
PEACE BRIGADES INTERNATIONAL



ANNUAL REPORT 1995

WHAT IS PBI ?

Peace Brigades International is a unique organisation that offers services of unarmed protective accompaniment to organisations, individuals and communities threatened with violence. PBI also offers training in non-violence and works to disseminate information about non-violence and human rights. PBI is a politically independent, international voluntary organisation incorporated in the USA. PBI is built from grass roots support in 16 countries and currently has teams of volunteers fielded in 6 countries; Colombia, Haiti, Guatemala, Sri Lanka, North America and Former Yugoslavia. If you are interested in becoming a member of PBI please contact your nearest Country Group - See Page 9 for further details.

Dear Friends

What a year it's been for PBI! 1995 brought consolidation of our international organisational structures across six projects and twelve country groups and improvements in our fundraising efforts.

In July PBI held its Triennial General Assembly in the Netherlands. The Assembly was attended by more than 40 representatives from Projects and Country Groups. Working by consensus the Assembly tackled major policy issues and organisational development questions and exchanged information and ideas. The General Assembly was an important milestone, helping to strengthen our international structures and pave the way for PBI's future development. We would like to extend our thanks to both PBI Netherlands and the International Office who did a superb job in organising the event.

In addition to preparatory and follow-up work for the General Assembly and the regular business of fundraising, publicity and volunteer recruitment, Country Groups and Projects coordinated delegations to Guatemala, Colombia and Sri Lanka. These delegations are a valuable part of our education and outreach work, giving people who might not be able to join a team the opportunity to witness our field work.

1995 also brought important international recognition of our work in the promotion of non-violent resolution of conflicts. PBI was the proud recipient of two awards: the Freidrich Siegmund Schultz Prize, awarded in Germany by the Protestant Community for the Concern of Conscientious Objectors (EAK) for nonviolent intervention to support civilians in areas of conflict, and the Peace and Justice Service (SERPAJ) Award for Peace and Solidarity, awarded in Argentina to

commemorate the Nobel Peace Prize of Adolfo Perez Esquivel.

In the wider context, the events of the year made it clear that the work of Peace Brigades International is as essential now as it was when we pioneered unarmed accompaniment work fifteen years ago. Despite ongoing peace talks Guatemala and Sri Lanka continued to witness dramatic increases in political violence. In Colombia too the violence continued to escalate and the PBI team responded to more and more requests for accompaniment. The North America Project carried on its work with native communities in Canada and the USA, further developing the Project's focus on structural violence encountered by Native Americans. PBI continued to support the invaluable work of the Balkans Peace Team Joint Project and, in response to requests from local groups working through nonviolently, we began to explore the possibility of a project in the Chiapas region of Mexico. Finally, to crown the year, PBI opened a new project in Haiti - the first long-term volunteers arrived in December 1995 and will focus, through accompaniment work, on creating a space for local activists to work nonviolently for social change.

So, though it has been a successful year for PBI, we know that our work is as necessary as always. Thanks to the dedication of our supporters, we have been able to support countless groups and individuals in their search for peaceful solutions. We would like to thank you for helping us make that happen and invite you to join us as we look forward to 1996 and the challenges that the next year will bring.

In Peace



Rusa Jeremic

for the International Council of PBI

CENTRAL AMERICA PROJECT : GUATEMALA : CENTRAL AMERICA PROJECT

POLITICAL BACKGROUND

1995 was the year of elections in Guatemala. Both Presidential and Congressional elections were held and Alvaro Arzu, of the right wing National Advancement Party, was elected as 51st President of the Republic. Despite the efforts of both civilian and State institutions to mobilise the population into participating in the electoral process, only 38% turned out to vote.

The one big electoral surprise was that the left-wing New Guatemala Democratic Front (a new party formed in July by members of the popular, indigenous and union movements) participated in mainstream national politics for the first time. Arnilicar Mendez, Nineth Montenegro and Rosalina Tuyuc (all leaders of grass-roots human rights groups that have been accompanied by PBI) now find themselves providing the popular movement with a small but hopeful voice in National Congress.

In spite of the note of optimism arising from the elections, peace negotiations moved sluggishly. In March 1995 an accord dealing with the rights of indigenous people was signed between the Government and the guerrilla group the URNG (National Guatemala Revolutionary Unity). However, as the year drew to a close, the two sides were unable to come to an agreement on agrarian and socio-economic reform.

The human rights situation remained equally stagnant. When the UN Independent Expert on Guatemala, Ms Monica Pinto, visited the country during 1995, she drew attention to the massacre at Xaman, in which, just weeks before the elections, 11 campesinos died at the hands of an army patrol. She also spoke of the existence of thousands of clandestine cemeteries and the continuing daily assassinations as being

reminders that Guatemala's bloody past is not over yet.

PBI PROJECT WORK : Accompaniment

Throughout 1995 the Central America Project continued to do accompaniment work with refugees, trade unionists and human rights groups and internally displaced people.

