

Jericho

THE HABITAT NEWSPAPER NO. 4

3 JUNE 1976

Stop the Forum freeze-out

RUMBLINGS of discontent over a lack of communication between the Habitat Forum and the Conference were sounded yesterday, along with complaints about a shortage of working documents.

Dr Robert Macleod, one of a group of 10 academics appointed by the Canadian Government to "observe" Habitat, and whether it was living up to expectations, told *Jericho*: "This conference is a series of snow jobs. There appears to be a serious attempt to ensure that no real communication takes place between the Forum and downtown."

"The Forum is the only part of this conference which has any fresh input, but access to the proceedings are extremely difficult. We are unable to communicate with our own delegation. They do not return our phone calls."

Dr Macleod, head of the School of Architecture at the University of British Columbia, also claimed that there is almost no TV or sound coverage of the Forum events. On one floor of the Media Centre the soundtrack of the Forum proceedings is normally turned off in favour of another event, while on another floor the four TV screens are devoted almost exclusively to the three Committees and the Plenary Session.

Energy

But it is the lack of attention to what is happening at the Forum that really upsets Dr Macleod: "Downtown is a pain in the ass," he said. "The Forum is the only source of real energy. All those housewives, those serious people, they have remarkably well prepared documents and presentations. But they get nowhere. Nobody is listening. The Conference delegates are all too busy talking about the same things they talked about last time."

Support for some of Dr Macleod's complaints came from Graham Searle, head of the NGO lobby at the Georgia Hotel. Things were much more difficult for the people attending the Habitat Forum than had been the case in either Stockholm or Rome, he said.

Documents

"It is partly geographical. The official delegates are rather reluctant, or too busy, to go out to Jericho Beach. The situation is rather like that in the participation section of the national action document. This stresses the process of participation so that one can say that participation is taking place, without it actually achieving anything."

Another difficulty, he said, was a lack of documentation. "The Conference does not make documents available in sufficient quantities, or early enough, and if you don't have them, exhortation to participate is so much claptrap."

"A lot of people have come a long way, but they can't slot in because they have not got the documents."

Searle added that it had been agreed by the UN before the Conference that documents would be available at the Forum, and it was essential that they were if the



David Phillip, a journalist from Queen Charlotte Island, and Celia Duffy, a waitress in the Forum Social centre, waltzed to the strains of Strauss when the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra gave a lunchtime concert in Hangar 7. Meanwhile, over in Hangar 6, disciples of Hare Krishna played to a smaller lunchtime audience.

Forum was going to make this a constructive conference, rather than destroy it.

Another member of the observer team, Professor Geoffrey Hainsworth, also from UBC, said: "We want to be a bridge between the ideas of the Forum and officialdom, but we can't find a place to anchor the far end of the bridge."

A more restrained note was sounded by Zena Deysh, Secretary-General of the Commonwealth Human Ecology Council, who said that despite the "grim conditions" at Jericho Beach, Conference delegates were making an appearance. "They're not coming to preach and their all open to discussion," she said.

"I think there's been a shake up. There is much more openness. It's too early to discuss the impact of the Forum on the Conference. It hasn't crystallised yet."

No one was available for comment last night in the UN press office.

INSIDE

Centre Pages: A-power: let the people judge; editorial; Backchat; James Barber.
Page 2: News from the Conference committees.
Page 3: Forum round-up; Bruce Stokes on the great nuclear debate.
Page 6: The World on Our Conscience.
Page 7: Today's programme details.
Back Page: Gremlin; In camera.

SO WHERE ARE YOU?

Jericho is YOUR newspaper. You are here to make your views known on the issues you think the world should take to its heart.

What better way of getting those views across than publishing them in *Jericho*, the voice of Habitat, YOUR voice.

On Day One we said: "We are trying to make our columns freely accessible to as many individuals and groups as possible." So where are you?

Our reporters cannot hope to cover everything in a conference as wide-ranging as Habitat. They're doing their best. The rest is up to you.

Put your thoughts in writing and get them to *Jericho*. Copy is collected throughout the day from Hangar 6 at the Forum and from a special *Jericho* box at the Devonshire Hotel downtown. The earlier the better.

The UK line

PETER SHORE leader of the UK delegation said last night that the UK's line on institutions was primarily a wish to avoid unnecessary duplication. "Unless there were strong arguments to the contrary our view was that the ECOSOC was capable of handling this."

Star talk

CHINA expert Dr. Paul Lin packed Hangar 3 at the Forum last night speaking on China's experience and development over the last 27 years.

POLITICS AT THE PLENARY

PARTISAN politics broke surface at the Conference Plenary yesterday with the Saudi delegate bringing up the Palestine issue in the morning and the Algerian and Mauritanian delegates clashing in the afternoon over the fate of Western Sahara.

Prince Majid ibn Abdul Aziz, the Saudi Minister for Housing and Development, without mentioning either the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) or Israel by name, waded in with a demand that delegates should oppose "expropriations of land by invading authorities". Racial discrimination and violence had forced the Palestinians from their rightful homeland, they had been usurped and had lost their right to play their proper role internationally.

Algeria's Secretary of State for Planning, Kemal Abdallah-Khodja, introduced politics in his closing remarks during mild references about material and cultural problems of the least able. "In this sense, our conference would fail in its objective if it did not take account of the tragic situation of million of human victims of imperialistic aggression, of racial discrimination, notably in Africa, or reduced as in Palestine and the Western Sahara, to the state of refugees condemned to living in intolerable conditions," he said.

Immediately the Mauritanian delegate demanded his right to reply. The Minister of Construction of the Islamic Republic, Ahmed sidi Baba, accused Algeria of employing mercenaries to provoke disorder in Western Sahara with a view to eventually annexing the territory.

"The fact is that the Algerian Government, failing to heed the need for understanding, friendliness and peace, and ignoring the efforts of the people of the territory to achieve unity, is employing a handful of mercenaries, also Moroccan and Mauritanian citizens for various reasons, to oppose this."

He challenged the Algerian claim that the people were living like refugees — Mauritania, despite its meagre resources, was trying to establish schools, health centres and security of housing land in the area. Algeria had attempted to confuse the issue with the "sacred cause of the Palestine people" to disguise its annexationist ambitions, he charged.

Even in the Committees politics was not very far away. In Committee 1 Egypt made a strong plea for the declaration to condemn "illegal construction of settlements in military occupied areas".

INDIA SPEAKS FOR THE VILLAGE

THE shape of human habitats to come has little to do with massive cities. India's Minister of Works and Housing, K. Raghuramaiah, in arguably the most comprehensive speech to the Habitat plenary so far, yesterday outlined his country's approach to human settlements.

Development must be achieved without alienating people from their heritage and without despoiling nature of its beauty, freshness and purity so essential to our lives. The majority of the human population today lives in rural areas. They will do so well into the future. It is here that the quality of life can be assured without alienating natural or human heritage. It is the

poor and the weak who cannot fend for themselves who must be the main focus of rural development strategies.

The strategy must embrace shelter, energy, water, sanitation, health, education, transport, recreation and arts. Costly urban orientated technology and materials must give way to village level techniques and resources. India for example, was popularising bio-gas plants — simple, easy, using human and animal "wastes" to meet village energy requirements as well as provide good

fertilizer for agriculture. The future must see the mutual dependence of village and urban life. Small and medium cities must fit into this framework.

The most important of many factors in the total strategy is that of population growth. India feels the time has come to consolidate gains created by atmosphere conducive to family planning. It has now adopted a National Population Policy made up of a package of measures designed to reduce population growth in the next decade. "We do hope (to be) able to reduce the annual population growth rate to 1.4 per cent by 1984," Raghuramaiah said.

CONFERENCE PROFILE



Interurban Man

THE human dweller of settlements in the not-so-distant future was named "interurban man" by Rafael M. Salas, head of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, yesterday. Homo interurbanensis "will no longer depend

directly on the land for his living, nor yet on the great metropolis." He, and she, will live and work away from the centre of the great conurbations, but will move more and more rapidly and frequently between them.

Salas urges that we recognise now the

need for a clear phase-shift in our perception of the world of the new epoch if we wish to prepare ourselves as we must to meet it rationally and competently.

"Our literature, art and music, whole systems of culture and values derive from a basic connection with the land which provides our food and shelter. The culture and values of interurban man will have to cope with still essential but indirect connection with the earth which gives him being, and with groups of people sometimes in large numbers with whom his connection is similarly indirect."

Salas decried the tendency, even among urban people, to regard the city dweller as an aberration. "The facts must be faced," he said. "People will not return to the land in any significant numbers unless taken by force" because cities are the vital sources of energy, ideas, technologies and artefacts. "They are the powerhouses of our civilisation."

He asks for a change of perception about rural areas. It is as futile to regard rural people as being the exclusive repositories of human values as the romantics do as it is to regard them as illiterate and backward people, he said. A balance was needed. But the two essential meanings of Habitat were that "in future urban life would be the norm and that the life force of a country or region was less likely to be a single great city as a series of urban centres".

