Your community group can support her struggle for justice by distributing World Development Tea.

The Trangia is a complete cooking unit made in Sweden from high quality materials. Its unique design makes it suitable for outdoor use even in the worst weather conditions, although it is just as efficient inside the tent.

1. It is easy to erect and to light even in outside windy conditions.
2. The pans are difficult to knock over because they sit down in the stove. In case of an accident the stove can be easily extinguished with a bucket of water.
3. There is no need for priming etc., and so no fuel contamination of hands, food or clothing. Methylated Spirits can, however, be used to extinguish flames.
4. Methylated Spirits is readily available throughout Australia. It is eco-friendly and is probably the most widely distributed reusable fuel.
5. Very few parts can be lost. Replacements if required are low in cost.
6. Minimal cleaning and maintenance required.
7. Because the main unit is low inside the Trangia unit, it is possible to carry the unit to different positions with little risk of the pans tipping over.
8. The Trangia can be used outside or inside the tent, when a stove or campfire beneath it will prevent any damage to the groundsheet.
9. The Trangia is suitable for boiling, bushwalking, camping, caving, cycle touring, ski touring, etc.

NOTES: There are two Trangia models, reference numbers 25 and 27. The 25 model has the larger capacity. Both models include a spoon handle designed so:

a) Provide maximum strength.
b) Obviate utensil damage.
c) Incorporate heat dispersion holes to avoid possible to carry the unit to different positions with little risk of the pans tipping over.

OUTDOOR AGENCIES PTY. LTD.
148 Queen Street, Alexandria N.S.W. 2025
Phone: (02) 69-7688, 498-3860
For further details, contact Miss C. Muzzin.
RAINFORESTS: THE FACTS

Belbourie

There is no way to describe this small Hunter Valley winery unless you've been there—no way to describe the wines made there until you've tasted them—huge wines, complex, mouth filling with long lingering after taste. White wines long aged in French and German Oak casks and destined for a decade or more of cellaring and intense complexity, fully fruited red wines with big tannin—which will age gracefully with you. Just as it is hard to describe the Hunter itself and the efforts we at Belbourie are making to save it from aluminium for other vintages.

JIM ROBERTS AT BELBOURIE WILL TELL YOU HOW YOU CAN HELP AND HOW YOU CAN GET HIS WINES.

Belbourie Private Mail Bag Pokolbin Delivery Mallaitd 2320

And receive a catalog but there's no substitute for visiting and tasting and talking.

The NSW Forestry Commission is systematically destroying over 20% of NSW's remaining rainforest areas. These rainforests are the home of over 20 rare and endangered animals and over 40 rare and endangered plants. Rainforests are less than 2% of all NSW forests.

Sydney, NSW

Mr Neville Wran, Premier, Parliament House, P.O. Box 1875, Canberra City ACT 2601

I support the preservation of all NSW's remaining rainforest areas.

Name ____________________________

Signature ________________________

Belbourie Private Mail Bag

Pokolbin Delivery

Mallaitd 2320

Earth News

Kangaroo Is.

Kangaroo Island, South Australia, is the centre of a debate involving the Department of Lands and the Nature Conservation Society of South Australia.

The state government advocates agricultural development of 14,500 hectares of the island—an area of virgin bushland and an important habitat for wildlife.

The NCSSA believes that a recent government report on the future of this area has not fully assessed the environmental consequences of agricultural development or adequately considered the long-term economic and social aspects of alternative land-use. They also point out that soil and water salinity levels make this land unsuitable for primary production and that preserving the bushland as a tourist facility would be a more logical plan.

Fighting for Liberation

The Seventh National Homosexual Conference for Lesbians and Homosexual Men is to be held in Adelaide on the weekend of 29, 30 August 1981. The conference has the theme 'Fighting for Liberation in the 80's'. Some of the workshops that have been recommended are: Gay Women, Lesbians and Homosexual Men (Fund), Disabled Gays, Child/Adult Relationships.


Action: For more information about the conference, fund raising, travel assistance and registration, write to Homosexual Conference Collective, GPO Box 548, Adelaide, South Australia 5001.
atomic waste from the Kerr-McGee Nuclear Corporation in Oklahoma are reportedly being used to fertilize cattle feed.