- **Refugees** - Some 9000 former refugees returned to Guatemala during 1995. PBI team members accompanied the first two historic homcomings to La Quetzal and La Esmeralda in the Peten. The team was also present when refugees attempting to return to Santa Maria Dolores and San Antonio Tzeja in the Ixcan Region, were stopped by armed Civil Defence Patrols.

- **Witnesses** - PBI provided accompaniment by visiting the hospital bedsides of wounded survivors of the Xaman Massacre. These survivors are key witnesses to the tragic events at Xaman.

- **Trade Unionists** - PBI continued to provide accompaniment for Trade Union activists, Debora Guzman and Felix Gonzalez who have suffered repeated intimidation and kidnappings as a result of their work to improve conditions for impoverished sweatshop workers.

- **Lawyers** - Accompaniment work continued with lawyers who are documenting testimonies of those who have suffered abuses at the hands of the Civil Defence Patrols of San Pedro Jocopilas in Quiche Region.

- **Human Rights Groups** - PBI provided accompaniment for The Association of Family Members of the Detained and Disappeared

(FAMDEGUA) as they exhumed the bodies of 162 members of the village of Las Dos Erres which was wiped off the map in a massacre in 1982. Team Members also accompanied the Mutual Support Group (GAM) as they recorded testimonies from villagers who lost family members in the 1982 Massacres of Rio Negro and Plan de Sanchez.

- **Internally Displaced People** - The team made regular visits to some of Guatemala City's 200 shanty towns, where internally displaced people are subjected to harassment and intimidation by clandestine groups.

Mediation Work

At the invitation of the Popular Communities in Resistance and the Pro Land Committees in Chajul, PBI team members acted as official observers at meetings between the two groups as they attempted to find a peaceful solution to a land dispute. The meetings were successful with the two parties achieving their initial goal. Negotiations are advancing with the continuing presence of PBI.

Information and Education

The team produces a weekly news summary and monthly bulletin. Both publications have wide distribution within Guatemala and to individuals and organisations worldwide.

Peace Education

The Central America Project consolidated and developed its peace education programme, facilitating workshops on "Non-violent Conflict Resolution" for women's groups, unions and teachers in Guatemala City and with young returned refugees in Ixcan.

SRI LANKA PROJECT : SRI LANKA PROJECT : SRI LANKA PROJECT : SRI LANKA PROJECT

POLITICAL BACKGROUND

During the first four months of 1995, the prospects appeared good for an end to 12 years of war between the Sri Lankan Government and the LTTE (Tamil Tigers). A ceasefire was announced as the government presented a package of provisions relating to constitutional reform and the devolution of power in the hope that finally a settlement could be made with the Tigers. Conditions seemed positive and the atmosphere within the peace and justice community was optimistic. PBI began exploring the possibility of winding down the Sri Lanka project.

Then, on 19th April, the Tigers planted a bomb in Trincomalee harbour. The blast destroyed two vessels belonging to the Sri Lankan Navy and signalled an abrupt end to the ceasefire. The Tigers defended their unilateral decision to resume hostilities, in spite of the Government's calls to return to a ceasefire. With this situation, a return to warfare was inevitable and the Sri Lankan Government then made a concerted effort to defeat the rebels in battle. And so, once more, the political focus of the island is the "War for Peace".

PBI PROJECT WORK : The Ceasefire

The PBI team began the year accompanying lawyers and witnesses intending to submit petitions demanding the investigation of recent disappearances.

PBI team members accompanied lawyers from the Institute of Human Rights on field trips to the East and South of the island.

The team was involved in the monitoring of marches and demonstrations organised by the fledgling Movement for Peace with Democracy



(MPD) - a coalition of community organisations, human rights groups and peace activists concerned with building popular support for the peace process and with education on issues surrounding the concept of democracy.

During the ceasefire the team also accompanied the People's Peace Delegation on their visit to the Tiger's stronghold of Jaffna.

The Return to Battle

Alongside the resumption of hostilities came a number of urgent requests for PBI accompaniment from the Eastern Conflict Zone.

The requests came mainly from NGO workers who assist victims of past violence; torture and rape victims, relatives of the disappeared, widows of battle victims and refugees. During this period the team made regular visits to high

risk areas in the hope that an international presence might reduce the number of abuses. The team was asked to observe various village meetings and so helped to protect villagers from reprisals and, in the words of an Institute for Human Rights lawyer,

'to give strength to the marginalised people so that they might articulate and demonstrate their rights in an effective way'

Supporting Local NGOs

In Colombo PBI provided emergency escorts for several participants returning home from the annual NGO Forum Meeting after this important gathering was jeopardised following inflammatory newspaper articles and nationalist demonstrations in the capital.

In December of 1995 the team monitored two public demonstrations to commemorate World Human Rights Day.

Also in December, the team made an exploratory visit to Trincomalee in the East of the Island to assess the need for a PBI presence in the area.

Throughout the year PBI supported the work of local NGO's by responding to requests for monitoring and observation of strikes and demonstrations. By accompanying organisations such as labour unions and peasant groups PBI helps to create space for the Sri Lankan people to work towards economic justice.

