Grassroots Report

El Salvador: Resettlement in Chalatenango Province

JACK SPENCE

A Cambridge, Massachusetts delegation of Susan Freireich, Wendell Weisinger, and Jack Spence spent Christmas and New Year's Day in San José Las Flores, El Salvador. The three are part of the Cambridge/El Salvador Sister City Project.

San José Las Flores had been a small village in El Salvador's poorest region, northern Chalatenango province. Nestled in the hills a 90 minute walk above the Sumpul River valley, the isolation of Las Flores, even in tiny El Salvador, had been abated in the sixties when a crude road was constructed heading north toward Honduras, some 15 miles away. The additional commerce of a dozen buses and trucks a day did not alleviate the pervasive poverty of most of the town's residents, but saved them a nine hour round trip walk south to the nearest city, Chalatenango.

Life was hard but in the recollections of present day residents, it was sane, tranquil. Since 1980, the war has replaced tranquility with nightmareish reality. In the mid-seventies, villagers recall, the poverty deepened. Local landlords expanded their cattle ranching, fencing off some land and raising the rents on lands where peasants grew corn and beans. "It seemed to us," one recently returned resident told us, "that the cattle had more rights than us. They got to eat off the land, but we could not."

In the late seventies peasants here, and in other rural areas, began to organize, and moved some fences back to farm the land. It was then, they recalled, that the repression began and organizers were singled out for "disappearances." By early 1980, in all of El Salvador, selective repression was replaced with mass death squad assassinations aimed at wiping out all leaders left of center, including Archbishop Romero. The ranks of guerrillas swelled. By April the country plunged into civil war, most intensively in Chalatenango province, a center of guerrilla strength.

During our stay, we heard personal accounts of the horror visited upon the residents of this area of Chalatenango. Continued on page Two
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by the Salvadoran military. Because the guerrillas controlled northern Chalatenango, the military perceived all residents of the area as "subversives," therefore worthy targets. Countering guerrilla strength with periodic large scale sweeps supported by air, the military attacked villages and killed residents, young and old. They said they were countering Mao's strategy, by draining the ocean of residents to kill the guerrilla fish.

Though we knew of the repression in El Salvador, these personal accounts, told to us at unexpected moments, overwhelmed us. Stories of soldiers picking off the weakest who fell behind, raping and killing women, bayonetting babies, driving crowds into the Sumpul during the high water season, watching them drown. Scenes of mothers smothering their babies whose cries would give away the group's hiding place. After dinner one night one man began recounting a now well documented 1980 flight during which 600 people were killed trying to cross the Sumpul into Honduras. He told of five flights, the last during which his wife, hidden in a lean-to, gave birth to their daughter after hours of labor, while soldiers passed nearby. After listening for three hours, we begged him to stop.

The people of newly repopulated San José Las Flores are the survivors. By 1983 every single person living in Las Flores had left. Some went to Honduras and beyond. Others fled, or were forced into refugee camps in San Salvador. Others, the majority of current residents, hid in the surrounding hills, moving from abandoned houses to open fields to caves, their rests always interrupted after a few days or months by another military sweep and by increasing use of air attacks—strafing, incendiary bombs, and 250 pound bombs.

In early 1986, the displaced residents began their return. In June, a group of 200 refugees in San Salvador hired a small caravan of buses and traveled the 70 miles to the end of the road outside the city of Chalatenango. Military inspections delayed them for hours. This was the first repopulation effort organized by the National Center for Repopulation (CNR), a group elected by displaced persons in refugee camps. The CNR sought protection through visibility; sending delegations to Presi-

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Letters

Selective view of terrorism.

Dear Resist:

I would like to offer a few demurrers to Eqbal Ahmad's piece, "Comprehending Terror" in your December newsletter. The piece is comprehensive and seemingly objective, but since Mr. Ahmad is known for his sympathies for the PLO and for his critical view of Israel's relation to the PLO, his remarks on Israel were predictable. I am as distressed as Mr. Ahmad over any cruelty on the part of Israelis to Arabs in the occupied territory. It is a wound that Israel will suffer a long time. What should be noted, though, is that the West Bank and Gaza (eyeless in Gaza, at the mill with slaves, as Milton put it) were occupied as a defensive measure in the 1967 war at a time, if you will recall, when Nasser was daily threatening to drive Israel into the sea, and which he thought he was about to do by demanding the removal of the UN troops standing between Israel and Egypt. Attacked on all sides, what would you do if you were the responsible leader of a country which at one point was only eight miles wide? Is Israel unreasonable to demand some kind of security? Consider the Soviet Union, which has imprisoned the countries of the Eastern bloc as well as Afghanistan for security reasons. The people in the Eastern bloc cannot get out, yet I hear nothing from you or Mr. Ahmad. How does the miniscule occupation of the West Bank compare to the monstrous Soviet occupation? (By the way, I am critical of our own country's dealings with Nicaragua, and its shameful overthrow of democracies in Chile, Guatemala, and elsewhere). What can Israel do when only Egypt recognizes its very right to exist? Let its neighbors recognize that right, and the occupation will be over. (See, for example, Abba Eban's article in the second issue of TIKHUN, as well as the interview with Amos Oz.)