In the international community he foresees a shift from "giantism" to projects on a human scale so that, as in the case of the Population Fund, responsiveness to the individual's needs are always kept in focus and not allowed to be swamped under the weight of massive and impersonal programmes.

COMMITTEE 3

THE conflict inherent in urban squatter slums, by whatever name the Habitat secretariat and delegates chose to call them, was extensively discussed in Committee III through most of yesterday. They were pioneers, but they were not good for themselves or anybody else. They represented the failure of society to balance itself and growth. They should be helped, yet to help may mean to legalise. Should the urban drift be prevented or absorbed?

Some said this and some said that. The Israelis showed a capsule and the Palestine Liberation Organisation pointed out that it

was set in lands from which the Palestinians had been exiled to live in tents and refugee shanties. Iran spoke of the need to aim for beauty and Ghana said anything that attacks poverty is beautiful in its own way.

They then set up a 13-nation (one of them the EEC) Committee of Friends to hold parallel meetings in another room and instructed it to piece together the remarks made on the secretariat's 17 recommendations on "Shelter, Infrastructure and Services" and make the relevant changes. The Committee then moved to the next section of its brief: Land. The rest of the session was spent on national statements on this section as a whole. Today they will take them recommendation by recommendation.

Asked why he wanted the Chair of Building at University College, London, Duccio Turin surprised his interviewers by replying: "Power". As an Argentina-born architect who had migrated to Europe, he explained, he could not aspire to political power and he was not a tycoon. But he could and did aspire to the power to shape men's minds.

The story is typical of Turin's ability to startle by an unusual comment or a well turned phrase. He came to his present post as Assistant Secretary-General of Habitat after a much-travelled career which included Arab refugee work in the Middle East, a five-year spell with the Economic Commission for Europe, and a UN stint in Africa which led to the first report on housing in that continent. Recent missions for the World Bank took him to Sri Lanka and Kenya.

Turin found his first year with Habitat particularly fascinating. In the second year "the game changed" and the preparations became more political. When it is all over he plans to go back to his university job. He does not, one feels, have the deep respect for committees and resolutions which marks the career official.

"A conference is a talking shop, a big propaganda exercise," he says firmly, surprised that anyone should think it was anything more. He sees a danger, too, in "instant globality" which assumes that since everything is included one is committed to something. "One can only hope that, in choosing to put dotted lines around certain areas, those particular dotted lines are more significant than others."

New rules for the numbers game

Rafael Salas said little at the Conference Plenary about global population trends. Here Gamini Seneviratne fills in the picture. THE population bomb is still ticking, but there is now less reason to expect it to explode. A balance between needs and resources in a world which is already out of balance, numerically, must be urgently sought; but there is evidence that the frightening growth curve has entered the long trajectory towards stable numbers. This, reading between the lines, is what Salas was saying.

What Salas did not say was that there has been a major rethink on population estimates since the UN population talks in Bucharest less than two years ago. The accepted forecast of world population by the year 2000 was, at the time of Bucharest and for months after, as high as 7,200m. Today, UN estimates put it at 6,250m — and USAID figures have it even further down at 5,500m.

Salas has never had much time for the numbers game on its own. If pressed on these new figures he will admit, at most, that the rising graph has started to ease up a bit. He will probably be more in agreement with those who point out that the next 10 years are vital because this decade will decide whether world population in, say, 50 years' time will be 10 or 15,000m.

What Salas has always concerned himself with is balance. The most revealing

sentence in his speech to the Habitat Plenary was probably: "Population programmes of whatever kind have been proved most effective when coupled with the concern and involvement of the community."

In his new, yet-to-be-published book, *People, An International Choice*, he writes: "Man's biological urge to reproduce, which in the past was encouraged, must now be rationally restrained. The ideal must now be to achieve the right number within the limits of existent resources to allow each human being to develop to full maturity. The message is not the diminution of numbers but the attainment of balance."

It is in the search for balance that human numbers inevitably encroaches upon every subject, from environment, to food and human settlements. The programme of the UNFPA has, Salas says, evolved from solutions. As such it is not so much a single-minded drive towards a preconceived goal, but a series of responses to local situations and needs.

The distribution of UNFPA fund is revealing. Fifty per cent goes on family planning coupled with health, 30 per cent on data collecting, including the organisation of censuses in places where none have ever before been taken, and the rest on communication, education and helping self-motivated national and regional population policies.

The whole Salas programme is being rethought on the basis that it is no longer possible to stretch UNFPA resources on the old terms of imported technology and expensive foreign experts. In future it will concentrate on local technocrats, paid in local currency, with regions becoming as near self-supporting as possible. Partnership and self-reliance, with a little help from rich friends, is how Salas does not put it; but he will certainly agree.

NGO's 'start to vibrate'

"IT'S always chaos at these things in the first few days," David Poindexter, publications head of the Population Institute and an old hand at UN conferences and NGO meetings, said yesterday.

"Forum hasn't been going a week and yet I'd say people were settling in very well. The NGOs are beginning to vibrate." What he thinks has been missing at Forum so far "is the perspective of the villagers that everyone is talking about."

"The environment people are telling the villagers 'don't burn charcoal', while the health people are saying, 'boil your water', in other words, do use charcoal. The population people are saying, 'don't have any more children' but the agriculture people are saying 'grow more food' — in other words have more children so that you can have more farm hands. I'm sure if there was any villager here from the uplands of Kenya they'd be saying: 'Go away all of you. It's too confusing.'"

Poindexter said that while the NGOs were beginning to work together, they must now start looking at Habitat from a workable point of view of the villagers. "Until we do that, we are all having a lovely time, but not being too realistic."

AUSSIES CHOOSE THE SPADE

THE Australian delegation managed momentarily to dispel the torpor in Committee 3 at the Vancouver Hotel yesterday with a hardhitting attack on some of the meaningless phrases at present incorporated in the document of the Committee's deliberation.

Delegate Norman Fisher opened with a broadside: "Some recommendations, as Finland has noted, are so vague as to be useless. All metropolitan areas have problems. These problems may differ in kind and extent, but they have one common characteristic — interrelationships between planning and development, between planning and environment, between planning and citizen participation."

"What we are showing is clear per-

ference for rehabilitation rather than renewal — the spade rather than the bulldozer."

His major attack was against item B 14 (b), which reads: "Planning at neighbourhood levels should give special attention to the provision of the facilities required for the daily life of the inhabitants."

He said: "We challenge any delegates to go home with a clean conscience if this recommendation stands." He told a *Jericho* reporter afterwards: "What government would be motivated to do anything faced with that sort of recommendation?"

The Australians showed, for perhaps the first time, the way to use audio-visual material properly — neatly calling up a film to

sloe into their arguments. Entitled *Living with the City* it was not a soft PR effort aimed at showing how wonderful Australia was at solving its problems. It showed ordinary Australians actually disagreeing with the way their administration has been doing things. It showed real confrontation between ordinary citizens and the arm of the law. It showed ordinary human anger.

But it was not all negative. It also showed how the pressure from the people had brought about change in government opinion. The people, the film demonstrated, want to be consulted, to have a voice. Planners wanted to reconstruct the inner heart of the city shown. The people wanted to retain their old, familiar housing in certain areas. The people won. The government conceded.

Forum row over big business

PANELISTS discussing the sharing and managing of world resources yesterday came under fire from NGOs for not paying enough attention to the effects of multinational corporations. A continued domination of the floor by panel speakers and rigid control by the moderator were also criticised by the audience which huddled through a morning hailstorm.

Marc Nerfin, of Switzerland, said there was no such thing as a fair price for resources because all prices were the result of social and economic forces. "We are all undeveloped nations," he said. "The only difference is in the kind of underdeveloped social system."

Vladimir Killontai of UNCTAD, told a questioner that the strongest force against multinational corporations was strong national governments.

From the platform, later, Eric Carlson, head of the housing section of the United Nations Environment Programme, said future funding for human settlements must come from the private financial sector as

well as from UN and government agencies. "The resources of all UN agencies are stretched very thin. UN funding for new international activities is likely to be very modest," he said.

Carlson said that many private financial institutions were more stable than governments. Because of this, he said, they should be actively involved in the financing of human settlements under the guidance and support of governments.

Carlson said that only \$300m was being invested in human settlements at the present time by international and bilateral agencies. This sum was in marked contrast to calls for 10 per cent of the world's armament spending — or \$30,000 million — to

be diverted into spending on human settlements.

Carlson noted that the UN Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation started life with a budget of only \$4m. "We are hoping at this Conference for additional pledges to expand the work," he said.

The Foundation is designed to provide seed capital and to extend technical and financial assistance for mobilising domestic resources for improving human settlements. Carlson said any new human settlements agency coming out of Habitat would logically have a connection with the Foundation, even if it meant moving the Foundation to a new city.