In 1995 the PBI Sri Lanka Team accompanied a demonstration organised by the People's Movement for Land Reform and observed local protests against the construction of a new radio relay station at Iranawila. The team was also involved in monitoring a number of strikes and labour demonstrations throughout the year.

NORTH AMERICA PROJECT : NORTH AMERICA PROJECT : NORTH AMERICA

The North America Project was set up in 1990 to address escalating confrontations involving First Nations (Native American) people in Canada and the US. The Project initially focused on providing trained observer teams to violent conflicts at roadblocks and other stand-offs, as a way of reducing the level of violence.

The work of the North America Project has evolved to include a focus on the violence that leads up to these confrontations. This "structural violence" results from the violations of rights and treaties - the broken promises that are a continuing legacy of an oppressive relationship between North America's newcomers and indigenous people.

POLITICAL BACKGROUND

During 1995 the political situation in Canada brought some progress towards the resolution of some long-standing problems as well as an increasing backlash of intolerance and racism among non-natives. The enormous number of unresolved land claims means that First Nation land is prey to exploitation through logging, mining, military testing and so forth and leaves First Nation communities facing huge barriers to their own economic development. Land is central to native life and this process of exploitation is seen as a profound violation of traditional spiritual values.

PBI PROJECT WORK

PBI North America offers the services of unarmed, civilian observers who attend potentially conflictive situations. The Project also provides workshops in non-violence to involved parties and is active in outreach and listening, sending teams to explore



potentially violent situations and to build trust between PBI and the communities involved.

Work of the Teams

The year's largest project involved sending a team to spend three months with the Innu communities of Sheshashit and Davis Inlet. The team explored the nature of the structural violence experienced by the Innu within the context of the Canadian justice system. The team conducted extensive interviews with both Innu and non-Innu and produced a report titled "Justice and Healing in Sheshashit and Davis Inlet". This work came about as a natural evolution to work carried out by observer and training teams who worked with the Innu communities in 1994.

Other work included exploratory and return visits to the Lubicon in Northern Alberta and the Innu near Sept-Iles, Quebec. A longer term team is planned

for 1996 to return to Sept-Iles to look at resource extraction as a source of conflict.

The North America Project also responded to several requests from the Nawash in Ontario. The Nawash face harassment and threats as they seek to exercise their treaty and constitutional fishing rights on Lake Huron.

In March a training team made a return visit to Nevada to conduct a non-violence training for a group of Western Shoshone supporters. This request was a follow-up to a 1994 exploration to the area which looked at the complex conflict centred around the Dann ranch.

Project Structure

At a meeting held in the autumn of 1995 the North America Project approved the formulation of a permanent team structure. Previously North America's field work had been carried out on a project by project basis with the ongoing work of project development, direction and maintenance falling to the Committee and staff. Our new "permanent" team will take over some of these tasks. We expect that this new way of working will provide more opportunities for volunteer service and expand the potential of the project.

"Just to have someone else working, studying and caring about our plight is a reward in itself. PBI should be present in many of our struggles to record and study our cause. In my line of work, which is justice issue, PBI has been able to illuminate and expand, as well as record accurately the happenings in my area. PBI's work may prove to be useful for the next generation of Innu."

- Bart Jack Sr, Innu Nation

HAITI PROJECT : HAITI PROJECT : HAITI PROJECT : HAITI PROJECT

POLITICAL BACKGROUND

Times have changed so much for Haitians in the past two years. In this period of transition Haiti remains vulnerable - though the door has been opened to democracy the crisis has not been resolved. The people of Haiti have watched the arrival of US troops and the return of President Aristide. Despite the continued UN presence, civil and political violence remain deeply rooted.

The structures and ideologies of violence are constant; the security forces are closely controlled by the US; Duvalierism is still a potent force; the former Tonton Macoutes remain armed and, despite the dismantling of the old army and police structures, corrupt officials are still in positions of power as judges, as bureaucrats and in the new police force.

1995 brought the assassination of Congress members and saw violent clashes between police and civilians in Citi Soleil. The tension spilled over into the New Year with further clashes in Gonaives in January 1996.

In February 1996 the new President, Rene Preval, took office. Preval has requested that the UN mandate be extended until September 1996 in order that questions of security, justice and policing can be addressed more effectively.

PBI PROJECT WORK: Preparations

During April and May of 1995 PBI undertook a preparatory mission to Haiti. The Haitian Catholic Church's Commission for Justice and Peace, Bishop Emmanuel Constant of Gonaives and dozens of Haitian organisations confirmed that

there was a need for a non-violent protective presence in the country as well as potential for PBI to work in peace education and human rights workshops.

In June 1995, PBI Haiti held a successful training in Paris and recruited volunteers to form the first PBI Haiti Team. The Haiti Project set about strengthening its base of financial and political support among PBI Country Groups. The project opened an office in Paris and recruited a coordinator.

"PBI's commitment to Haiti will demand great patience, flexibility and resilience. The situation in the country is totally unpredictable. We have a great deal to learn from our Haitian friends. With humility and a long-term commitment we can help them in their unique struggle towards non-violent democracy." - Haiti Team

With the groundwork successfully completed, on December 10 1995, PBI deployed its first 3 person team to Haiti.