Kerr-McGee's Squayboola facility, a plant which converts uranium hexafluoride for processing as nuclear fuel, generates approximately 3.28 million litres of radioactive waste each year. The nuclear firm has been using the waste from the uranium reprocessing — a water sluice called raffinate, which has a high nitrogen content — to fertilize grass used as cattle fodder. Sulfur chloride is added to the raffinate to reduce radioactivity before it is stored in large concrete-lined holding ponds.

Kerr-McGee spokesperson Donna McFarland said, "For about five years we used the fertilizer to grow hay. It really increased the yield. Then in 1978 we introduced cattle onto the land to feed off the fertilized hay."

McFarland claims tests on some of the slaughtered cattle gave the animals "a clean bill of health."

The Kerr-McGee Corporation is reportedly now planning to market the radioactive fertilizer commercially.

Members of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra performing Yes We Have No Plans for Nuclear in the Muntzian United for Some Energy Options concert at the Civic Centre, Melbourne. This was their second classical concert against nuclear power.

Chain Reaction

Radioactive fertilizer

EARTH NEWS

South West stalemate

Tasmania's two Houses of Parliament are locked in a stalemate over the state's next power scheme: to be or not to be and which one.

In early November 1980, the House of Assembly passed a bill authorising the construction of a dam on the Gordon River, above its junction with the Olgas. In December, the Legislative Council created a commission of inquiry by not rejecting the Government's bill for a Gordon-Olga scheme but by amending it to authorize a Gordon-Benjamin scheme.

The Labor Premier, Doug Lowe, will not have a referendum on an Assembly election, nor will he resign or back down on saving the Franklin; a stand to be maintained.

The Council has said they won't back down, so the crisis may continue.

A Federal-State Inquiry into the national importance of South West Tasmania, an inquiry which was set up to go federal assistance to Tasmania through incentives for energy efficiency schemes, and to alter energy sources, subsidies for labour intensive industries, and other matters.

Legal counsel for the anti-nuclear case are contributing their services free of charge (the case has probably cost Minatome $20,000 in legal fees) but administration costs and airfares are mounting.

Action: Donations can be sent to the Muntzian United for Some Energy Options, PO Box 364, Ben Lomond South West National Park of World Heritage status. Telephone (077) 71 626.

More than my job's worth

Anthony Mazzocchi, a director of the United States, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union claims that women are under increasing pressure from the nuclear industry to get sterilizations in order to avoid giving birth to defective children. Defective children — defects caused by chemicals in the workplace, rather than radiation — are being forced by chemical companies to sterilize themselves. Those who refuse to do so either must accept lower-paying jobs or leave.

The union's health and safety director said that men are under similar pressure as new studies find that some chemicals are harmful to sperm as well. He said that if this trend continues, there is a real possibility that "sterilization clinics" will be established for certain kinds of workers in the USA.

However, here was a sad and ironic ending in the case of five women who were sterilized in order to keep their jobs with American Cyanamid in 1978. The company has shut down the plant in which they worked and all five have been transferred with complete loss of the departmental seniority and pay for which they had sacrificed so much. They are now on the lowest levels of their new departments. They would not have needed to be sterilized to work where they are now — a tribute to the colossal cynicism of American Cyanamid, who face damages suits and a $10,000 fine from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Support for Portland

Winona La Duke (right) and Peter Hayes (left) delivering a letter next to the Australian Council-General in San Francisco, Mr G V Brady, (centre), December last year. Winona and Peter were members of a delegation from a demonstration staged outside the Australian Consulate by the Australia Support Network a group sympathetic to Australian Aborigines. The Act protected the annexing of Aboriginal land in Portland, Victoria, by the Aluminium Company of America (Alcoa).

Winona, a member of the International Indian Treaty Council, said coming out of the Consulate, after the delegation was refused a full hearing, I thought that the Australian Consul-General was the most patronising government official I have ever met. I've understood that they treat Aboriginal people the same way as they treat Italian people here, but that man would not listen to what we had to say."

Pentagon protest

On 17 November 1980, 115 women were arrested after a two day civil disobedience action at the Pentagon in Washington DC. The action opposed military escalation and violence against women. 2,000 women gathered on 16 November for workshops on militarism, ecology, racism, health care, poverty, and violence against women. On the second day the women held a demonstration centring on the Pentagon, with a speech, murning, rage, gathering strength.