I am afraid that, like every polemict, Mr. Ahmad's evidence of terrorism is selective. There is no mention of Syria, of Iran, of Zimbabwe and other African states where internal terrorism by the governments has resulted in the deaths of tens of thousands. There is no mention of Nicaragua's treatment of the Miskito Indians. There is no mention of the Soviet Union—amazing the good press they receive, not that I want anything but good relations with them. And everyone seems to have forgotten the occupation of the West Bank by Jordan, one far less benign than that of Israel. Why wasn't the West Bank turned over to the Palestinians all those years before 1967?

Until RESIST and other groups on the left include the countries I've mentioned—and many others—in their criticism, I'm afraid, regretfully, that I must remain ambivalent towards you.

Sincerely

Isadore Traschen
RD 5, Box 211
Troy, NY 12180

Ed. Note: This was one of three responses we received criticizing Eqbal Ahmad's article, "Comprehending Terror." Readers also responded to Melani McAlister's piece, "Confronting Middle East Issues" which appeared in the November issue, with both appreciative and negative comments. In an upcoming issue we will address some of your concerns and affirm our commitment to covering Middle East issues as fully and fairly as possible.
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dent Duarte and Archbishop Rivera y Damas, and advertising on television and radio. Initially when the press and international observers were present the military made, in the words of a CNR representative, a "show of support." Harrassment soon followed.

When the villagers walked into Las Flores, carrying their belongings, they found a town completely overgrown and diseveled from years of neglect. Six foot weeds covered the town plaza. Nonetheless, within a day, others who had spent years in the hills began arriving and by the end of July Las Flores had grown to some 600 people.

We found a town bustling with activity. Our trip had been coordinated through New El Salvador Today (NEST), a North American group. Religious workers in El Salvador talked of "accompaniment" in which the poor in their journey to liberation are joined by more privileged people. We were discovering what this meant, as activists in Cambridge formed a sister city committee and accepted an invitation to send a delegation to Las Flores.

NEST representatives spent a week securing permission from the top commander, General Blandon, to travel to Las Flores, and for another delegation to go to recently repopulated El Barriillo. Once in Las Flores, the Cambridge group would remain while another five would walk farther north to Arcatao, sister city to Madison, Wisconsin. We would all walk out New Year's morning.

On December 24th, having received permission at the last minute the night before, we embarked. Setting out at 6:00 AM, we traveled to the outskirts of San Salvador and added still more supplies to our store of toys, clothes, school supplies and medicines. Festooned with three pinatas tied to the roof, our crammed van headed north.

Passing through the military check points is no joke, even with permission from Blandon. The military had in the past not permitted medicines and goods to go through, claiming that their final destination would be the guerrillas. They had done this even in the case of a load of children's shoes, or rehydration packets to combat diarrhea, a disease that had claimed twelve children's lives since June.

We stopped first at El Paraiso, a fire base, which had been invaded in a guerrilla attack two years earlier. Our luggage was searched but to our relief we, and it, were given clearance. Two months earlier a Canadian journalist, returning from Las Flores, had had tapes confiscated at El Paraiso. Then, the military had invaded Las Flores with hundreds of troops ferried in by helicopter. They played the tapes before an audience of children to identify the speakers, and arrested seven adults. Blindfolded and interrogated for two days, the seven were released in two weeks, perhaps in part due to a telegram campaign from Cambridge and calls from Senator Kerry's office.

Another check point in Chalatenango City, and then we drove down a dirt road five or six miles to a small, abandoned hamlet. The end of the road. Two of our group walked on to Las Flores for help. We had crossed an invisible line. A small patrol of guerrillas passed by. On the blackboard of a burned out, trashed school house was written in neat letters, "Soldier, mines await you in these fields. Don't walk in front, but send your officer first because he makes more and gets fucked over less. Written by an FMLN technician who does not want you to blow yourself up. Please do not erase."