Making Contacts

As this report goes to print, the Haiti team is still very much in the early stages of setting up infrastructure and establishing contacts. Initial experiences and discussions with Haitian advisors have confirmed that the project can have a long-term impact on Haiti's political evolution towards democracy. The team is establishing contact with government officials, members of the diplomatic corps and the civilian mission of the UN.

The team is working with the Haitian Commission for Justice and Peace, local authorities in the

countryside and other groups associated with Haiti's democratic movement.

Scope of Work : Accompaniment

Given the far reaching changes that Haiti is undergoing, the impact of the UN presence and the dismantling of the security forces who were the worst human rights abusers, the team does not envisage that protective accompaniment will be the major emphasis of the work in the coming months. The Haiti team has, however, received and fulfilled some requests for accompaniment and, given the instability and vulnerability of the Haitian situation, will continue to make this service available, if and when requested.

Peace Education

In the face of a variety of different kinds of local conflicts in rural areas, in particular land disputes, PBI has received numerous requests for workshops in nonviolence and in methods of mediation and conflict resolution. While the Haitian culture carries with it various indigenous mediation techniques, in recent years, the culture of violence has weakened people's faith in and understanding of traditional techniques. Groups as diverse as religious leaders, community organisations, local governments and youth groups have asked PBI to help with the propagation of non-violent methods and to share our experience of conflict resolution methods from other cultures.

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT PBI PROJECTS?
Subscribe to the PROJECT BULLETIN See page 8

COLOMBIA PROJECT

human rights investigations at exhumations of massacred peasants from Pueblo Bello, Antioquia. The team also offered accompaniment to those investigating assassinations, mass internal displacement and the bombing of a village.

Meetings, Workshops and Demonstrations - the teams provided accompaniment at a number of forums on civilian participation in the peace process, workshops on human rights and demonstrations in Bogota's Central Plaza - all events which attempted to promote alternatives to the escalating conflict.

Information Work

The Project produces extensive documentation of the human rights situation in Colombia. A bi-weekly team report (Informe Quincenal) provides up-to-the minute information on developments in human rights, progress towards peace and on PBI's work. The Informe is distributed to journalists, human rights investigators, development agencies and government officials both in Colombia and abroad. A quarterly publication (Enfoque Colombiano) contains eye-witness accounts and experiences of accompaniment. In 1995 the team also produced several comprehensive documents on specific topics including: the situation in Meta, the Velandia case, threats against CREDHOS and the Colombian campaign to defend human rights.

Peace Education

The team initiated an education programme with two workshops on negotiation and reconciliation for the Intercongregational Commission for Justice and Peace. The education programme was continued with a workshop on fear, grief and community support which was attended by survivors of the Trujillo massacre.

BALKANS : BALKAN PEACE TEAM : BALKANS

The Balkan Peace Team (BPT) is a joint initiative of ten peace and non-violence organisations. PBI's consultative status to the Balkan Peace Team enables us to support this initiative through committee participation, fundraising, publicity and the recruitment of volunteers. The BPT is currently working in Croatia (Zagreb and Split) and in Serbia (Kosova and Belgrade)

POLITICAL SITUATION

The attack on the muslim enclave of Srebrenica and the shelling of the youth cafe in Tuzla marked a turning point in the Balkan situation. As a result of these atrocities NATO began its tactic of shelling Serbian troops thus swinging the balance of the conflict in favour of the Bosnian government and Croat armies.

In the spring of 1995 Croatia took advantage of the international outcry against Serbian atrocities to reconquer Krajina and to launch an assault on Western Slovenia. In August the Croats continued their push with Operation Storm. Northern and Southern UNPA Zones were overrun in just a few days. Hundreds of thousands of Serb refugees fled the area, villages were looted and burned and elderly Serbs, unable to take flight, were murdered.

BPT PROJECT WORK : Croatia

The Croatian branch of the Balkan Peace Team, known as OTVORENE OCI or OTOC (meaning "Open Eyes") works through two small teams, one based in Zagreb, the other in Split. Otoc focuses on the support of local activists and on outreach and networking.

Zagreb Team

Otoc Zagreb has focussed on networking with local and international NGOs and human rights groups in addition to maintaining contact with UN and EU

monitors. Otoc Zagreb also provided protective accompaniment to the Deputy Mayor of the town, a Serb, and for a group of Serbian women and children waiting in the town of Pakrac for the release of their detained male relatives.

Otoc Zagreb also helped to set up a local human rights centre and elaborated a detailed report on the human rights situation in the area.

Split Team

The Split team was mainly occupied with accompanying local human rights groups attempting to prevent illegal evictions and job dismissals and to bring eviction cases to trial. Non-Croats living in homes that were formally government property are targeted by soldiers and war veterans and subjected to heavy handed, illegal eviction.

OTOC Outreach

In late spring Otoc made an outreach tour of the Serb-held area of Knin. Outreach work was also carried out with muslim refugees living in the Krupjensko Refugee Camp. In August, following the actions of Operation Storm, Otoc visited Krajina and attempted to monitor the rapidly deteriorating human rights situation there. Otoc volunteers witnessed the evidence of summary executions, destroyed homes and ruined livelihoods.