HEINZ UMRATH, a consultant in the Netherlands to the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions and the International Federation of Building and Woodworkers, said the international trade union movement would go along with a restriction on standards of living if the money went into developing countries and not the profits of multinational corporations.

Umrath said the western world "must come to some sort of moratorium on our standards of living." The international trade union movement would understand the necessity to do this, provided the resources went to the developing countries that really needed them, and not into the coffers of multinational corporations.

DR. CALLISTUS NDLOVU, a member of the African National Council of Zimbabwe, has come to Habitat to talk politics, not housing. The only trouble is, he says, that it's very difficult to make contacts and meet delegates.

"It's impossible to find anyone in the hangars at the Forum," he says "and at the official Conference there are no delegate lounges as they have at the United Nations in New York." Ndlovu says he has been forced to make his contacts on the streets of downtown Vancouver.

INTERNATIONAL communication can be established through local trade centres on a world-wide trade system basis, Frank Horwitz, Vancouver president of the World Trade Centre told a Forum audience last night.

Horwitz said all nations, to various degrees, are dependent on each other for economic security. He quoted a UN document known as Dossier Seven which says developing countries earn 10 times more convertible currencies by trading with developed industrialised countries than they receive from those countries in aid.

Brown on cities

INSUFFICIENT supplies of food, energy and jobs will slow the growth of cities long before they create huge urban agglomerations, Lester Brown, president of Worldwatch Institute, told the Forum lunch lecture audience yesterday.

Brown said cities depend on rural areas and foreign sources for the surpluses needed to sustain them. As rapid urbanisation proceeds, nations must import grain and petroleum, widening the balance of payments deficit and risking economic instability. "If recent trends continue, collective import needs will eventually exceed the exportable supplies, creating a global scramble for food. The hostages of this contest will be the cities of the world that are sustained with imported food."



A packed session at the Forum when Maurice Strong gave his lunchtime lecture yesterday

How fast breeding kills

"FAST breeding kills," Chief Manuwa told the Forum workshop on population and human settlements yesterday. Noting that Nigeria's population has increased from 56m to 72m since independence, she said the population increase could not continue. "Food shortages are growing and people in rural areas live in squalor."

She said the first priority in developed countries was education. Nigerian woman loved their babies, but ignorance led to poor or unhygienic feeding practices and ultimately to malnutrition.

Dr. Fred Sai, Assistant Secretary-General of the International Planned Parenthood Federation, agreed with Chief Manuwa adding "Fast breeding kills — mainly women and children."

COMMITTEE 1

IN COMMITTEE 1 discussing the Declaration, Italy recommended the "maximum re-use and rehabilitation of existing urban structures" as alternatives to new development, to "avoid waste of economic resources and reduce dispossession of natural and rural areas."

NGOs will be gratified to note that the Netherlands insisted that cooperation with NGOs be written into the Declaration. The Declaration has now gone to the working group.

Citizen power v. A - power

By BRUCE STOKES

FORUM based anti-nuclear groups yesterday heated up their campaign to insert language in the Conference documents which would call a halt to nuclear power. Their efforts seemed to be having some success.

Maurice Strong, head of Petro-Canada, in a personal statement at the Forum Plenary Session, made one of his strongest anti-nuclear statements to date. "As a private citizen, I strongly suggest a slowing of our national commitment to nuclear power."

Earlier in the day Strong had been attacked by Dalton McCarthy, of Greenpeace, for standing behind Barbara Ward's Symposium statement. McCarthy

characterised as weak and insufficient the Symposium's call for slowing of the international commitment to nuclear power. "We want personal statements from these people. We don't want them hiding behind group statements," he said.

Friends of the Earth is attempting to organise Third World delegates to endorse the resolution concerning nuclear power introduced yesterday in Committee 3 by Papua New Guinea. John Hamburger said Friends of the Earth is organising a series of dinners with Third World delegations to attempt to gain governmental endorsement for Papua New Guinea's limited anti-nuclear amendments.

While expressing little hope that the conference would pass a resolution urging a moratorium on all commercial nuclear power, Hamburger indicated that their

efforts are an attempt to commence a dialogue among those nations which have not yet committed themselves to atomic energy.

The anti-nuclear sentiment at the Forum is part of an international movement which is rapidly coalescing into one of the most important and under-reported political movements of the past few years. On 8 June, American citizens in California will vote on Proposition 13, the California Nuclear Safeguard Initiative, which if passed would virtually assure the closing of all atomic generating facilities in the state.

More than a million signatures have been collected in the United States in an effort to place anti-nuclear propositions on the ballot this fall in Ohio, Colorado, Michigan, Oregon and other states.

Citizen action aimed at stopping nuclear power in its tracks is widespread. In early 1975, 20,000 people used a sit-in to block construction of a proposed reactor in Baden-Württemberg, West Germany. A court case on this issue has tied the government in knots and the plant may never be built.

Growing dependence on nuclear power for electricity is making countries more and more vulnerable to citizens' anti-nuclear attacks. A quarter of French electricity is expected to come from atomic reactors by 1985. This ambitious programme, launched after the Arab oil embargo, is running into stiff opposition.

Slow down—Strong

THE COMMITMENT to nuclear energy should be slowed down until the full technological consequences are understood, Maurice Strong, chairman of Petro-Canada told the Forum yesterday.

Strong, a former secretary-general of the UN Conference of the Human Environment, said he was concerned about the risks involved, capital consumed, degree of centralisation and the huge

commitment of resources involved in nuclear technology. He called for programmes to conserve energy and systematic planning backed by adequate technology.

At a news conference later, Strong said he thought "it is hypocritical to be developing it (nuclear energy) in the western world where we are wasting energy." He said the energy-deficient poorer countries should benefit.

DALTON McCARTHY: HOPES OF A SAFE WORLD

"WE ARE asking the Third World to listen to what we have to say at Habitat Forum, and gather as much information as possible before investing in nuclear technology."

Concern for developing countries is one reason Dalton McCarthy has spent six months organising the three-day debate on nuclear energy which begins tonight with a speech by Margaret Mead.

McCarthy, who has become well known figure at the Forum, farms in northern Ontario, where he and a group of friends bought land and live outside the welfare state concept, to develop the land with appropriate technology, cut down on consumption, and build a community with the emphasis on people.

McCarthy's share of the capital came from a textile business he had built up in India during eight years of wandering the world. "I started out working for NATO, but after a year I saw the farce and limitation of the military mind. And the waste. When the Cuban missile crisis came, I realised the

people in charge had no life enhancing perceptions which could make me feel safe."

After he left NATO, McCarthy wandered around Europe, North Africa, the Middle East and India for seven years, making his living as a trader. When he returned in 1967 he bought the land in Ontario, deliberately selecting an area classified as poor soil. "The best agricultural land is around Toronto, and it's being chewed up for development at the rate of 26 acres an hour. So I chose land no one would want to develop."

His interest in environmental issues dates from the day a charcoal plant tried to set up beside his farm. He went to work as a researcher for the Canadian Environmental Law Association as a researcher. His interest in the nuclear energy issue was aroused when the Eldorado mines in Port Hope, Ontario, used nuclear waste as lan-

dfill in the town, and high levels of radon gas were found in homes and schools.

McCarthy is convinced that nuclear technology is not working out in the developed countries and should not be exported to the Third World because it is economically unsound, and dangerous.

"On the day that Trudeau came out in favour of continued nuclear development, a truck loaded with radioactive waste overturned outside Ottawa, and we are waiting to hear if there was any leakage. The Americans have all their nuclear plants on low-level alert because somebody lost his identity card, and they don't know who has it."

As for the economics of nuclear power, he believes that the developing world simply cannot afford the money for a \$1,000m plant "without some sort of side deal." Neither does it need the complicated infrastructure and the dehumanizing effect of bureaucratic technology.

A-power: let the people judge

By BARRY SPINNER
of Energy Probe

of which are potentially subject to earlier geological scarcity.

3. It is claimed to produce electricity more cheaply than fossil-fuelled power stations, though the validity of this claim has been challenged and appears to depend on how the bookkeeping is done.

In contrast, critics of nuclear power recognize three kinds of concerns.

1. Environment impacts that arise mainly from: the risk of nuclear violence, either domestic or international, through misuse of toxic and explosive materials unavoidably associated with nuclear fission; the risk that human fallibility or malice will cause major failures in the containment of large inventories of radioactive materials; the difficulty of ensuring that geological or social expediencies will not jeopardise the isolation of long-lived radioactive wastes; conventional environmental effects (heat release, land-use and aesthetic impacts, etc.); potential biological hazards dependent on scientific uncertainty (low level radiation effects, etc.).