During the mourning phase gravestones were laid for victims of American nuclear policy. These included stones for Karen Silkwood, Vietnamese women and Hamburg women who succumbed to cancer in twenty years time. 115 women were arrested while engaged in non-violent disobedience actions. They were charged in leg irons in unheated buses and taken to a women's prison.

Some of the women have already been charged with obstructing entrance to a "moratorium district" and sentenced to ten or thirty days in jail. The rest have either been released on bail or have remained in jail in solidarity with those already sentenced.

The Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations has proclaimed 12 October, 1981 as World Food Day. The Food Justice Centre of Friends of the Earth will use the day to focus on a number of food politics issues. They include women and food production, food and union, agribusiness in Australia, food as a political weapon, and the marketing of infant formula in the third world.

The Food Justice Centre plans to produce booklets, videos and a teaching display on these issues. Help is urgently needed to get this project underway.

Action: Contact Food Justice Centre, PO Box 401, Collingwood Victoria 3066, Telephone (03) 419 8700.

The politics of food

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Some of our plutonium is missing...

The British television series *Panorama*, in a programme entitled "Some of Our Plutonium is Missing," recently investigated several alleged incidents at the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority's fast reactor at Dounreay in Scotland.

They reported that in 1973 and again in 1977 five pins containing up to twenty kilograms of plutonium disappeared from the plant's cooling pond. Despite a wide search, neither pin has been found.

Then in May 1977, a high-activity waste was found, containing a huge concrete plug into the cooling pond, to which a worker had left the area.

More recently, eight men were engaged in handling reactor waste without being told it contained plutonium. Consequently, they did not wear the correct respiratory masks necessary to prevent them from inhaling it.

The U.K.A.E.A. put these incidents down to "management and paperwork" and that the reactors were safe. It appears that the U.K.A.E.A. failed to report the plutonium waste incidents, according to the Health and Safety Executive and the Health and Safety Executive.

Panorama, however, questioned the reliability of these claims, pointing out that the U.K.A.E.A. was unable to give a clear account of the plutonium waste incidents, and that the health and safety issues were not addressed.

The programme also raised the question of whether the U.K.A.E.A. was genuinely interested in safety issues, given that the plant had been involved in numerous incidents involving nuclear substances.

Live and let die

Residents in a West Berlin subway station were shocked one morning after reading a letter from the local government authorities.

They reported that in their mailboxes, they found letters from Berliners whose lives should be saved if they were a nuclear accident to happen. It is feared that there were only 3,000 people in a special nuclear shelter in a suburb of Berlin, and that some of them could perish if a nuclear accident occurred.

The letters were a fake project organized by the Berlin government in a special nuclear shelter in a suburb of Berlin, and that some of them could perish if a nuclear accident occurred.

Stage 1 of the re-launch of *Chain Reaction* was to re-organize the administration of the magazine, to ensure that people who subscribed actually got their magazine, to bring it out on time, and to have particular people with clear responsibilities for each area of the magazine. That began in April last year. Stage 2, at the same time, was to bring out a brighter magazine — more clearly edited, crisper, easier to read. Advertising also had to be increased to bring in enough money to keep *CR* alive.

Now we are up to Stage 3, the big challenge, is to increase sales. A number of steps have been taken, but many more remain ahead of us — and so includes the readers. Members of the *Chain Reaction* Collective, including the Editors, have travelled frequently over the past year to increase contacts with environmental and energy groups around the country. That programme of travel will continue — so we keep a flow of articles from far and wide and so we know what is happening in Sydney, Hobart, Perth, Alice Springs, etc. This magazine must mean a lot to people and that is why we are working hard to increase its circulation and readership. It is not enough that the magazine is seen as just one comic of Friends of the Earth, it has a broader purpose and is assisted by community groups.

The magazine's circulation has weakened in the period prior to the re-launch of *Chain Reaction*. We are seeking a one-line advertisement in the *Sunday Times* — that should bring in $200 to $300 each issues.

Leaves are being printed for insertion in some periodicals and for general distribution. That is what has to happen for *CR* to be a sustainable venture.

Oh, how we wish it were all that simple and encouraging! But, success for this magazine is to continue to be published. *Chain Reaction*'s accounts still reveal huge problems. While a slide in sales has been halted, growth has, so far, been gradual. This is all part of a process which it is helpful for readers to understand.

