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NEWSLETTER

South American Indian Information Center (SAIIC)

P.O. Box 7550, Berkeley, California 94707 - USA

Phone 415-521-2779

Sample Copy

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Once again, thank you for your support. We have received many letters with positive comments which we greatly appreciate as they stimulate us to continue with our task of offering information concerning Indian peoples of the Americas.

Phillip Deere and Dan Bomberry have left us and returned to Mother Earth, who receives them with open arms. As sons of the oppressed, and as Indian people, they have fought for our ancestral rights. Their spirits and memories will continue to live among us, crossing the four winds, and living in each person who fights for Indian liberation.

These are crucial times. Due to the lack of social responsibility on the part of those who would colonize others, all humanity is in danger. Nuclear arms multiply, oppressing all life on earth with the threat that they may be used as they were in 1945 in Japan.

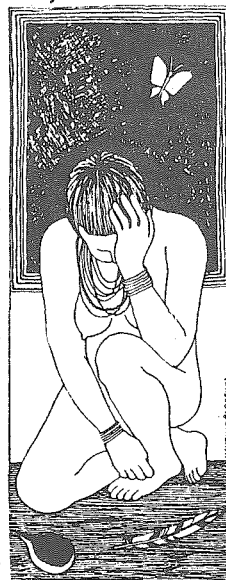
If the objective is to reach peace, all of us who love Mother Earth and all that she stands for should be willing to support her. But this must not be a peace of the dead or one that maintains the status quo of oppression which the colonialists have practiced for centuries in our America.

For us, peace means the elimination forever of the systems of exploitation brought primarily from Europe and imposed by force on indigenous people and maintained through fire and blood by the United States of North America. Peace means to acknowledge ancestral land rights, and no matter how small these lands may be, to respect self determination now and for future generations. Traditional people, those who have always lived on this continent, must be an active force in seeking peace.

Every day there are increasing numbers of people who rebel against oppression, struggling in different ways for justice and a better future. SAIIC tries to contribute our grain of sand by



informing people of the existence of many millions of



indigenous people representing hundreds of nations who are struggling for their liberation. For these struggles not to be small and isolated ones, we must know and understand each other's efforts, and know that although cultures and languages vary, the fundamental problems are similar. Understanding and strength are achieved through respect and the right of all people to be different and to develop fully.



SAIIC relies on the contributions of its members and friends. Your support is needed and greatly appreciated to assist us in continuing our newsletter, publications, radio program, and in sponsoring the visits of South American Indians.

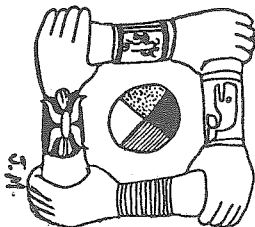
All contributions, which are tax deductible, will go directly to furthering SAIIC's work. Checks should be made out to the American Friends Service Committee/SAIIC and sent to P.O. Box 7550, Berkeley, CA 94707.

For more information about SAIIC's work and the projects we are planning, please write us or call: (415) 521-2779 or 527-5687.

Sincerely,
Nilo Cayuqueo
and the SAIIC Committee



UNITED NATIONS WORKING GROUP ON INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS, July 29-August 2, 1985



Preparatory Meeting

In preparation for the 4th session of the United Nations Working Group on Indigenous Populations, a meeting of indigenous representatives from throughout the world was held in Geneva, Switzerland, the week before the Working Group session. The five days of preparatory meetings brought together more than 100 indigenous representatives who exchanged ideas, drafted and endorsed a new Declaration of Principles on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, adopted other joint proposals and achieved an unprecedented level of unity in relation to the Working Group.

Among those participating in the preparatory meeting were the Union of Indigenous Nations (UNI) of Brazil; AIDSEP of Peru; CONFENIAE of Ecuador; CIDOB of Bolivia; Centro Chitakolla of Bolivia; The National Federation of Land Councils of Australia; The Center for Tribal Conscientization of India; Confederation Campesina del Peru; the South American Indian Council (CISA); CORPI (Central America); Movimiento de la Juventud Kuna of Panama; MISURASATA of Nicaragua; Coalition of First Nations, the Dine Nation, the Union of Ontario Indians, the Conne River Micmacs and many others of Canada; the World Council of Indigenous Peoples, and many more. The sponsoring organizations were the