome them to UBC."

The deal to use UBC for the summit appeared to have been finalized with the federal government in September. The eight-page memorandum of agreement, gave the government a licence to use of university properties for the sum of \$1.

The university was hoping to benefit from summit spin-offs such as a chair in Buddhist Studies, a program in Australian-Canadian relations, undergraduate and graduate scholarships, a Centre for Contemporary Islamic Studies and an exhibit of Asian art at the Museum of Anthropology.

With about 3,000 journalists expected for APEC, the university knew it couldn't buy the kind of publicity it would receive during the summit.

In an Oct. 10 letter to Prime Minister Jean Chretien, UBC president Martha

Piper went over the benefits for the university in hosting the summit. But she warned the event was generating concerns on campus "on a range of social and economic issues related to APEC."

Many groups on campus believed APEC's agenda should be broadened to include discussions of human rights, the environment, labour standards and employment.

"There is an active debate within the university on the moral and ethical viability of UBC's provision of a venue for a meeting which includes leaders of regimes whose support of human rights are clearly in question," writes Piper.

"The holding of the Leaders' Meeting at a Canadian university clearly demonstrates that the divergence of views on APEC issues can be openly accommodated."

Piper had every reason to be optimistic on this issue.

In the summit agreement's section on security, the government obtained the exclusive right to control access to the properties. But the agreement also stipulated that the government and university undertook not to "impede any lawful protest and the exercise of free speech."

In the midst of summit planning, the PMO had a problem. It was facing the possibility that one of the leaders would boycott Vancouver.

Indonesian President Suharto wanted to avoid any possibility of being embarrassed by large demonstrations against his regime's continued occupation of East Timor, a former Portuguese colony invaded by Indonesia in 1975. An estimated 200,000 people have been killed during the occupation and, according to Amnesty International, torture is "routine."

The East Timor Alert Network planned a symbolic arrest of Suharto for crimes against humanity and its web site contained a "wanted" poster for the president.

Several other Asian regimes, including China, also expressed concerns to Ottawa that they didn't want their leaders publicly embarrassed by protests.

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy had visited Suharto in the summer and senior Canadian officials gave Suharto assurances in October that he would be safe from protests. Only then did he agree to attend.

In August, before the university signed its agreement with the government that stipulated peaceful demonstration would be permitted and visible, Chris Brown, the university's summit co-ordinator, had written UBC's president about security concerns.

In his conclusion, he warned about disruptions by demonstrators: "This could seriously embarrass the University and the government and endanger the safety of various

interested parties including members of the university community."

But he quickly added: "Set against this concern, however, is an absolute requirement on the part of UBC to allow and even encourage the active and vigorous expression of views."

Brown said a "realistic and workable" program was needed to address security issues to ensure the university's involvement was "positive and productive."

On Nov. 10, the university negotiated with the RCMP the location of the security fences and a demonstration area in front of the Law School.

In memos circulated amongst university officials after the deal was struck, there was a tone of self-congratulation for negotiating a program that addressed security issues while facilitating open protest.

One memo indicated that university administrators convinced police officials to enlarge the demonstration area in front of the law school. The RCMP confirmed the next day that they agreed with the demonstration area.

But just days before the summit there was the first indication of PMO involvement.

Karen Pearlston, a graduate UBC law student, sent out an e-mail to fellow students at Green College immediately after a confrontation with the RCMP over signs she had placed on the fence outside the residence.

Police warned her she would be arrested if she did not remove the signs -- "Secret police off campus" and "Green College is for ideas and friendship NOT APEC."

"They also told me that the orders are from the Prime Minister's office that there will be 'no signs and no people' on the road there," she wrote.

Pearlston was so unnerved that she moved away from the residence and stayed with friends during the summit.

Less than two weeks before the summit, a PMO advance team visited the UBC campus. The group included Jean Carle, the PMO's director of operations.

In a memo to UBC president Piper, university summit co-ordinator Brown wrote: "The only difficulty was the student demonstration area in front of the Curtis Law Building where we lost some ground. This was on Jean Carle's insistence that the PM himself, while not objecting to protesters, was under an obligation to protect the safety and integrity of his guests."