At 6:00 PM, in the gathering darkness, we decided to sling our hammocks and wait for help in the morning. Just then we heard voices. A contingent of fifteen men, women and children was arriving. We were greeted with warm, open hugs and handshakes. In a buzz of activity the heaviest cases were stuffed in mesh bags and loaded onto horses. All the villagers grabbed bags and boxes and we took off into the night. Earlier in the day we had considered the possibility of a night march with apprehension. Now we felt the confidence of our new friends, chattering and joking from one dot of a flashlight to another. Gringos stumbling from time to time over loose rock, through the warm, starlight summer night, it was proving to be quite a Christmas eve.

Two and one half hours later, gringos huffing and puffing, and the villagers merrily picking up the pace, we saw candlelit homes. In a minute we were surrounded by animated, friendly people, offering Christmas greetings and carrying even the small packs we still held. The children were really excited, at us and the pinatas. They tugged us towards the town plaza which was illuminated by one gas lantern, for a welcoming ceremony to be followed by dinner and a dance on the plaza's basketball court. For each of us it was an unforgettable moment of human warmth.

On Christmas day we met with the town council, an elected group of six (four men and two women). Las Flores is an area in which the FMLN has military control, although the other side disputes this. The FMLN has a political structure in the region called Popular Political Power, but the town council of Las Flores is independent. (A hamlet down the road, also in the FMLN zone, voted Christian Democrat.) In a sense, Las Flores is also independent of the Salvadoran government because it has its own elections. Our strong impression from a week of interviews, is that the town has made its own decisions. The council emphasized its right to be neutral, its right to have the civilian population respected by both sides in the war.

The council President coordinates, and each member is in charge of an area: housing, schools, health, pastoral matters, and production. There are about a hundred occupied houses. Fragments of families, each with some members lost or dead, share homes. Homes on the outskirts have not been occupied. When two mortar rounds fell a half kilometer from the town on Christmas night, putting the town roosters in a frenzy four hours early, we understood the reason for this center-oriented resettlement pattern.

Production has been arranged, in part, on a communal basis. A portion of the lands around the town are farmed as a collective effort to take care of widows and orphans. Use rights to individual plots have been given out based on family size. The first corn and bean harvest was good. We saw vegetable plots including one three acre communal garden irrigated in the dry season by springs.

With the help of the Red Cross, the town got its spring fed water system going, but the many diarrhea cases suggest that old tanks and piping are contaminated. While they have made efforts to dig latrines and eliminate open drains, pigs and chickens still roam at will, including in our backyard and at the toilet behind the school house. Health workers have set up a clinic and were more able than we were to sort

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The following list of 99 organizations is comprised of recipients of Resist grants (92), loans (4), and donor-directed grants (3). The total amount of Resist grants, loans and donor-directed grants made available through Resist was $38,400.

This figure is close to our 1984 grants figure, but somewhat down from 1985. We believe there are a few reasons for this decline. The first is that while we did very well in terms of donations in December, we did not have a board meeting that month and therefore gave out no end of the year grants. We expect this will be made up in our grant-giving for 1987. The second reason for the decline, however, has less to do with our financial situation than on who applied to us for funds. We simply had fewer proposals this year from the types of groups Resist has historically funded—radical, grassroots, multi-issue, small budget groups from rural and urban areas. To some extent this reflects the decline of vital radical mass movements for social change. But we do know there are groups out there and we plan on making every effort to reach them. This year we will continue to do outreach to movement groups across the country, such as those working on anti-racist, lesbian and gay, Middle East, Native American and reproductive rights issues. We will also continue to ask contributors to let us know about effective, multi-issue, activist groups you think Resist should fund.

Thank you for your support. We couldn’t do it without you.

Anti-racist/anti-apartheid/Third World support
Center for Third World Organizing (Oakland, CA) $400
Coalition of Immigration Legal Services Providers (Boston, MA) $200
Mobilization for Survival (Cambridge, MA) $500
North Carolinians Against Racist & Religious Violence (Durham, NC) $350
Puerto Rican Committee Against Repression (NY, NY) $400
Roxbury Community College Caribbean Committee (Boston, MA) $500