2. Socio-political impacts that arise because nuclear power is a highly bureaucratized high technology that must be permanently run by a self-perpetuating (and probably paramilitary) technical elite; is large scale and highly centralised, and therefore incompatible with certain cultural or settlement patterns, and vulnerable to mistakes or disruption; requires social control inconsistent with basic human rights; involves exotic or long term hazards which depart from normal social experience and are therefore difficult to evaluate by traditional political judgments.

3. Policy impacts that arise because nuclear power is extremely capital-intensive (so much so that no major country outside the Persian Gulf can afford the "all-electric all-nuclear economy"); extremely complex, hence inherently unreliable and subject to severe practical constraints in its rate of deployment; is poorly matched to the kinds of energy that people commonly need, thus requiring extensive infrastructure and social change to make the type and pattern of energy use conform to those of the nuclear source of supply.

Nuclear power is not easily transferable to less developed nations, and if transferred is likely to be with it many culture-bound values that may be inappropriate. It is subject to resource dependence and technological dependence on the donating nation and to commercial monopoly. (Canada cutting off supplies of special heavy water and expertise to India is a good example.)

Finally, it is subject to technical uncertainties or surprises which make it prone to class shutdown in case of an accident or

an unexpected type of malfunction; and it is so demanding of scarce resources and time that it effectively forecloses all other long term options (which, more modest in scale and complexity, tend to be easier to develop and demonstrate.)

One of these issues can bear more attention: the production of plutonium, a highly toxic radioactive substance, is of utmost importance. This man-made substance is produced as a by-product when nuclear fuel is consumed in a reactor. Its first use by man was as an atomic bomb. This amply demonstrated its property of most concern: plutonium is a good source material for atomic bombs. For many years the super-powers withheld the technology to produce plutonium from other nations. Plutonium was strictly guarded in military plants.

However, now it is the intention to make this same plutonium available to all by promoting the commercial use of nuclear reactors. Large quantities of plutonium-bearing waste fuel will be moved routinely between reactors and processing plants. Theft will be infinitely easier than in the past.

Even assuming that theft could be prevented, there is the problem of protecting us from radioactive plutonium for 250,000 years. This is the period of time plutonium would need to be isolated from our environment, for it has been demonstrated that even minute quantities of plutonium can cause death by cancer.

Either from the perspective of the difficulty of such long term storage, or from that of the high risks of nuclear violence, it is quite clear that plutonium production presents dangers to humans and human settlements hitherto unknown.

This attempt at a reasonable outline of the various impacts of commercial nuclear power generation will hopefully bring to wider public notice matters that are far too important to be left to experts to decide.

As Walter Patterson says in "Nuclear Power": "We stand today before an abundance of potentials and possibilities; the options are still open. Within the present generation they will almost certainly be foreclosed (by nuclear power). The decisions now impending will affect not merely energy supply and demand, but the entire organization of our global society."

"The people of the world must be party to these decisions. Before we commit ourselves and our descendants to a nuclear future, it is vital that we concur in and understand the nature of the commitment. If we undertake it now we do so for all time."

ENERGY PROBE is a public interest group based in Toronto and associated with Friends of the Earth International. Barry Spinner is a chemical engineer doing research. He was responsible for the investigations into the radium contamination at Port Hope, Ontario.

DURING the past few years, the nuclear debate has become part of a wider debate about various social and ethical issues which the political process is well suited to address. A unique opportunity exists for NGOs to participate in this process, both in the context of Habitat and within their own nations.

Ordinary citizens and their representatives have begun to take up their responsibility to judge for themselves the merits of the more technically-tinged arguments, rather than merely believing those experts who seemed most authoritative.

Under this scrutiny, the official experts have often tended to come off rather poorly. Those issues which were earlier thought to be highly technical and accessible only to experts have turned out to be simple in essence and have rightly become the province of every citizen willing to become informed about them. Now that political discussions of nuclear power are starting to mature in several over-developed nations, and are starting to be initiated in many less developed nations, it is time to untangle the main threads of the controversy and to lay them out in an orderly way for everyone — layman, NGO, or expert — who was previously daunted by the seeming complexity of the literature.

Nuclear power has three main specific advantages:

1. It avoids most of the environmental effects of extracting, exporting, and burning fossil fuels.

2. In generating electricity, it largely substitutes nuclear fuel for fossil fuels, some

arriving in Vancouver, should have been packed into buses, driven to the Forum site, and herded into the bar. "You are perfectly at liberty to do whatever you like within the site grounds, in fact you may sleep in whichever hangar you wish. We will send you two-thirds of the food you need to survive on, and 10 per cent of you will be infected with amoebic dysentery."

"When you have come to a decision you may run up the UN flag. Organising your own garbage, sanitation and feeding arrangements will be your proud privilege. We will send you a doctor when we remember. Don't drink the water, Mother Teresa will be down tonight to show you how to share a bowl of rice. Good night, and good luck . . ."

All that Habitat Forum would lose would be the bar.

AND BABBLE

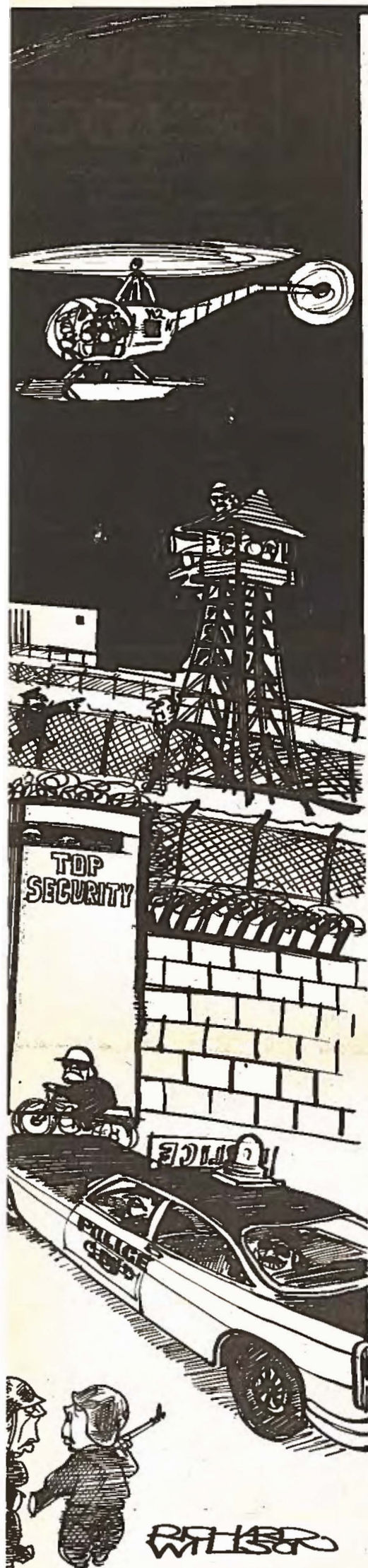
or run cars on dandelion seeds. No politics, nobody hurt except a few real-estate salesmen and a lot of soldiers. The 24 have a reputation for being thinkers.

Canada, hosting the Conference, naturally has its Prime Minister handy for a quick consultation, and a 72-member government delegation. And right away, first of all the nations, they say: "No, we don't think we need to consider this charge of conspiring to peddle nuclear arms to the countries of the world, and we are opposed to public control of land".

John Doe, I have a warrant for your arrest on a charge of multiple murder".

"Thank you officer, but I don't need to consider that. In fact, I am opposed to it. Do call again. Goodnight . . ."

Perhaps it should have been the other way round. All the official delegates, on



OUR CONSCIENCE • THE WORLD ON OUR CONSCIENCE • THE WORLD ON



Lagos 1976: Mark Edwards took this picture of life in the fastest growing city in Africa

Forum's rooms with a view

FOR NGO delegates and out-of-town visitors to Habitat, there's no shortage of human settlement in Vancouver.

Those without a place to stay usually register at the Registration Booth on Easy Street in Hangar 6 at the Forum, where they are either directed to the Habitat Housing Referral Service or to the two residences at the University of British Columbia that are housing Habitat visitors — the Walter H. Gage and the Totem Park residences. Prices vary — from \$2 a night at the hostels to \$10.24 with tax for a single room at the residences.

The Housing Referral Service puts people up at three hostels, the Jericho-Gym and Dawson School, which have 100 beds for women, or the forum at the Pacific National Exhibition, which has 330 beds for men. There are still spare beds at all three hostels.

Delegates and visitors can also be housed in private residences at \$4 per night, and there are some 200 vacant beds through this service.

The UBC residences have a capacity of 2,468 beds, and about 600 are currently vacant — a surprising number since Habitat is vying for space at UBC with the American Society of Adlerian Psychology, the Community Planning Association and the B.C. Netball Association.

During the day and early evening, Totem Park Park residence is deserted. At 20.00 Vicki Wong, the UBC student who looks after the information desk, welcomes an

inquiry. "It's so quiet, here. I've only had 10 people come up to me since four this afternoon."