The agreement had been for the protest area to be along the motorcade route on the front lawn of the Law School. After Carle and the PMO interjected, the protest area was reduced to a small area just at the front of the school, on top of an incline that effectively made it invisible to passing cars.

The memo indicated Brown argued over the reduction of the protest area -- "in a fairly vigorous exchange with Jean Carle" -- and he said he pressed the point that "line-of-sight" access had to be provided.

After several days of internal discussion, the university decided to write to Chretien about the "lost ground" and the university's obligation to its students to provide an area for "the free and open expression of views and that the space allocation" should remain as previously agreed before PMO staffers got involved.

On Nov. 19, Piper's letter to the prime minister reminded him of the university's agreement with the RCMP. "Now, regrettably, as we enter the final planning stages ... officials from your office have decided to reduce" the line-of-sight area for protesters.

She told Chretien the PMO involvement violated a prior agreement and urged the return to the previous boundaries, in part to protect "freedom of speech."

It only took a day for Carle to respond for the prime minister, dismissing Piper's plea in a terse three-paragraph letter. "As you will appreciate, security considerations are of paramount concern and restrict the availability of suitable sites."

In a file note, Piper indicated she telephoned Eddie Goldenberg, the prime minister's senior policy adviser, on Nov. 21 to express her concerns. "I requested advice and assistance from Eddie with regard to reconsideration of the sight lines."

Later that day, Goldenberg called back to set up a meeting on campus with Jean Pelletier, the chief of staff in the PMO.

Piper met Pelletier and Carle, along with Wayne May and Trevor Thomsett of the RCMP. Pelletier proposed an alternative sight line that slightly expanded the protest area and the compromise was accepted.

Following the summit, the PMO repeatedly denied to the media any involvement in police and security matters, saying it had been left to the RCMP. About a week after the summit, the RCMP distributed an internal memo to its employees which stated the PMO was not involved in security arrangements.

However, after UBC officials revealed proof, the PMO acknowledged it was involved in negotiations but failed to explain why.

Craig Jones had assembled three signs to welcome APEC leaders to UBC. They read: "Free Speech" "Democracy" and "Human Rights".

Each letter of each sign was written on 8.5 x 11-inch paper and the messages were chosen, Jones says, because they were positive, expansive and universal -- "not anti-APEC, or so I thought."

He had originally erected them on a security fence in front of Green College, his graduate residence along the motorcade route. But police had removed them Monday night and given them back to Jones.

At 7:50 a.m. Tuesday, Jones put the signs on two coat racks borrowed from a nearby building and wheeled them out behind the fence.

With the motorcade minutes from arriving, an RCMP inspector warned Jones he would be arrested for "obstruction" if he did not give up the signs.

When Jones refused he was arrested roughly, even though he says he was polite and did not resist.

Jones acknowledges the incident could have affected his future career as a lawyer. But the prestigious Vancouver law firm, where he begins articling later this year, has stood by Jones.

He was released from jail after 14 hours with no charges laid against him. His signs were never returned. They were destroyed by the RCMP.

In doing so, the officers ignored a small notice on the bottom of each of the 30 pages used for the signs.

"This poster has been properly erected by a Canadian citizen ... Removal of this poster, and any law or order which may permit its removal, is contrary to the Charter (of Rights and Freedoms) and the person who so removes it is in violation of the laws of Canada."

Minutes after Jones was arrested, Mike Thoms strolled on to the lawn of Green College. Under his arm, he carried two bedsheet banners which read "Dictators are not welcome at UBC" and "The APEC vision" which featured jail bars.

Police yanked the signs from him and walked away.

Later, Thoms was allowed to display another homemade banner -- "Murderers at UBC -- Think About it" but by then most of the motorcade had driven by. Students believe

Indonesia's

Suharto, who had been promised no embarrassment by the PMO, had already passed.

