

VANA NEWSLETTER - BC BRANCH



October 2001 Vol. 12, No. 8

Box 319, 916 W. Broadway, Vancouver, B.C. V5Z 1K7

Letter from your Executive

Dear Fellow VANA Members in BC:

The 11 September events were a huge shock.

As with John Kennedy's assassination, people will always remember how the news reached me on my car radio on the way to the Vancouver airport on the way to the Vancouver Brunswick and Nova Scotia members. My regrets to the meeting, sent on the 12th, concluded:

Security will only be found in dealing with the severe world-wide desperate and horribly misguided attacks. The place to start dealing with desperate and horribly misguided attacks is about eight miles north of the World Trade Center disaster, on the Eastab Nations Organization world headquarters. The UN is still our best hope for peace.

More on VANA's support for a UN Charter and law-based response: More on VANA's support for a UN Charter meeting, Ed Shaffer circulated his draft of a VANA meeting, Ed Shaffer discussed and amended it. It has since been sent out very widely, and appreciated and all those involved in putting this together.

The article below: This War is Illegal by Prof. Michael Mandel is of great importance. This War is involved in a war which is just as lawless as was the bombing of Yugoslavia. The rule of International Law through the UN. Our call for the Canadian Government for International Law and the UN Charter (as set out in International Law and the UN Charter) renewed.

Our comrades in Veterans For Peace have added to their long record of anti-militarism/war action by putting a full page ad in the New York Times. It was first published in the New York Times, to President George Bush. It was first published in the New York Times. Inspired, a Japanese mother of four teamed up with the leading rescue worker from the Kobe earthquake disaster to rally ordinary Japanese people. It appears below.

Our next regular general meeting will be on 22 October 2001 at 1:30 p.m. David will report briefly on meetings he has attended in Winnipeg, Victoria, Ottawa and Toronto. Then we will hold a general discussion on War & Terrorism and actions should be in this new situation.

Remembrance Day, 11 November, is on a Sunday, war-charged atmosphere, our banner's message seen more than ever. We will assemble as usual at the NW corner of Victory Square at 11 a.m. We strongly urge everyone to be there to show the world that veterans want peace

<p>Our chosen role in tackling the world's worst problems does not will be a VANA Fund-Raising Banquet on Wednesday November 21st at the Avenue and Oak St, Vancouver. Reception at 5:30 p.m. Dinner at 6:00 p.m. Cost: \$25./head. After the dinner, VANA National President, David Morgan, will be after being lightly roasted. A bright and cheery event as winter closes after being lightly roasted. A bright or Phone Ted Powis 604-922-8998</p>

Finally: keep sending in your news, information, articles, writing, questions, beefs and bouquets.
Best wishes,

Ed Livingston President, (604-730-6990, Fax: 604-730-6931 e-mail: <phcl@netcom.ca>

Cynthia Llewellyn Secretary, Ted Powis, Treasurer,

David Morgan, News Letter, 604-985-7147, Fax: 604-985-1260 e-mail: dmorgan@web.net,

240 Holyrood Road, North Vancouver, BC, V7N 2R5; Bas Robinson, Membership Coordinator

At Large: Emil Grieshaber, Joyce Lydiard, Ed Shaffer

Marine s Letter to Bush (continued from page 4)

MonthsMonths ago we sawMonths ago we saw unbearable images of a father and child helplessly pinned down in cross yourself, can you imagine thatyourself, can you imagine that parent's anguish as he felt the life ebb from his son? If we actionaction which callously traps other families in cross-action which callously traps other families in cross-fire, human within us.

This moment of deep crisis is also a moment of immense opportunity. I urge you to move our world away fromfrom violence and suffering toward peace, freedomfrom violence and suffering toward peace, freedom and abun letlet the voices of desperation be heard. Let us not repeat thelet the voices of desperation be heard. Let us not repeat th onon Racismon Racism in Durban, South Africa, but rather bring all voices to theon Racism in Durban, South Africa, telling the stories we do not want to hear.

We are trulyWe are truly a superpower, used to talking and expecting others to listen. Show theWe are truly a superpower strongstrong enough to learn to listen. I praystrong enough to learn to listen. I praythat youstrong enough to learn to li MayMay God giveMay God give you the wisdom to find the opportunity that liesMay God give you the wisdom to find II sincerely hope that future historians will look back at yourI sincerely hope that future historians will look back at yo cool sense of reason that guided you in moving our world closer to justice and democracy for all.

Respectfully, Greg Nees Former U.S. Marine Sergeant

Lurching Towards Catastrophe

Bush and Blair Have Become Bin Laden's Recruiting Sergeants

By Seumas Milne, *The Guardian*, October 11, 2001

ThisThis This is the fifth time since Tony Blair became prime minister that Britain and the US have taken milThis is actionaction - though not always together -action - though not always together - without anaction - though not always to g SierraSierra Leone andSierra Leone and Afghanistan. In four cases, the attacks have consisted overwhel aerialaerial bombardments; in three, the targets have been Muslim statesaerial bombardments; in three, the targets have b andand none of those under attack has beenand none of those under attack has been able to offer anything but token resis assaultsassaults - such as the four-day Desert Fox operation nearly three yearsassaults - such as the four-day Desert Fo been a 10-year regime of relentless bombing raids and grinding economic sanctions.

FromFrom such a perspective, this conflict did not begin last Sunday or on SeptemberFrom such a perspective, this con thethe pattern of wars against dthe pattern of wars against developing cothe pattern of wars against developing c PresidentPresident Bush in his campaignPresident Bush in his campaign to drive Saddam Hussein from Kuwait. It was t sentst to Saudi sent to Saudi Arabia and the devastation of Iraq began - two of the three festering Muslim grie byby Osama bin Laden in his broadcast describing the New York and Washingt on atrocities as America tasting "what we have tasted".

ButBut none of the Anglo-American onslaughtsBut none of the Anglo-American onslaughts sinceBut none of the Anglo ofof one of the poorest and most ruined countries in the world by the planet's richest and most powerful state, assistedassisted as ever by itsassisted as ever by its British satrap. For allthe earnest assurances about pinpoint targeting, toll is alreadytoll is already mounting, including the incineration of toll is already mounting, including the incineration aa cruise missile asa cruise missile as they lay sleeping in a Kabul suburb. The almost comical futility of the military over epitomizedepitimized byepitomized by General Richardepitomized by General Richard Myers, US Joint Chiefs of Sta now have air supremacy over Afghanistan"

VANA MEMBERSHIP

Name: To renew your membership in or to join VANA,Name: To renew your membership in or to join VANA, please fill out theName: To to VANAt, to Ted Powis, Treasurer, #603-1745 Esquimalt,to VANAt, to Ted Powis, Treasurer, #603-1745 Esquimalt, W. Van couver, V national office and \$10 to the branch. (You can use the enclosed addressed envelope)

Name: _____ Pho _____

Address: _____

City: _____