BPT PROJECT WORK : Serbia

Kosova Team

Setting up in Kosova proved difficult due to the tense and oppressive situation in the town and to tight visa controls for international personnel. The team eventually moved to Belgrade in order to pursue registration as a local NGO so as to ease the constraints on long-term work.

PROJECT INFORMATION : PROJECT INFORMATION : PROJECT INFO

Each Project has its own co-ordination office. If you would like further information about a particular Project or copies of any of the reports mentioned in this section please contact the relevant project office directly or the PBI International Office in London. PBI field teams are made up of volunteer team members. If you are over 25 and are interested in volunteering please contact your nearest Country Group (See Page 11 for further details).

PBI INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

**5 Caledonian Road,
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United Kingdom
Tel: 44-1771-713-0392
Email: pbiloo@gn.apc.org**

PROJECT OFFICES

**CENTRAL AMERICA PROJECT
192 Spadina Avenue, Suite 304,
Toronto Ont M5T 2C2,
Canada
Tel: 1-416-504-4429
Email: pbic@web.apc.org**

**SRI LANKA PROJECT
PO Box 271
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United Kingdom
Tel: 44-1235-522-566
Email: pblsipo@gn.apc.org**

**NORTH AMERICA PROJECT
27 Third Avenue,
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Email: adlxon@web.apc.org**

HAITI PROJECT

**43 Ter Rue de Glaciere
75013 Paris,
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Tel: 33-1-43-36-95-15
Email:101376.3062@compuserve.com**

COLOMBIA PROJECT

**83 Margaret Street,
London W1N 7HB
United Kingdom
Tel: 44-171-636-7644
Email: pbicolombia@gn.apc.org**

BALKAN PEACE TEAM (PBI CONTACT PERSON)

**Agnesstrasse 25
8004 Zurich
Switzerland
Tel 41-1-242-2059
Email: uellw@gn.apc.org**

PROJECTS produce publicity and research materials in their own working languages and in English. Project working languages are:

Colombia and Guatemala	-----	Spanish
Sri Lanka	}	
Balkan Peace Team	}-----	English
North America	}	
Half-----		French

MOST COUNTRY GROUPS produce and distribute their own bulletins or newsletters. Containing up-to-date information of local and international events. Some Country Groups also produce specific project reports in their national language. Contact your Country Group for more details. (See page 10 for Country Group details)

:PROJECT BULLETIN: :BOLETIN: :LATINOAMERICANO :

PBI projects collaborate to produce the "PROJECT BULLETIN" and "BOLETIN LATINOAMERICA" produced in English and Spanish respectively. The Bulletins contain news, features, interviews and reports from the project teams and also publicise PBI training events. Both Bulletins are produced 10 times a year. Subscriptions cost US\$ 25 plus postage US\$ 5 (North America) US\$ 10 (Overseas).
If you would like to subscribe please write to the appropriate address:

**PBI PROJECT BULLETIN
340 Midland Avenue,
Syracuse, NY 13202 3407
USA
Tel: 1-315-478-4571**

**BOLETIN LATINOAMERICANO
192 Spadina Avenue, Suite 304
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Tel: 1-416-594-0429
Email: pbi@web.apc.org**

PBI COUNTRY GROUPS : GRASSROOTS SUPPORT IN TWELVE COUNTRIES

WHAT IS A COUNTRY GROUP?

There are 12 Country or Core Groups affiliated to PBI. Currently the groups are concentrated in Europe, the USA and Canada with some representation in The Pacific. These national affiliates are the backbone of the organisation and work tirelessly to achieve results in the fields of fundraising, public relations and recruitment. All funds available for project expenditure come from Country Group fundraising initiatives. PBI has a decentralised structure so every Country Group is autonomous and therefore responsible for its own internal structure and administration. Some Groups are large enough to have permanent offices and paid staff, others are smaller and are run entirely by volunteers.

FUNDRAISING

Every Country Group is actively involved in fundraising for project work. Country Groups fundraise through grant applications, donations, speaking tours, trainings, sponsorship and public events.

VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT

Country Groups are responsible for organising the recruitment of project volunteers. They deal with applications and support volunteers through the recruitment, training and preparation period as well as organising speaking tours and offering volunteer support on return from service. (See Page 11 for more details on PBI Trainings).

THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE NETWORK (ERN)

Country Groups are responsible for maintaining and co-ordinating the Emergency Response Network. (See Page 10 for details)

OUTREACH

Country Groups are also involved in outreach work. This includes working with the media, networking with high level contacts (politicians, diplomats, NGOs etc.) and working with the general public to disseminate information and raise support for the work of the projects. Many Country Groups produce and distribute their own newsletters as well as distributing information from the projects and the International Office.