Nearby, Dr. Evelyn Amarteifio chats to a couple of new-found friends. She's the Secretary-General of the Ghana Assembly of Women. "A lot has been taken from the poorer countries for very little in the past," she says. "This is the time at Habitat for the richer nations to start paying it back."

Twelve hours later, at 08.01, Totem Park stirs to life as the NGOs and visitors file into the cafeteria and meet in groups to plan their day.

On the other side of the UBC campus, delegates staying at Gage file across the quadrangle for breakfast at the Student Union Building.

There are no complaints about the accommodation, although visitors would be excused the odd complaint about the food, if Jericho's morning platter of scrambled eggs and bacon is anything to go by.

In the Gage lobby, a film on the Changing Environment in India is being shown on television. Shah Latifi, a professor in Playwriting at Kabul University, Afghanistan, gets ready to leave for the Forum. He's with FACE — Folk Arts for Communication and Education, the international group of Third World dancers, musicians and performing artists, that is performing at Habitat.

"The sad fact is that the UN and the Western World always think of developing the physical aspects of the needy, while the

basic problem of mental reform is ignored," he says. "Through our performances we are trying to change people's hearts and minds."

Delphin Randriamarof, from Madagascar, speaks no English and complains of a language problem at Habitat. "No one speaks French here," he says. "All the programmes are in English, the translation system doesn't always work, and you are reporting for Habitat's English language newspaper."

Randriamarof is the only NGO from Madagascar. He represents Les Jeunes Paysans de Madagascar, a group that goes into the villages to teach agricultural methods. He says he has come too late to put up a photo display in the Exhibition Hall to show the work his organisation is doing.

Pope speaks of new civilisation

Pope Paul, in a message to the Conference yesterday, said the world was on the brink of a new civilisation, in which either calamities could accumulate to destroy the human environment or a worthy and honourable habitat would be established for all mankind.

He said it took the drama of earthquakes to remind the public of the place the home occupies in the hearts and minds of the people.

Habitat

Horsing around

VISITORS who learned about the Wild West from second-rate movies and translated Zane Grey epics will be reassured to see Louie and the Boys hanging out at the Forum.

They live in the stable under a few trees just outside the gate by Building 13 — Louie, Cedar, Bay and Gin, Smokie (who always gets ridden by The Bear), and Arifa, who is black and gets ridden by Davy because she matches his hat.

The six horses owned by Virtue Stables in Mission, about 40 miles east of Vancouver, are on loan to the Forum and are used primarily for security. There are 10 riders, four part-time, including one woman who always rides bareback because Gin doesn't like a saddle. The group is, in fact, one rider short these days. "One guy got a broken finger — he caught it in the reins when the horse snapped her head," said Davie. "We haven't seen him around lately." Also from Virtue Stables are Dick and Dan, the draft team. They have been at the Forum for three months, pulling wagons and collecting garbage. The Vancouver police also has four horses on the site for a morning and afternoon patrol.

The horses are attended 24 hours a day, in case anybody has been eyeing the blankets on the animals. If it's any consolation, with the amount of rain the city is having, the blankets are just as wet as your own clothing.

Appropriate

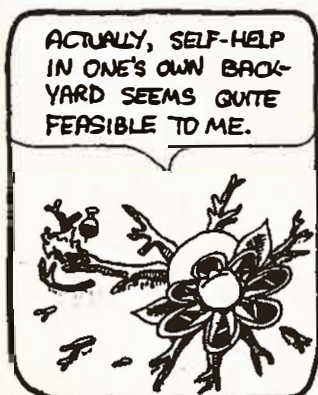
WADING through the woodshavings and tripping over sheets of plywood in the shambles which is Theatre B in Hangar 3, a Forum delegate arriving for the workshop on Post-Disaster Housing remarked: "How appropriate".

THE TOILETS are overflowing at the Forum. Unconnected toilet bowls sit at several entrances to the Plenary Hall in Hangar 5, full of sand and cigarette butts. No smoking is permitted in the hall during sessions.

FORUM Plenary participants can gauge the wind speed from English Bay by watching the floor to ceiling hanging behind the podium. Its billowing length almost reaches the speakers' platform.

QUOTE:

"I'M surprised there are wires going anywhere, let alone that any of them work." — a Forum electrician.



New media kit

JERICHO is happy to give information about books, magazines and other material relating to human settlements in this space. Please let us know, briefly, details of any relevant publications.

CHRISTINA MCDUGALL, of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), is in Vancouver armed with a Multi-media Training Package on Planning for Internal Migration. The package is designed for use as a training tool for national officials, seminar instructors, teachers, university and college institutes concerned with population studies and human settlements. It is also an essential aid for the training of trainers in many aspects of development in the Third World.

The package consists of audio-visual aids involving film, video transcriptions, television pieces, slides, radio cassettes and

Now read on

printed information. It is flexible enough to cover the gamut of development concerns, each of which may be woven into a single training exercise. It can also be rearranged to suit the needs of a particular region, country or linguistic group.

The Media Package comes in seven sections: problems and symptoms; the need for information; incentives to remain in rural areas; building up intermediate centres; accommodating to urban growth; popular participation; case studies.

The potential of the package will be discussed in the screening room of the National Film Board of Canada at 1161 West

Georgia St. tomorrow between 0900 and 1130.

THE FIRST issue of a new magazine Habitat, "the international multidisciplinary journal for the original publication of research and survey articles, records of actual experiences and proposed plans for future activities concerned with all aspects of human settlements, both urban and rural", is published this month by Pergamon Press. Habitat is available in the lobby of the Hyatt Regency Hotel and at the book display in Hangar 8 at Jericho Beach.

A SPECIAL issue of People, the magazine of the International Planned Parenthood Federation, dealing with population and human settlements is available from the IPPF exhibition area in Hangar 8.

HANGAR HANGINGS

ONE of the most dramatic series of hangings at the Forum is slated for display in Hangar 3 — where one theatre is blacked out for showing films and the other is far from complete.

Marion Denny and Christy Babcock, two Vancouver women, have worked since January turning recycled coloured nylon into 26 hangings dealing with endangered species. "The theme is close to home" said Marion yesterday. "The concern in Van-

couver is very much for oceans and the proper management of ocean resources. My series starts with plankton forms and gets up to whales". The two largest banners, 25 x 36 ft., show almost life-size portraits of whales. Another, yet unhung, is 30 ft. long and concerned with the management of water resources.

Marion said the nylon was bought from rag companies and the designs came from a marine biology text. She had no idea of the

yardage used but said materials were paid for by ACSOH. "I'm not interested in whether they are works of art — I was interested in making a visual statement" said Marion. "The statement doesn't refer only to whales but to all things, even man." She said many of the 15 smaller banners deal with crab and barnacle larvae, and minute plant and vegetable life.

She hoped the hangings will go to a non-profit organisation.

programme

Conference

1000-1300: — Plenary and Committees convene. Countries speaking at the Plenary Session: Iraq, Poland, United Kingdom, Israel, Chile, Kuwait, German Democratic Republic, Columbia, Greece, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, Bolivia, United Nations Industrial Development Organization.
1500-1800: — Ghana, United Republic of Tanzania, Portugal, Byelorussia USSR, Malta, Ireland, Pakistan, United Nations Disaster Relief Organization, Switzerland, Yugoslavia, El Salvador, UNESCO.
Locations: Plenary — Queen Elizabeth Theatre. Committee 1 — Holiday Inn Hotel. Committee 2 — Hotel Vancouver. Committee 3 — Hyatt Regency Hotel.