An activity which brings in revenue is the special appeal for subscriptions. We have asked many organizations to contribute to this special appeal and the response has been encouraging. We are now asking friends of the magazine to contribute to the special appeal.

To the tune of $7000

This is not a financial appeal to sell copies of the magazine, but a special appeal to increase subscriptions. We are asking friends of the magazine to contribute to this special appeal and the response has been encouraging. We are now asking friends of the magazine to contribute to this special appeal.

Income for the magazine has gone up considerably over the past few editions, through increased sales, advertising income, and through the sponsorship of colour covers and major features by Friends of the Earth, other environmental groups, and unions. The expansion has been rising faster and a loss is still made on each edition — clearly a situation which must be ended.

The things that can save us are finding further sponsors, individuals and/or organizations who see *Chain Reaction* as an important and effective contribution to the discussion of energy and environment issues in Australia, and many more sales, through a rise in the number of subscribers of members of Friends of the Earth and to other subscribers.

We appreciate that it takes time, but also know that if every reader of *Chain Reaction* were to successfully urge one more person to become a subscriber or friends of the Earth member sales would double. That is what has to happen for *CR* to be a sustainable venture. If you can get more than one individual, school, community group, company, union, library or whoever to subscribe please do so. It is the biggest contribution anyone can make to this magazine.

Leigh Holloway
The first six months of 1981 will be a critical period for the growing international movement to stop plant patenting schemes.

In April and June two important meetings will be held in Rome and Nairobi under the auspices of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations. The April meeting in Rome will be a FAO/IIBPGR (International Board for Plant Genetic Resources) Technical Conference on Crop Genetic Resources. One day of the week-long conference will be spent discussing the implications of seed patenting schemes for crop genetic resources. The June meeting in Nairobi is being billed as the "World Seed Congress" and FAO has described this meeting as a "Technical Conference" to start discussion of seed patenting.

These conferences will be used by the agribusiness and agrochemical seed companies to lobby Third World governments to create the necessary conditions for an international agreement on seed patenting. The company is predicted to make more profit on seeds than at any time in the past. Genetic engineering is expected to be made available for dissemination to national, international and alternative media outlets as well as to governments, international organizations, research establishments and peasant farmers. The reports will be available at the meetings in Nairobi and Rome, and Third World representatives will be actively lobbied by representatives of these groups fighting the influence of agribusiness concerns in the Third World and the spread of plant patenting schemes throughout the world generally.

In Australia the debate over seed patenting will intensify when the Plant Variety Rights (PVR) Bill is tabled in the Australian Parliament this coming Autumn session. Immediately after a meeting of all state ministers of agriculture in August 1980 the Federal Minister for Primary Industry, Peter Nixon, made a public commitment to table the bill and allow six month of public debate. However, in his recent announcements Mr Nixon has simply stated...and there will be public debate without reference to a six month period. By June, the Liberal and National Country Parties coalition will not have a majority in the senate and it is unlikely that the proposed bill will be passed after the changeover of government. This secrecy means that plant breeders are being asked to pay royalties for seed which originated from within their own countries and which were developed from wild and traditional seeds which originated from within their own countries. This secrecy means that plant breeders are being asked to pay royalties for seed which originated from within their own countries and which were developed from wild and traditional seeds which originated from within their own countries.

Attempts by PVR to push the bill through parliament may be little more than a smokescreen. For the bill to be workable all states must pass complementary legislation which involves states contributing to the overall costs of the scheme. Only one state needs refuse to co-operate with the Australian Department of Primary Industry and the entire scheme will be sabotaged. It was the combined efforts of the New South Wales and Tasmania agriculture ministers at the last Agricultural Council meeting which led to Nixon's promise of six months public debate. Both these states should be able to keep Nixon to his word by using the threat to halt the passage of complementary legislation.

Strong opposition to the bill has developed amongst Australia's farmers' community. According to a poll conducted by National Farmer (31 Dec. 1980) only 19% of Australia's farmers' community support the bill while 54% are opposed. The poll revealed that a majority of farmers in every state were opposed. A massive 60% of farmers believed that the major beneficiaries of plant patenting would be multinationals. Almost three-quarters of Australia's farmers (73%) believed that PVR would certainly mean higher costs for crops which are not protected by a patent. A majority (56%) believed that the patenting legislation would mean a loss of control over Australia's plant germplasm. Almost three-quarters of farmers (73%) felt that plant patenting would greatly increase the cost of seeds for farmers, making it harder for farmers to develop and plant the best crops for their own needs. Almost three-quarters (74%) believed that the patenting legislation would encourage multinational companies to control the genetic resources of Australia. Almost three-quarters (74%) believed that plant patenting would discourage the development of new seeds.