Central and Latin America Work
Burlington Central America Solidarity Association (Burlington, VT) $300
Carolina Interfaith Task Force on Central America (Raleigh, NC) $400
Center for the Study of the Americas (Berkeley, CA) $500
Central America Information Center (San Diego, CA) $450
Central America Education Project (Northampton, MA) $450
Central America Week Conference Committee (Cambridge, MA) $400
Central America Response Network (Santa Barbara, CA) $400
Central America Solidarity Association (Cambridge, MA) $100
Comité El Salvador (Wash., DC) $400
Comité El Salvador (Medford, MA) $200
Committee for a Free Guatemala (Wash., DC) $500
Guatemalan Health Rights Support Project (Wash., DC) $200

Informe Colombiano (NY, NY) $600
“Los Refugiados” (Sea Cliff, NY) $500
National Tour of Secretary of ANDES (Cambridge, MA) $600
Network in Solidarity with the People of Guatemala (Wash., DC) $500
New England Central America Network (Cambridge, MA) $350
Oakland City of Refuge Committee (Oakland, CA) $500
Refugee Alert (Cambridge, MA) $300
Religious Task Force on Central America (Wash., DC) $450
Salvadoran Trade Unionists in Exile Information Center (Chicago, IL) $300
St. Louis Pledge of Resistance (MO) $500
Spanish Education for Women (Wash., DC) $140
Veterans Vigil for Life (Jamaica Plain, MA) $100
Witness for Peace (Durham, NC) $600
Woman to Woman (Oakland, CA) $500
Women’s International Resource Exchange (NY, NY) $500

Community Organizing
Eastern Connecticut Citizen Action Group (Hartford, CT) $450
Eviction Free Zone Coalition (Jamaica Plain, MA) $500
Gray Panthers of Chicago (IL) $300
Low Income Students for Survival (Malden, MA) $600
Rural Organizing & Cultural Center (Lexington, MS) $450

Labor related work
Employees Legal Project (Amesbury, MA) $200
Labor Education and Research Project (Detroit, MI) $200
Southerners for Economic Justice (Durham, NC) $400
Teamsters Rank & File Educational & Legal Defense Foundation (Detroit, MI) $500
TWA Flight Attendants Benefit Committee (Cambridge, MA) $100
Unemployment Law Project (Seattle, WA) $400
Maine Veterans for Peace organize fasts and an encampment against U.S. support for the contras at the Vietnam Memorial in Augusta, Maine. Photo: G. Genesio

Native American
Big Mountain Support Group
(Wash., DC) $500
International Indian Treaty Council
(SF, CA) $100
Leonard Peltier Support Committee
(Durham, NC) $350
Leonard Peltier Support House
(Kansas City, KS) $350
Maine Clergy & Laity Concerned
(Portland, ME) $420

Peace/Anti-Draft/Anti-Nuke Work
Arkansas Peace Center (Little Rock, AR) $450
Brandywine Peace Community
(Swarthmore, PA) $400
Cheyenne Wheel of Peace (Ft. Morgan, CO) $300
Coalition for a Safe Bay (SF, CA) $200
Committee to Greet Rambo
(Somerville, MA) $100
Downwinders (Salt Lake City, UT) $500
Florida Coalition for Peace and Justice (Orlando, FL) $350
LAND, Inc. (Rudolph, WI) $200
Movement Building Coalition
(Boston, MA) $600
NARMIC/AFSC (Phila., PA) $100
National Lawyers Guild Military Law Task Force (San Diego, CA) $500
National Lawyers Guild Anti-Repression Task Force (Cambridge, MA) $200

National Committee for Independent Political Action (NY, NY) $200
Northguard (Saginaw, MI) $100
Richmond Committee for World Peacemaking (Richmond, IN) $350
Shut 'Em Down Committee (L.A., CA) $100
Social Action Center (Albany, NY) $400
The Nerve Center (Berkeley, CA) $500

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It’s Quick.
It’s Legal.
It Tells Them Where To Go.

Did you register for the draft? Would you like to UN-register?
The Committee Against Registration and the Draft can help. Our National Un-Registration Campaign helps men like you say “no” to the draft. Un-registering is perfectly legal, and can’t result in your losing federal benefits like student aid or job training.
To get your un-registration card, write:
CARD Midwest Office
731 State Street
Madison, Wisconsin
53703
Or, send $5.00 for our Organizer’s Kit, which includes 100 Un-Registration Cards.

A volunteer tills the garden at the Rural Organizing and Cultural Center in Mississippi.
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out the new medicines we had brought. But there is still no doctor or nurse.

A baby took sick at the Christmas mass. We learned the next day he was close to death, and the new rehydration packets weren’t enough to save him. Many people came to the wake, comforting the family, and visiting with each other. Children surrounded the tiny, cardboard coffin, with the baby garlanded with flowers. A quartet of four guitars and an ancient bass violin played folk music for a crowd in the dark street outside.