PBI SWITZERLAND : CP178, 1000 Lausanne 3 Cour : Tel 41-21-61-70-60: Email pbeck@worldcom.ch

PBI Switzerland increased both membership and levels of fundraising this year as well as making improvements in our organisational development. We developed new contacts with development agencies and trade unions - some of these contacts brought concrete support for PBI projects in the form of grants, information exchange and ERN participation. Action in outreach work was two-fold with the organising of information days and the development of training sessions in aspects of non-violence and conflict resolution. We recruited volunteers to the Guatemala and Sri Lanka project and took a particularly active role in fundraising, recruitment and volunteer training for the newly launched Haiti project - one member of the first Haiti team is Swiss.

PBI CANADA : 192 Spadina Avenue, Suite 304, Toronto ONT M6G 2W3 : Tel 1-416-504-4429 : Email pbi@web.apc.org

PBI Canada increased its base of support to over 1,900 individuals and organisations with over 360 in the ERN. We raised money for each of PBI's projects and had Canadian volunteers serving with the Central America, Sri Lanka and North America Teams. Canadian volunteers helped organise and lead delegations to Guatemala and Colombia with seven Canadians joining the delegations. Returned volunteers and delegates spoke at schools, churches and community events. We held two North America Project speaking tours and several PBI orientation workshops.

PBI AOTEAROA/NEW ZEALAND: PO Box 4190, Wanganui, Aotearoa/New Zealand : Email pbi@wanganui.planet.org.nz

We began the year with a New Zealander on the Sri Lanka Team and continued to work closely with the Sri Lanka Project throughout the year. From mid-year onwards we were also active in exploring the possibilities of a short-term project in the Philippines. This project attracted new supporters. We also produced regular newsletters and undertook a variety of fundraising efforts. The ERN continued to be active, sending support mainly from rural communities.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING PBI PLEASE CONTACT YOUR NEAREST COUNTRY GROUP

PBI NETHERLANDS: Hardestraat 6, 8012 ET Zwolle: Tel 31-38-42-16-587 Email: pbi-nl@vd.antenna.nl

PBI Netherlands is growing steadily with a National Gathering and two orientation weekends bringing our active membership up to about 20 with 41 ERN participants. In 1995 we recruited one volunteer to the Colombia project and have four more preparing to join project teams in 1996.

We worked on fundraising and publicity and achieved coverage in two major newspapers and a women's magazine. PBI Netherlands

PBI Emergency Response Network (ERN)

The ERN is an International network of volunteers who are called upon in times of crisis. When the people who we accompany are threatened or abducted because of their work, when the overall situation of a particular country dramatically worsens or when PBI itself is threatened, ERN are asked to respond to the pressing situation with letters, faxes and telexes. This International response has proved effective in safeguarding the lives of those threatened.

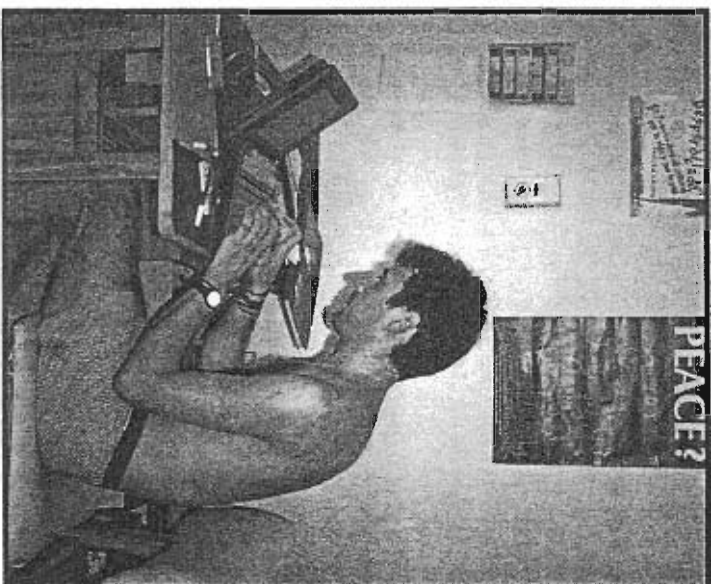
The ERN has members in sixteen countries. In 1995 it was called into action on 6 occasions.

If you would like to join the ERN please contact your nearest Country Group who will give you further information about what is involved and how to join the Network.

produced three issues of our newsletter which were distributed to over 1,000 individuals and organisations. We also co-operated with the Dutch section of Amnesty International in the production of a special magazine about Colombia.

PBI FRANCE: 15 Rue du Palais, 2900 Quimper: Tel 33-98-55-63-76

PBI France was very active for the Haiti project in 1995, assisting with preparations for the opening of the new project and hosting the first training for Haiti volunteers. One member of the first Haiti Team is French. During 1995 we also had one volunteer in Guatemala and one more went to join the Colombia team. PBI France does a lot of networking with NGOs - we find this work heartening and helpful.



PBI STATE OF SPAIN: PO Box 2042 01080 Vitoria-Gasteiz: Tel 34-45-17-18-04 : Email pbispain@gn.apc.org

PBI State of Spain is made up of five local groups based in different cities with a total membership of approximately 50 active members. During 1995 we worked mainly in support of the Guatemala and Colombia projects. We created a support network of over 75 organisations and individuals which provides substantial financial assistance to the Colombia project. We coordinated a tour by the Colombian lawyer Juan Pablo Ordóñez, founder of Project Dignity and held the Annual Meeting to publicise PBI. A second gathering was organised around the theme of International Humanitarian Law. PBI State of Spain edits and distributes its own quarterly information. Bulletin and distributes publications from the Colombia and Guatemala Teams. We have about 500 ERN Members.