"It made me realize just how fragile our rights are," said Thoms. "The debate has gone from a debate about human rights in other countries to our domestic rights."

The RCMP were also busy elsewhere on campus. A total of 49 people were taken into custody and some of the females were strip-searched. All except one of the 49 were later released without charges.

As a condition for their release, several protesters had to sign a pledge not to demonstrate further at the summit.

The RCMP later apologized for the pledge, agreeing it infringed on citizens' rights.

In his report of the Green College incident, RCMP Insp. Bill Dingwall, the deputy operations commander, explained that the signs -- which were made out of paper and cardboard -- needed to be removed because they could have been used as projectiles to strike the motorcade. He said five placards, which would have been thrown over the 10-foot high fence, were seized by police.

He acknowledges briefly that he had spoken to some demonstrators. "Several tried to engage me in a debate about freedom of speech and the protections of the Charter, etc."

When the Charter of Rights and Freedoms became law in 1982, one of the principal government signatories on stage with Queen Elizabeth on Parliament Hill was Chretien, who was then justice minister in Pierre Trudeau's cabinet.

A key part of the Charter is section 2(b), under the heading "Fundamental Freedoms," which guarantees Canadians "freedom of thought, belief, opinion and expression".

But free speech is constrained under section one of the Charter by "such reasonable limits prescribed by law as can be demonstrably justified in a free and democratic society."

Since the summit, several protesters have filed lawsuits against the RCMP and the Mounties have announced they will hold a public inquiry in April into their handling of the protests.

Eugene Meehan, a lawyer with Lang, Michener who has written extensively on the Charter, said the lawsuits surrounding the APEC protests will create new case law on free speech if they go to trial. "Silently holding up a sign is just like talking," he says.

"The government is going to have to justify in law, and in fact, that their

actions were reasonably justified in a free and democratic society."

Because of the lawsuits, the RCMP and the PMO refuse comment.

Jean Carle, the primary government official involved in the security discussions, has left the PMO for a post at the Business Development Bank.

Chretien, who was involved in a famous confrontation with a protester at a Hull rally in 1996 and fanned indignation during the summit when he made a joke about the use of pepper spray ("I put it on my plate."), seemed to dismiss concerns in a year-end television interview.

"Police took a means that was apparently very efficient," he said. "There was nobody hurt and the conference was not disturbed."

PHOTO CAPTIONS:

The protests at UBC during the APEC conference last November attracted students who did not normally join in marches. They were concerned about free speech and humanrights in China and Indonesia, and some were shocked when RCMP seized their signs.

Craig Jones: 'I didn't think this could happen in Canada.'

Law student Craig Jones, arrested by the RCMP, is now suing the force for its treatment of him.

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STOP APEC GLOBALISATION

PEOPLE, NOT PROFITS!

The leaders of the member countries of APEC, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, will be meeting in Vancouver in November, with ministerial meetings in many Canadian cities, including Toronto, leading up to that summit. Prime Minister Jean Chretien has declared 1997 Canada's Year of Asia-Pacific. But what is APEC, and what does its agenda really mean?

Maude Barlow of the Council of Canadians calls APEC "globalisation on steroids". Canada is a founding member of APEC, which aims to impose a free trade zone in the Asia and Pacific region by 2020. Critics of APEC contend that its unabashed pro-business agenda will mean the further lowering of working and living conditions for marginalized people in Canada and abroad. It also means cheap wages, anti-union policies, easy access to natural resources and lax or non-existent labour, environmental and human rights standards. Indigenous peoples will be particularly affected as they are dispossessed of their lands to make room for "development". APEC, as a body which exists to promote business and economic interests, has never professed any concern for these issues.

A coalition of groups working in solidarity with activists in other APEC countries has come together in Toronto to protest -- along with similar groups in other cities--the APEC meetings here, and to call for people-oriented economic development, which will take the rights of the environment, workers, and all peoples into account. We will organise events at the time of the meeting, in Toronto, of the APEC Environment Ministers on June 9-11, and at the time of the APEC Summit in Vancouver.