Forum

0900 — Morning briefing (Conference update) — Hangar 5-Plenary Hall.
0930 — Position paper to US. Leonard Charles — Hangar 8-Self Help Room.
0930 — Building Human Community — UBC Gage Hall.
1000 — Workshop: Co-operative Settlements — Hangar 3-Theatre B.
1000 — Alouette Field Naturalists (slides) — Hangar 6-Room J.
1000 — Transcendental Meditation Film — Hangar 6-Room C.
1015 — NATIONAL SETTLEMENT POLICIES, Chairperson: Dr. Ernest Weissman, (U.N.) Speakers: Dr. Adolf Ciborowski (Poland), Dr. Edward Pratt (Sierra Leone) Melba Hernandez (Cuba). — Hangar 5-Plenary Hall.
1000 — Planners Network — Hangar 6-Room B.
1000 — World Council of Churches - Storytelling - Latin American delegation — Hangar 8-Conf. Room.
1015 — "The First Days of Life" Right to Life (film-discussion) — Hangar 5-Room J.
1015 — Workshop: Women and Human Settlements - Opportunities and Challenges for the Future, Co-ordinator: Mrs. Aziz (IPPF), Keynote speaker: Dr. Margaret Mead. — Hangar 3-Theatre A.
1000 — Health-o-rama. Jake Brooks' portable Theatre (for kids) — Hangar 6-Room F.
1015 — Workshop: Government-NGO Co-operation for the Improvement of Human Settlements. (cont'd.) — Hangar 6-Main Hall.
1015 — The Poulster Engine. Norman Poulster. — Hangar 5-Room A.
1015 — The Briquetting of Cereal Straw for feed, building material or fuel. Tom Osborne (C.E.T.) and Ronald Stokes, contributed paper. — Hangar 6-Room H.
1015 — Third World Group. Document for Combined Action — Hangar 6-Room A.
1015 — S.H.S. Panel: The East-West Centre, Self-Help & Low Cost Housing Room. — Hangar 8.
1115 — Public Land Ownership, Dr. David Morley (Canada), contributed paper. (slides) — Hangar 6-Room H.
1130 — Appropriate Technology and the Media — Hangar 6-Room J.
1200 — ISKON The Vedic Economic System — Hangar 6-Room C.
1200 — "Renaissance of Optimism" — Hangar 6-Room B.
1215 — Rededicating urban spaces to pedestrians" (contributed paper) Dr. Wiedenhoft (Germany) — Hangar 6-Room H.
1230 — "Nabila and Abdullah" (film) Palestine Liberation Organization — Hangar 5-Room J.
1300 — People and the Planners (cont'd.) — Hangar 8-Conference Rm.
1300 — UN Film Programme. — Hangar 3-Theatre A.
1300 — Video presentation. Blood Indian Band (Alberta) — Hangar 8-Theatre 2.
1315 — Message from Minamata to the World - Mercury Pollution Action Group — Hangar 6-Room C.
1330 — Building Human Community (2 films) — Hangar 6-Room J.
1330 — African Rural Housing Association (slides) — Hangar 6-Room B.
1330 — S.H.S. Panel sponsored by International Development Research Center. Speakers include Dr. Laguiap (Philippines) and Dr. Hardoy (Argentina) — Hangar 8-Conf. Room.
1330 — Criterios y estrategias para la planeacion de los

asentamientos humanos en Mexico — Hangar 6-Room H.
1345 — Lunch Lecture (in Spanish). Dr. Jorge Hardoy, "Housing for the Poorest" — Hangar 5-Plenary Hall.
1400 — "Native Culture and Environment", Blood Indian Tribe. (Alberta) — Hangar 6-Room F.
1445 — Optimal Programming of Housing Investment with Stock-user Matrix Projections, Prof. W. Paul Strassmann, (USA), contributed paper. — Hangar 6-Room H.
1500 — National Settlement Policies (Cont'd) — Hangar 5-Plenary Hall.
1500 — Working Groups from Plenary — Hangar 5-Rooms A & J.
1500 — Women and Human Settlements Opportunities and Challenges for the Future (Cont'd) — Hangar 3-Theatre A.
1500 — Workshop: Nature and Habitat, Co-ordinator: Mr. M. Weill (I. U. A.) — Hangar 3-Theatre B.
1500 — Workshop: Co-operative Housing, speakers include Glenn Haddrell (Canada); Ake Johnson (Sweden); C. Dean (U.S.A.); P. Thompson (Jamaica); B. Heinen (Germany). Chairperson W.J. Campbell (USA) — Hangar 6-Main Hall.
1500 — Andre Chaudieres: Presentation sur le developpement des villes Africaines (AV montage) — Hangar 6-Room H.
1500 — "Technology and Urban Governance" Chairperson Mr. B. Manheimer. Speakers: Mr. H. Chestnut and Mr. L. Nagel — Hangar 6-Room B.
1540 — Liverpool's Housing - The Failure of Success, R. R. Morton (UK), contributed paper — Hangar 6-Room H.
1630 — Portable Theatre - Princess Why Not? — Outside Hangar 8.
1630 — A Comparison and Analysis of Student Housing, Kaye Melliship (Canada) Contributed Paper — Hangar 6-Room H.
1700 — Locus - The Values We Live By — Hangar 5-Room 1.
1700 — Offshore Planning for Offshore Oil (film-workshop) Conservation Foundation — Hangar 6-Room 1.
1700 — Appropriate Technology in Industrial Countries — Hangar 6-Room F.
1730 — Visions of the Future. Professor Bernhart — Hangar 6-Main Hall.
1730 — Sandplay for All Ages. Austin Delany — Hangar 8-Conf. Room.
1800 — China Programme, William Hinton on the Changes the 1949 Revolution Created in the Rural Areas of China — Hangar 3-Theatre A.
1800 — F.A.C.E. Films on Turkey — Hangar 6-Room B.
1800 — Bees, Chemicals and Man — Hangar 5-Room H.
1845 — Women and Town Planning. Vivienne Hotz and Joan McHardy — Hangar 6-Room J.
1800 — Carrying Capacity: Summary of Proceedings of Workshop, Dr. Dennis Russell and Y.G. Bajard. — Hangar 5-Room A.
1900 — Institute of Cultural Affairs, (slides) — Hangar 6-Room C.
1900 — Resource Management and Wildlife Habitat — Hangar 6-Room B.
1900 — Folk Arts for Communication and Education — Outside Stage.
1900 — I-2000. A Planning strategy for integrating Industrial Development — Hangar 5-Room J.
1900 — Communications and Consciousness — Hangar 5-Room 1.

1930 — Nuclear Power, speakers: Dr. Margaret Mead, David Brower (Friends of the Earth), Barry Spinner (Energy Probe), Dr. E.W. Pfeiffer. — Hangar 5-Plenary Hall.

1930 — Squatter Settlements-Case Studies in Latin America, keynote speaker Prof. Allende (former Director of CORVI, Chile), also 'Campamento', (film) — Hangar 3-Theatre B.
1930 — Development of High Density Single Family Accommodation, Mr. Miller (Thom Partnership), contributed paper — Hangar 6-Room H.
1930 — Women - The Neglected Resource. Speakers include Judge Nancy Morrison, Lisa Hobbs, Rosemary Brown — 1930 — FANSHEN (Tamanbous Theatre Company) — Hangar 3-Theatre A.
1930 — S.H.S. Case Studies: Squatter Settlements I. Self Help Room — Hangar 8.
2030 — Bicycle-Powered Video. Mr. Sethi (India) — Hangar 6-Room B.
1000 — Workshop: Co-operative Settlements. Includes film on Tanzanian co-op self-help housing — Hangar 3-Theatre B.
1030 — "Our Land is Our Culture" (film) Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs — Hangar 8-Theatre 2.

Festival

0630-1630 — Vancouver: A Changing Habitat, a look at the growth of Vancouver from the 1870s to the 1930s. — City Archives.
0900-1700 — Showings at the Artists Gallery.
1100-2100 — Concourse Craft Fair — CPR Station.
1100-1800 — Chinese Cultural Exhibition. — 1 W. Pender St. Plaza Craft Fair Granville Square. Interior Design Exhibition — CPR Station. Children's Art Program — Granville Square. Exhibition of Outstanding Canadian Crafts — CPR Station.
1200 — Pacific Brass performing — Granville Square.
1230 — Circus Minimus — Pacific Centre.
1245 — Towne Waytes — Granville Square.
1215 & 1315 — Herringbone, by Thomas Cone — City Stage, \$2.
1300 — Ice Wolf, by Carousell Players — Arts Club, \$2 - adults, 75 cents - children.
1900-2100 — Cities, Buildings and People (three films), — Western Front, Social Alternatives series, \$1.
2000 — Indians, by Arthur Kopit — York Theatre, \$3.50 - adults, \$2 students.
2030 — Hay Fever, by Noel Coward — Arts Club, \$4.25.
2030 — The Farm Show, by Theatre Passe Muraille from Toronto — Vancouver East Cultural Centre, \$3.50.
2030 — Trio, with Leon Bibb — David Y.H. Lai Theatre, \$4.50.
2030 — Ann Mortifee — Christ Church Cathedral, \$5.
2200 — Phyllis Mailing and Friends — Vancouver Art Gallery.
2330 — The Music of Japan — Vancouver Art Gallery.
0100 — Vancouver Theatreworks presents Brecht on Brecht — Vancouver Art Gallery.

Events

1300 — Brother Blue, storyteller. — Hangar 7-Stage.
1330-1630 — Building Human Community, Women in Community. — UBC Gage Residence.
1730 — Brother Blue, storyteller. — Plaza, Jericho Beach.
1330, 1500 & 1630 — Community expression in music and dance. — Twin Valleys Community Dome.
1830 — Meeting of Canadian delegations and Canadian NGOs. — 1020 Nelson St. at Burrard.
2000 — Special presentation of music and dance with friends from Findhorn community, Scotland. — Twin Valleys Community Dome.
Display of UN sponsored International Photo Competition on Habitat. — Hangar 7.
Exhibit of Third World Theatre Arts. — International House of UBC.
Exhibition of Vedic City in Mayapur India runs continuously with cinema shows, song and dance, free food for all and vegetarian cooking classes. — ISKCON Vedic City Exhibit, Outdoor Exhibition Area.