PBI SWEDEN : Kungsgatan 30, S-753 21 Uppsala: Tel 46-18-100-893

Email pbiswe@gn.apc.org

PBI Sweden had three active local groups this year. For the first time we had a group operating in the Stockholm area. While the Stockholm group was mainly occupied with outreach, networking and organising a seminar on human rights in conjunction with a Swedish university, other groups worked on information and fundraising. Fundraising work concentrated on the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) who accepted two major grant proposals for Guatemala and Sri Lanka. Outreach work focused on two seminars on Guatemala. During 1995 PBI Sweden sent two volunteers to the Sri Lanka Team, and one - our first - to Colombia.

**PBI BRITAIN: 83 Margaret Street
London W1N 7HB: Tel 44-171-636-55-
64: Email pbluk@pbicol.gn.apc.org**

PBI Britain raised its profile through proactive networking and publicity. Representatives attended NGO, Trade Union and peace conferences and seminars and maintained parliamentary links. We gained local and national newspaper coverage. A speaking tour was organised for a visiting Colombian human rights activist. Throughout the year some 15-20 volunteers worked in the London Office and in Local Groups. ERN membership remained at about 100-150. We held two National Orientations, both were well attended and proved excellent for outreach work. One volunteer went on to attend a European training and from there to the Colombia Project.

**PBI GERMANY : Chemnitzstr 80,
22767 Hamburg : Tel 49-40-38-06-903
Email pbliger@shalom.life.de**

For PBI Germany the highlight of the year was being awarded the Freiderich Sigmund Schultz Peace Prize. The recognition generated much interest and PBI received press coverage in eight different journals and newspapers. 1995 also brought exciting transitions for us. The office moved to the city of Hamburg, we took on new staff and a finance committee was created to improve and facilitate finance procedures. A rise in membership and fundraising was accompanied by an increase in ERN participation, bringing us to almost 500 ERN members. In information PBI Germany produced 13 internal reports, a documentation of press articles, an exhibition display and our quarterly newsletter which has about 2,000 subscribers in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. Trainings for the North America, Sri Lanka and Colombia Projects were hosted in Germany and we held two information seminars.

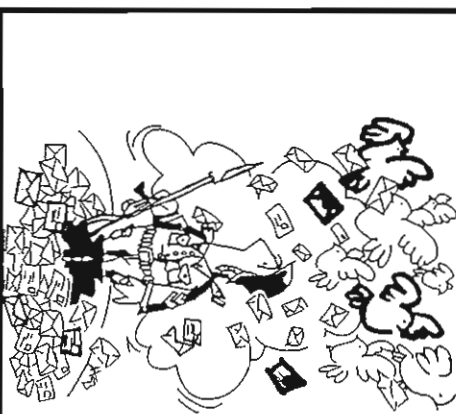
**PBI ITALY : Via Roma 109, 36050
Bolzano Vicentino: Fax 39-424-47-
09-13: Email g.cozz@agora.stm.it**

PBI Italy sent six trainees to European trainings for Sri Lanka, Guatemala and the Balkan Peace team - we now have one volunteer in Guatemala and three preparing to take up team positions next year. PBI Italy organised one successful speaking tour with a returned volunteer. We improved relations with our major donors during 1995 and we are currently looking for a part-time person to help systematise our fundraising initiatives and facilitate our participation in the international structure of PBI.

**PBI BELGIUM: 23 Rue Ltf Wampach
B 1200 Bruxelles: Tel 32-2-771-
75-59: Email mvasic@ulb.ac.be**

PBI Belgium maintained a steady membership of about 50 people throughout 1995. We held two National non-violence Orientations and recruited two volunteers to serve with the Colombia Project.

**YOUR LETTER
CAN SAVE
LIVES....**



Volunteering for a Team

PBI volunteers come from many different backgrounds, cultures and perspectives. What they share is a commitment to nonviolence and a belief in the power of people to create a more just and peaceful world. Potential team members should be at least 25 years old and preferably able to make a minimum commitment of 6-12 months. Language skills and experience in nonviolent theory and practice, consensus decision making, organising and group living are desirable. All volunteers must attend an intensive ten day training course before being accepted on to a team.

Trainings take place in Europe and North America several times a year. The trainings cover issues in nonviolence, consensus decision making techniques, team work, dealing with stress and fear, conflict resolution and conflict analysis.

Some Country Groups organise short weekend orientation sessions which function as a prelude to project trainings and as an introduction to PBI's work. These courses are also open to people who are interested in finding out more about PBI in general.

Please contact your nearest Country Group if you are interested in volunteering for a team.