If you would like to get involved in our work, contact one of the groups

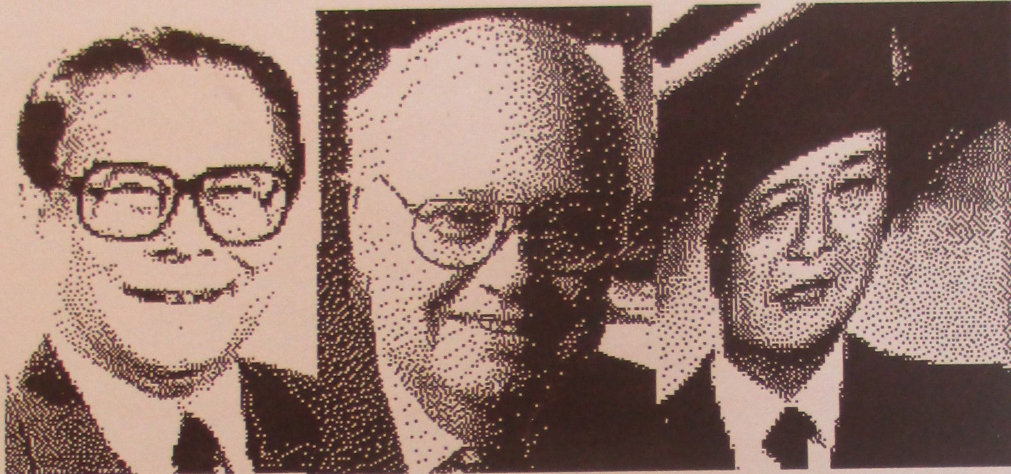
listed below for more information:

- Canada-Asia Working Group, 921-5626
- Canada-Tibet Committee, 269-9701
- Canadian Friends of Burma, 481-4070
- Chile-Canada Information Committee, 604-8199
- China Human Rights Group, 588-4966
- East Timor Alert Network, 531-5850
- Indonesia Solidarity Network, 537-7290
- Philippine Solidarity Group, 323-9726

LUNCH WITH DICTATORS!

“I made the deal.”

-- President Strangway
(Vancouver Sun, Jan. 28th, 1997)



“An atrium at the University of B.C. president’s house will be enlarged at a cost of up to \$400,000 so the 18 leaders of the Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation [APEC] countries have a suitable place for lunch when they are in Vancouver this year.”

-- Vancouver Sun, Jan. 28th, 1997

President Strangway has invited 18 world leaders to UBC. This gathering will include men responsible for massive human rights violations, such as Indonesia’s President Suharto and Chinese President Jiang Zemin.

Has Strangway forgotten the Tiananmen Square Massacre? Has he forgotten about Indonesia’s ongoing genocide in East Timor?

APEC Alert is a group of students who have not forgotten, and do care about human rights. We say

No Mass Murderers at UBC!
No APEC Leaders’ Forum Meeting at UBC!

Join us in our effort to turn UBC into an institution that cares about human rights and lives up to them.

- APEC is an organization committed establishing a free trade zone in Asia Pacific by dismantling all barriers to business. Strangway failed to consult with either students, staff or faculty prior to making the deal to bring the leaders' meeting to our campus. **Guests at this meeting will include some of the world's most notorious human rights abusers.**
- Jiang Zemin was promoted to his position when hard-line Communists took control of the country following the massacre of pro-democracy student protesters at Tiananmen Square on 4 Jan. 1989. **In his first public speech as president, Zemin decreed that surviving pro-democracy student protesters would have to undergo political re-education.**
- Basic human rights are still denied the people of China. Amnesty International reports, "human rights violations [in China] continue on a massive scale. Many of the abuses result from official policies and repressive legislation that curtail fundamental rights and freedoms." **Any form of political opposition to the Communist party is outlawed in China.** Thousands of Chinese continue to suffer gross injustices at the hands of the state. **The Communists stubbornly refuse to improve human rights conditions in China.**
- Indonesia's President Suharto came to power in a bloody coup in 1965, in which up to one million people were killed. In December 1975 his army invaded East Timor. Over 200,000 East Timorese (1/3 of the population) were killed in the invasion and the genocidal military operations which followed it. Indonesia's rule over East Timor is still not recognized by the U.N. **In 1991, 273 protesters were killed by Indonesian troops while participating in a pro-independence demonstration.**
- Suharto has retained power in Indonesia with one of the world's largest standing armies. He has banned critical newspapers, and imprisoned political opponents. His regime continues to rack up human rights violations. While wages in the his country are held down, **Suharto and his relatives have enriched themselves by taking a cut of every major business deal with the help of policies that attract foreign investment.**
- Fidel Ramos, current president of the Philippines, was the architect of former president Marcos' martial rule and of former president Aquinos' total war policy against militant groups and revolutionary guerrillas which resulted in widespread human rights violations. **Ramos had thousands of squatters forcibly removed from their shanties as a part of a clean up to prepare Manila for APEC's 1996 leaders' summit.**