Films

AT THE FORUM

0930 — Women in the Americas: Janie's Janie (24 mins), Pacific Cinematheque. — Hangar 8-Theatre 1.
0930 — Building Human Communities (180 mins), slide-and-tape programmes on Guatemala, Jamaica and Bangladesh, followed by discussions. — UBC.
1000 — Women in the Americas: Andean Women (19 mins), Pacific Cinematheque. — Hangar 8-Theatre 1.
1020 — Women in the Americas: The Double Day (56 mins), Pacific Cinematheque. — Hangar 8-Theatre 1.
1300 — UK Habitat 76 (UK official film) (27 mins). — Hangar 3-Theatre A.
1300 — A Sense of Humus (27 mins). — Hangar 8-Theatre 1.
1330 — Steps Towards Peace (Egypt official film) (20 mins). — Hangar 3-Theatre A.
1500 — China Programme: The Barefoot Doctors of Rural China (53 mins), Diane Li Productions. — Hangar 8-Theatre 1.
1500 — Nuclear Programme: Lovejoy's Nuclear War (20 mins), Greenpeace Foundation. — Hangar 8-Theatre 2.
1615 — China Programme: The Great Treasure House (30 mins), Canada-China Friendship Group. — Hangar 8-Theatre 1.

NOTICE BOARD

We are holding mail in Building 13 for the following people — come to the Administration office, please:

Le courrier nous en retenons dans le Batiment Treize pour ces personnes:

El correo se guarda en el Edificio Trece para las siguientes personas:

George McRobie, Jorge Hardoy, Hans Hallen, S. Subramaniam, Mrs. E. Mann, Mr. Wolfgang Neumann, Mrs. Irene Santiago, Fr. John Davoren, Mr. Derek Cartwright, Roger Yanagita, Dr. Lula Nittim, Dr. Velibor Vidakovic, Mr. Vann Molyvann, M.A. Windey, Dr. Eniola O. Adeniyi, Mrs. T.A. Manuwa, Dr. Aprodicio Laquian.

The Earth Care Campaign, which is planning a seven-year campaign to nurture and care for the earth, meets daily at 3 p.m. at the north end of the Youth Hostel. Individuals, communities, representatives of governments, private and public organisations invited to attend.

Fran Innes of Newfoundland: Where are you? We are here. Call Jane and John at 277-3725.

The International Federation of Appropriate Technology will be holding seminars, workshops and lectures when the group has gathered more support at the Forum. The California-based organisation wants to promote technologies which are appropriate at any time in any situation. Interested individuals and groups are asked to check with the IFAT display in Hangar 8. Harvey Eden is the project coordinator.

Guide to Forum Films

1500 China Programme. The first of three films, The Barefoot Doctors of Rural China (53 mins.) is an impressive, informative, account of the "peasant paramedics" who use both Chinese and western techniques in China's communes and villages. Includes shots of acupuncture. Of the two other films, The Great Treasure House (30 mins.) shows how China's medical programme combines traditional and modern techniques. Subduing Kharst Mountain (35 mins.) deals with role of irrigation in establishing paddy fields in hostile territory. Hangar 8, Theatre 1.

1500 Nuclear Programme. On George Washington's birthday in 1974 an American called Lovejoy singled out a 500 ft. high tower in Massachusetts that was connected with the US nuclear programme, and blew it up. He claimed he did it in "self-defence". He had to get it before it got him. Against all the odds, the court accepted his plea and he was guilty. Lovejoy's Nuclear War (20 mins.) tells his story and shows the controversy at the time of the trial. The Tale of Two Cities (12 mins.) is quite different but equally worth watching. It is a 1949 film of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and has some stunning footage of the bombs' effects. Fable Safe is a short, humorous treatment of the arms race. As Barbara Ward said on Tuesday: "I would have thought that it was enough to destroy the world one time over, but then I'm no military expert. Perhaps twenty times over is better." Hangar 8, Theatre 2.

1945 Bates Car: Sweet as a Nut (15 mins.) describes how a UK inventor powers his car on slurry.

UN FILMS AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH PLAYHOUSE

1000-1300: — Sierra Leone - Self Help in Port Loko (13 mins). Singapore - More Than Just a Roof (18 mins). Solomon Islands - Low Cost Housing in the Solomons (20 mins). Somalia - Sand Dune Fixation (10 mins). Spain - From the Roof of Spain (11 mins). Sri Lanka - A Home of Your Own (10 mins). Sudan - Resettlement of Illegal Squatters in Port Sudan Town (11 mins). Swaziland - Rural Development in Swaziland.
1400-1700: — Sweden - Land Policy. Thailand - A Forest Village in Thailand (25 mins). Togo - The Cavalli Construction and Housing Centre. Trinidad and Tobago - Partnership Housing (24 mins). Tunisia - Operation ASM in a Medina. Turkey - Istanbul Urban Development. Uganda - Mubuku Irrigation Settlement Scheme (18 mins). Ukrainian SSR - Kiev - Capital of the Ukrainian SSR. United Republic of Tanzania - Upgrading (9 mins).
1900-2200: — USSR - Town Planning in the USSR (26 mins). United Arab Emirates - Bedouin Settlements (11 mins). United Kingdom - Habitat UK 76 (27 mins). USA - Designing the Urban Environment (26 mins). Upper Volta - Cissin (20 mins). Uruguay - Social Promotion in Urban Settlements (12 mins). Venezuela - From Yesterday to Today (6 mins). Yemen Arab Republic - Traditional Architecture in Yemen (19 mins). Yugoslavia - Split 3.

Planning criteria and strategies for human settlements in Mexico will be discussed today at Hangar 6, Room H at 1330. Carlos Reyes Navarro and Jose Ramon Sordo Cedeno will discuss Mexican problems and solutions in respect to human settlements.

UN sends NGOs chasing the papers

In camera

A world picture?

THE proud boast of Enrique Penalosa is that "1975 will most certainly become known as the year in which the world had its picture taken". And the world said cheese.

The global snapshot was only just developed in time. Films arrived late. CBC's sub-contractor in Toronto who was dubbing films into additional languages suddenly stopped work last week and appealed over CBC's head to the UN for a new and fatter contract. Yesterday, after the flaps of the first two days, 92 of the three-minute capsules were still not available for screening at the Plenary. There were even fewer for the two committees.

Conference president Barney Danson acknowledged yesterday that the audio-visual programme was still in an experimental stage. It is likely he will be saying that when the conference ends.

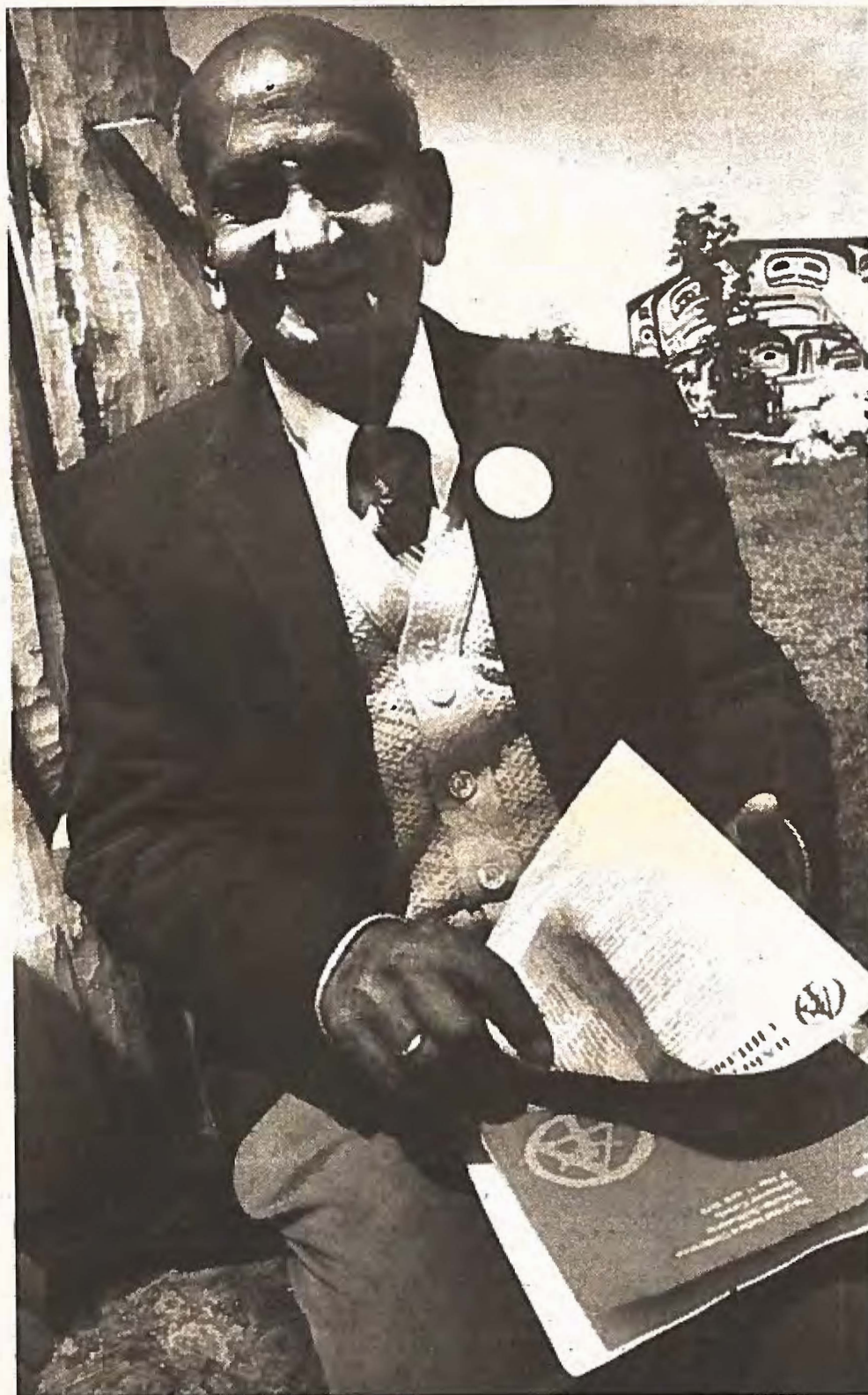
The main question delegates have been asking is whether governments (other governments, of course) have used their films for information or propaganda. It's really a false division. The impact of Barbara Ward and the Symposium showed a clear need for films that use all the techniques of advertising and publicity to arouse, stimulate and persuade about the crisis in water, population, housing and so on. Other films should also be fulfilling the equally important but very different function of informing, describing and analysing.