PBI USA : 2642 College Avenue, Berkeley CA 94704: Tel 1-510-540-0749: Email pblusa@igc.apc.org

PBI USA reached out to the nation in 1995 over one hundred speaking engagements, radio appearances and newspaper interviews coast-to-coast. A World Wide Web home page was created, with information in several different languages. Now 400 of our 2,000 ERN Members are "on-line" and ready to activate faster in support of PBI teams. The quarterly 'PBI/USA report' reached 5,500 PBI supporters and congressional representatives. Our National Gathering brought together 100 of our active members and our non-violence trainings produced 13 field volunteers who participated in project teams and explorations in Guatemala, Colombia, Haiti, Sri Lanka and the North America Project. 10 returned volunteers went on speaking tours to raise money for PBI and a small working group was formed to fundraise for the Haiti project. Our diversified funding base counts on thousands of individual donors whose contributions make up half of PBI USA's total income. Another third of our income comes from organisational and foundation grants with the rest being made up from volunteer led delegations and trading.

ASSOCIATE GROUPS

PBI has five Associate Groups. These Groups act as a contact and information point in countries where there is no official PBI Country Group:

PBI SOUTH EAST ASIA: Yeshua Moser, 3000 Soi 130, Latpro Road, Bangkok, Bangkok 10240, Siam : Tel 66-2-374-1671: Email revolution@igc.apc.org.
A new Associate group started at the end of

PEACE BRIGADES AND THE WORLD WIDE WEB

<http://www.igc.apc.org/pbi/index.html>

PBI has a World Wide Web page at the above site. The Web page has been developed by PBI members in the USA and contains pages from the annual report, details of organisations with whom PBI works, Bi-weekly project reports, Special team reports and other articles about PBI's work. The Page has material in English, Spanish, Dutch and Swedish and also contains details of other PBI publications and a membership application form.
So if you want to know more look us up on:-
<http://www.igc.apc.org/pbi/index.html>

So who visits the Web Page ?

Recent research into the Impact of the WWW page as an outreach tool came up with the following remarkable information:-

No of visitors/week 1020

Total page visits/week 2120

Average no of pages seen by each visitor 2

No of countries from which visits made 57

Most of the WWW visitors come from the USA (2 out of 3) but we have also had visitors from as far afield as Anguilla, Jamaica, Bahrain, China, Estonia, the United Arab Emirates and Iceland.

PBI AUSTRIA: Marcus Rieglhofer, Schutzenstrasse 46g 12-75, 6020 Innsbruck: Tel: 43-512-266-533

PBI NORWAY: Torben Jonsson Larjedal, PO BOX 290, 1322 Hovik Tel 47-67-58-1515

PBI AUSTRALIA: Michael Salla, Dept of Political Science, The Faculties, Australian National University ACT 0200 : Tel 61-6-249-46-97
Email: michael.salla@anu.edu.au

1995 as a result of work by non-violent activists living in Thailand and Cambodia.

PBI IRELAND: Iain Atack, 1 Warwick Terrace, Dublin 4 Tel 353-1-66-87-50

A volunteer spent six months of 1995 working for PBI in Sri Lanka. A former Guatemala Team volunteer toured in Northern and Southern Ireland during Central America Week. In September a presentation on PBI was made to a UNESCO conference in Dublin.

PEACE BRIGADES INTERNATIONAL FINANCE REPORT 1995

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY FOR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31ST 1995

INCOME		
Through PBI Country Groups	1995	1994
Aoterea/New Zealand	0	2,508
Belgium	24,187	11,172
Britain	21,293	22,736
Canada	29,717	65,255
France	22,796	9,041
Germany	157,119	108,401
Italy	2,565	9,353
Netherlands	52,095	16,935
Spain	38,599	7,988
Sweden	85,995	57,705
Switzerland	101,915	74,511
United States	58,877	38,347
TOTAL	595,168	423,964

plus		
Direct International Income	53,476	50,301
TOTAL INCOME	648,644	474,264

BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31st		
	1995	1994
ASSETS		
Bank and Cash	258,110	195,666
Accounts Receivable	104,915	19,720
Fixed Assets	8,180	6,149
TOTAL ASSETS	371,205	221,535

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE		
	1995	1994
Accounts Payable	29,704	13,297
Deferred Income	7,682	13,313
Total Liabilities	37,386	26,610
Fund Balance	333,819	194,925
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE	371,205	221,535

EXPENDITURE		
PROJECTS	1995	1994
Central America	124,726	111,364
Sri Lanka	92,471	96,130
North America	26,235	27,463
Colombia	175,816	52,586
Haiti	20,157	n/a
Explorations	0	2,162
TOTAL	439,405	289,705

SUPPORTING SERVICES		
International Secretariat	59,345	54,950
European Co-ordination	1,505	12,884
TOTAL	60,850	67,834
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	500,255	357,539

Excess Income Expenditure	148,389	116,726
Currency Adjustment	-9,495	112
FUND BALANCE JANUARY 1ST	194,925	78,089
FUND BALANCE DECEMBER 31ST	333,819	194,925

All Figures are in US Dollars.
Full Global Accounts are available for inspection at the PBI International Office:

PBI International Office
5, Caledonian Road,
London N5 9DX
Tel: 0171 713 0392