Traditionally, at the funeral, children shovel in the first dirt. The cemetery was burned over with wooden crosses made from branches, next to engraved stones two yards square. A fire raged on the side of the next hill over, burning off weeds, we were told, while the trees were still moist, so that later, in the dry season, helicopter’s incendiary bombs could not ignite the weeds, destroying the trees. On the other side of the cemetery and below it, older kids played a late afternoon soccer game. I wondered if I’d walked into a Garcia Marquez novel.

The town celebrated mass the next day when Brendan, a lanky Irish priest who constantly walks from hamlet to hamlet, arrived. The church and religion are extremely important to the community, and it was clear, on their first Christmas at home in several years, that these masses were particularly special. The mass on Christmas day included the head of the Jesuit order in Central America and a Franciscan who came with our delegation. The woman in charge of Pastoral affairs orchestrated them all and in the midst of mass, she had a procession of parishioners headed by children dressed in the traditional biblical robes march around the town plaza and back to the church. The masses were in the liberation theology mode, drawing analogy between the travels and tribulations of the holy family and the flights of Chalatenango’s peasants. When the priest or nuns made comments they then invited parishioners to offer their own views, and many did. Lay people read from the bible, sometimes very haltingly.

The vast majority in the town could not read or write. Though a small adult literacy program had been started, they were committed to pouring resources into the education of the many child-

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Cambridge/El Salvador Sister City Project

The Cambridge/El Salvador Sister City Project is a community response to U.S. funding of war against civilians. Like recently established North American sister city relationships with villages in Nicaragua, material aid is a major focus. The Cambridge effort remains outside of the jurisdiction of Sister Cities International, the national association. The project’s primary goals are to protect the residents of San José las Flores from harassment and persecution from the U.S. backed Salvadoran army, and to reverse our government’s financial and ideological commitment to the strategy of depopulation and displacement of civilians throughout the countryside.

The project has already brought a measure of safety for Las Flores through publicity about the repopulated village and a recent flood of letters and telegrams in response to human rights abuses, as well as through the physical presence of three Cambridge delegates during the Christmas season. It has also launched a material aid campaign which delivered medicine, school supplies, clothes, toys and $1,000 in cash to the village. Locally the project serves as an organizing tool for outreach and education to Cambridge residents about the real situation in El Salvador.

Plans include the passage of a resolution by the Cambridge City Council affirming this relationship between Cambridge and San José las Flores. Such a resolution will lend credence to organizing efforts and will open up city entities (schools, city offices, officials) to the material and moral aid campaign.

The Cambridge/El Salvador Sister City Project currently consists of Cambridge residents representing over 15 local organizations including the Cambridge Peace Commission, the Cambridge Commission on the Status of Women, CASA, Comité El Salvador, the Cambridge Civic Association, several different churches and Pledge of Resistance affinity groups, the City Democratic Committee, the high school, community schools, the Cambridge Teachers Association, and others.

For more information about the Cambridge/El Salvador Sister City Project, call David Grosser, 617-876-4545.

-by Susan Freireich

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was always around, cutting sorghum with a gang in the fields, pulling the pinata rope while the blindfolded kids squealed and swung blindly at it, or speaking up in mass.

We sat in a room of his house, a room that might have been a garage of the town’s only car owner before the war, while his two goats munched some leaves. I mentioned the helicopter. “They are looking for them,” he said, gesturing to a small group of guerrillas who happened to be passing by outside. He smiled. “They want to see them so they can justify bombing us.” The conversation turned to my departure the next day.

My friend worked out the schedule. We would walk out at 5:30 AM and get to Chalatenango at 10:30 (we were slow walkers, he pointed out). Then a bus trip to San Salvador. He asked how we would get home from there. We would fly out the next day. “Oh,” he said, “perhaps on the silver colored plane that flies overhead each morning. Will you get there the following day?” “No,” I said, “in a couple of hours.” Wonderment. “Will it cost a thousand dollars?” Much less, but still very expensive (about a month’s wage for those lucky enough to have work in the capital, and an unheard of sum in Las Flores). “Tell me,” he said, “when it climbs does it go like this” (he moved his palm in an upwardly spiraling direction) “or like this” (moving his palm straight and diagonally up). “The latter,” I said. “Does it feel like you are walking uphill, when that happens?” he asked.