Perhaps there is a special need for films that shock. We all know the wonderful world of Martini. Coke has taught the world to sing. Where is the desperate world of 100 million people running at both ends? Which film is going to teach the world to yell? Or, in the words of Barbara Ward, to "bully and fight and harass"?

Most countries know how to produce a slick, powerful 30-second TV commercial that can — in a few shots, a few bars of music and a few words — create a particular mood or sell a product. Those skills are needed at Habitat. Yet only a few countries have hired independent producers with experience in making commercials.

Of course, Habitat also needs films that inform and instruct. The Secretariat's original idea was that each film should be a straightforward account of "a demonstration project" which the Secretariat defined as "any project that demonstrates a successful or promising solution to a human settlement problem".

Editorial, page 4



SUBBI SUBRAMANIAM an Indian journalist and educator who has come to Habitat to contribute to the Self-Help Low Cost Housing Symposium. He is the founder of PEDEP, the Population, Environment, Development

THERE IS continuing a row within the UN Secretariat over the question of Conference documents for registered NGOs. In the initial days of registration, there was no provision for the supply of these documents at all. Subsequently, a makeshift room without a telephone was cobbled together at the YWCA. NGOs turning up there for a set of documents were required to prove their authenticity before being given them. "One per customer. Sign Here, Please." They then discovered that the set they were given was absolutely complete except for the

Agenda of the Conference, the Declaration of Principles, and the Recommendations for National Action. It could have been worse, but only just.

Subsequently, senior UN Secretariat sources indicated that everyone registered was sent a complete set of documentation in advance and was warned to bring it with them. But this is not quite true, in that not all officially accredited NGO representatives received copies. Also, this is the first UN Conference at which such people were not able to obtain copies of documents in the same manner as delegates. According to the Past President of the Committee of NGOs in Consultative Status with ECOSOC, the whole thing constitutes "participation in a vacuum, and vacuums are not awfully good for health."

Prepare for this to pale into insignificance: the situation at the Forum site is even more appalling. At first, no UN documents at all were taken to Jericho. It was only through the efforts of Jan van Putten and the ACSOH staff that limited numbers were photocopied at great expense.

You should now be informed that, by dint of superhuman efforts by the UN Conference Services Division, the daily documentation of the Conference will be available and will comprise 15 copies of English, 15 of French and 15 of Spanish. That's roughly one per thousand Forum participants. Thanks.

Other ways

ONE good resolution before the Conference, not surprisingly, deals with land. A draft recommendation in the Declaration of Principles suggests that "the value added to land by public decision and investment should be recaptured for the benefit of society as a whole".

The Canadian Delegation is sadly, badly split on this recommendation and, when one looks at the situation a little more closely, this is hardly surprising.

One faction is determined to kill the resolution and is being led by the Senior Housing and Development representative of their Federal Government. Bill Teron, prior to being named President of Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation as well as Acting Secretary of the Ministry of State for Urban Affairs, acquired a little more than a modicum of wealth during his stint as one of Canada's largest land developers. It is felt by some members of the Canadian delegation that Teron would not be too keen to see the wealth created by governments through re-zoning, servicing of land and planning go to the community responsible for the changes. Any such procedure would, of course, deprive developers of windfall profits.

But that is only one way of looking at it. Teron argues that this community-benefitting resolution would emasculate all incentive by the private sector to develop houses and would therefore increase the housing shortage.

It is perhaps worth remembering that, elsewhere, Canada has voiced its great interest in self-help and co-operative housing programmes. It might yet be hoped that Teron can be persuaded that speculative building and land profiteering are not the only ways to promote the construction of homes.

SELECCIONES

El habitante humano de los asentamientos del futuro no muy distante fue llamado interurbano por el Sr. Rafael M. Salas, Director del Fondo de las Naciones Unidas para Actividades de Población. Homo interurbanis ya no dependerá directamente de la tierra para su vivienda, ni tampoco de las grandes metrópolis. El y ella, vivirán y trabajarán lejos de los conglomerados urbanos pero tendrán una movilidad cada vez mayor entre ellos.

Salas urgió el reconocimiento de la necesidad de un cambio en la percepción del mundo en una nueva época, si deseamos prepararnos para enfrentarlo racional y competentemente. "Nuestros sistemas de literatura, arte y música y valores culturales se derivan de una conexión básica con la tierra que provee nuestro alimento y nuestro techo; la cultura y valores del

hombre interurbano tendrán que copar con una concepción esencial, pero indirecta, con la tierra que le da el ser, y con grupos de genete, algunas veces en grandes números, con quienes su conexión es similarmente indirecta."

El Sr. Salas censuró la tendencia, inclusive entre habitantes urbanos, de ver al habitante de la ciudad como detestable. "Los hechos deben encararse" dijo. La gente no volverá a la tierra en números significativos al menos que sean llevados por la fuerza "porque las ciudades son las fuentes vitales de energía, ideas, tecnologías y artefactos. Ellas son las cunas del poder de nuestra civilización."

Salas también pidió un cambio de percepción de las áreas rurales. Es tan fútil el ver en la gente rural los exclusivos repositorios de los valores humanos, tal como lo hacen los románticos, como lo es verlos como analfabetos e individuos atrasados, declaró el Sr. Salas. Se requiere un a balance.

NOUVELLES

"En tant que simple citoyen, je suggère fortement de ralentir notre engagement à la puissance nucléaire," tel a été le langage tenu par Maurice Strong au Forum hier. Le groupe des Amis de la Terre est en train d'organiser les délégués du Tiers Monde afin qu'ils endossent la résolution présentée au troisième comité par la Nouvelle Guinée.

Si le groupe ne réussit pas à faire instaurer un moratoire contre la puissance nucléaire commerciale, du moins essaie-t-il d'amorcer un dialogue.

Le mouvement anti-nucléaire est l'un des mouvements politiques internationaux les plus importants de ces dernières années. Les Californiens doivent voter le huit juin au sujet de la Proposition Quinze (California Nuclear Safeguard Initiative) qui, si elle passe, provoquera la fermeture de toutes les bases atomiques de Californie.

Plus d'un million de signatures ont été recoltées aux Etats-Unis dans un effort de susciter un vote anti-nucléaire cet automne, dans l'Ohio, le Michigan, l'Orégon et quelques autres états.

Plusieurs cas ont été reportés où les citoyens ont arrêté la construction d'un réacteur nucléaire (Allemagne de l'Ouest, Suède). Au Japon, deux ans de démonstrations ont bloqué la réparation du premier vaisseau à propulsion nucléaire, le Mutsu. Et cependant, la France, l'Allemagne de l'Ouest, l'Italie ont misé sur l'énergie atomique pour engendrer la plupart de leur électricité d'ici dix à quinze ans.

Dans au futur tout proche, le citadin sera appelé "interurbain," a prononcé Rafael Salas, chef du Fonds des Nations Unies pour les Activités des Populations. L' homo interurbanensis dépendra de plus en plus non de la terre, mais de sa conurbation, dans laquelle il se mouvra de plus en plus rapidement.