- In South Korea the new Employment Standards Act will take away workers' rights to job security and give employers far greater flexibility to hire and fire as they see fit. On top of this, beefed up security laws threaten rights of free expression and assembly. **Recent reforms give the Agency for National Security Planning increased powers to enforce a law that calls for prison terms of up to seven years for knowingly engaging in any act that ``praises, encourages, advertises or supports the activities of an anti-state organization.''**
- Other nations participating in the APEC leaders' summit also have remarkably poor human rights records, especially when it comes to the treatment of workers. In fact, **the Asia-Pacific region is the only trade region that does not have its own specific human rights instruments or a regional mechanism for the protection of human rights.**
- **Less developed APEC member states exploit their workers to offer foreign corporations the cheapest labour possible.** Developed APEC nations take advantage of these disparities to lower the cost of production for their countrys' corporations and maximize their profits.
- The practice of *social dumping* (relying upon low wages, poor working conditions, the neglect of basic environmental, safety and health standards to produce goods that can be sold in another market at a price which is well below the cost of production in that market) is intrinsic to freetrade practices in the Asia Pacific region. **Social dumping hurts companies based in Canada, which abide by standards that do not exist in many Pacific Rim nations, and leads to the loss of Canadian jobs.**

No APEC Leaders' Meeting at UBC!

UBC is set to host the APEC leaders' summit meeting on 25-26 Nov.1997. Many of the "economic leaders" invited to this meeting represent nations with poor human rights, civil rights, and labour rights records. Some invited leaders represent nations in which democracy is outlawed. I strongly disagree with inviting these leaders to UBC.

I believe that one of the primary functions of universities in Canada is to promote and maintain a political culture in which democracy is practiced and protected and in which the lives, rights, and dignity of all human beings are recognized and respected. I believe that having the APEC leaders' meeting at UBC is an affront to the fundamental social, political and cultural values, which are held dear by Canadians.

I ask that you respect the values of democracy, and human rights, and expeditiously move the APEC leaders' meeting off the UBC campus.

Name & Signature:

- APEC is not a good deal for the protection of human rights, labour standards, or the environment. APEC will not help the world evolve a sustainable form of development and consumption. APEC promotes Western-style overconsumption, which is ravaging the resources of our planet and endangering our environment. APEC is not a good long-term solution to unemployment in this country. Once the Apec freetrade zone is in place, we will see more NAFTA-style displacements of Canadian jobs and wealth and more cuts to our nation's social services. APEC's freetrade policies will hurt Canadians.

In response to his decision to host the APEC leaders' meeting at UBC, we are calling on all members of the UBC community to tell President Strangway that we do not want this meeting on our campus by sending him this cut-out mailer. No postage is necessary. A campus mailbox is located between the Proctor's Office and the Women's Centre on the main floor of the SUB.

For further information email dajago@unixg.ubc.ca

Thank you for your support.

CUT AROUND THE LINE & SEND



**UBC PRESIDENT
DAVID STRANGWAY
OLD ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
CAMPUS MAIL ZONE #2**