What imaginative questions, but from such a different world, I thought. He seemed naive. Then I remembered an earlier conversation, when he told me of fleeing the bombs. He told me precisely how an A-37 flies. He described, in the course of his narrative, the attacks of the helicopters, capturing for his listener their different characteristics and capabilities. He had given impressions of the different sounds made by incendiary, mortar, 250 lb. and 500 lb. bomb explosions. I worried again about the noon time helicopter, wondering if the military might try something on New Year’s Eve. Might they not bomb the plaza, I said. “No,” said this unlettered man to this political science professor visitor, “it would hurt them on the international level, cost them too much prestige. They know your friends know you are here. Your visit has given us strength, it animates us and we feel less alone. If we can continue, and if this can happen in many villages, the war will be humanized and, with people farming lands, perhaps negotiations will begin.”

Jack Spence teaches Latin American Politics at the University of Massachusetts-Boston. This was his fourth trip to Central America, his second to El Salvador. Susan Freireich works with refugees at the International Institute of Boston. She has previously lived and traveled in Central America but this was her first visit to El Salvador.

The Resist Pledge System

The most important source of Resist’s income is monthly pledges. Pledges help us plan ahead by guaranteeing us a minimum monthly income. In turn, pledges receive a monthly reminder letter (in addition to the newsletter) which contains news of recent grants and other Resist activities. So take the plunge and become a Resist pledge!

Yes, I would like to pledge $ ______ monthly to the work of Resist.

Name ____________________________
Address ____________________________
City ______ State ___ Zip ______

YOUR TELEPHONE TAX PAYS FOR WAR!

National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee
PO Box 2236
East Patchogue, NY 11772
516-654-8227
Marching against the Alabama death penalty — sponsored by the Southern Organizing Committee in Kentucky.

Grants
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Veterans for Peace/Tallahassee Peace Coalition (Tallahassee, FL) $350
Veterans for Peace (Portland, ME) $300

Prisoners' rights
Coalition for Prisoners' Rights (Santa Fe, NM) $600
Committee to Free Mila Aguilar (Cambridge, MA) $300
Dallas Coalition Against the Death Penalty (Dallas, TX) $200
Jailhouse Lawyer (Camp Hill, PA) $300
Pilgrimage Peace & Justice Center (New Orleans, LA) $600
Prison Book Program (Jamaica Plain, MA) $500
The Real Dragon Project (Berkeley, CA) $200

Women/Lesbian/Gay
AIDS Council of Northeastern NY (Albany, NY) $350
Gay Community News (Boston, MA) $500
Kinheart, Inc. (Evanston, IL) $200
Kwanzaa (Burlington, VT) $200
Madison Institute for Social Legislation (WI) $300
National Union of Eritrean Women (NY, NY) $300
NY Walk for Life (Oneonta, NY) $100
Philadelphia Lesbian & Gay Task Force (Phila., PA) $100
Reproductive Rights National Network (Jamaica Plain, MA) $500
RI Project/AIDS (Providence, RI) $600
Rosie Jimenez Day Committee (Boston, MA) $500
Take Back the Night Coalition (Pasadena, CA) $500
Triangle Lesbian & Gay Pride '86 (Durham, NC) $100
Women & Reproductive Technologies (Watertown, MA) $500

Donor Directed Grants
LEPOCO Anti-Apartheid Committee (Bethlehem, PA) $390
NY Faculty for Human Rights in El Salvador and Central America (NY, NY) $1,500
Vermont Committee on Southern Africa (Montpelier, VT) $500

Loans
Lesbians Choosing Children Network (Jamaica Plain, MA) $600
NECAN Regional Student Program (Northampton, MA) $100
Radical America (Somerville, MA) $1,000
Syracuse Peace Council (NY) $1,000

Resist Grants $33,310
Donor Directed Grants $2,390
Loans $2,700
Total $38,400

Newsletter Staff Changes
With this issue of the newsletter we say "goodbye" to editor Ken Tangvik and "hello" to incoming editor Tatiana Schreiber. We at Resist would like to thank Ken for the excellent job he has done over the years, and we are very glad he has decided to remain on the Resist Board. While the staff will miss working with Ken on a weekly basis on the newsletter, we feel very excited and confident in our new editor, Tatiana Schreiber.

Tatiana works part-time at AFSC, describes herself as a socialist and feminist, and says her main interests include the Middle East, prison issues, labor, and gay/lesbian politics. She works with Boston Women's Community Radio, a local group of women who produce a weekly feminist radio program and a special yearly 24 hour program for International Women's Day.