In the Third World countries are barred from access to resources which came from their own countries in the first place. Third World countries are being asked to pay royalties for seeds developed from wild and traditional seeds which originated from within their own borders.

The secrecy means that plant breeders are being asked to pay royalties for seeds developed from wild and traditional seeds which originated from within their own borders. According to a poll conducted by National Farmer (31 Dec. 1980) only 19% of Australia’s farmers' community support the bill while 54% are opposed. The poll revealed that a majority of farmers in every state were opposed. A massive 60% of farmers believed that the major beneficiaries of plant patenting would be multinationals. Almost three-quarters of Australia’s farmers (73%) believed that PVR would certainly mean higher costs for crops which are not protected by a patent. A majority (56%) believed that the patenting legislation would mean a loss of control over Australia’s plant germplasm. Almost three-quarters of farmers (73%) felt that plant patenting would greatly increase the cost of seeds for farmers, making it harder for farmers to develop and plant the best crops for their own needs. Almost three-quarters (74%) believed that plant patenting would discourage the development of new seeds.
Rainforests are magnificent ecosystems, occurring in areas of high, well-distributed rainfall and lacking in extreme cold spells. They are generally very dense vegetation, forming a closed canopy 20 to 45 metres from the ground. This protects the forest floor from sun, wind and temperature extremes and allows a varied growth of small shrubs, vines, mosses, lichens and fungi. The variety and extent of forest floor growth and the entwining vines and trees will often make a rain forest impassable.

The diversity of rainforest flora and fauna is such that while it covers only 10% of the world’s surface, almost a half of the world’s species can be found within the total environment.

The broad structure and major characteristics of rainforest are the same worldwide. However, the separation and movement of land masses, occurring through continental drift, has resulted in evolution of local types. Thus Australian rainforests contain distinctly native flora and fauna and are not ‘exotics’. Very specifically, they exhibit characteristics peculiar to Australian climatic conditions. These are primarily as a result of annual water stress (shortage), which gives rise to the occurrence of both deciduous and sclerophyll species in some Australian rainforests. Very little research into rainforest ecosystems and the effects of disturbance upon the ecosystem has occurred anywhere. The lack of understanding of rainforests has meant that there is no single accepted method for this classification. This in itself creates problems; forest management bodies often adopt extremely broad definitions which both over estimate the amount of rainforest remaining and allow the exploitation of ‘mixed’ rainforest types, normally those containing sclerophyll species. Conservationists and researchers argue that no rainforest exploitation should occur until rainforests are more clearly understood and defined.

In Australia the definitions most often used to cover rainforest types are tropical, sub-tropical, temperate, and dry temperate. These are the most simple but all are non-precise. They are often adopted extremely broadly which may result in variation in species of plants and/or animals in different climatic altitudinal zones. Therefore, the location and extent of each rainforest type needs to be defined before management policies are determined.

At present the major reason for rainforest exploitation is as a source of timber. Such exploitation has already resulted in drastic reduction of rainforest areas. Other non-destructive uses, or potential uses, of rainforest include: retaining topsoil and regulating run-off, particularly for urban water catchment areas; producing minor products such as resins and gums; providing a source for biological production of prescription drugs; maintaining gene pools and ensuring continuation of many flora and fauna species; providing research areas for better understanding of ecosystems and species development; and maintaining representative ecosystems in pure form for future reference.

None of these important uses will be possible if present day management of timber extraction is allowed to continue the destruction of rainforests.
State Forest, prepared by the Forestry Commission of NSW, strongly favours logging. The closing date for submissions concerning the Washpool EIS is 2 March, and conservation groups are aiming this issue in the coming months. The Tumbarumba Inquiry report and the Hastings Valley EIS will be released this year.

Environmentalists consider that less than 1/2 of the New South Wales area of European settlement survives today. The greatest threat to the remaining rainforest in NSW is logging. Washpool (the last major roadless area in the Tumbarumba Forest) and the Mount Booronga area in the Hastings Valley will be logged this year. The major conservation bodies in NSW see an end to logging in these areas, and call for them to be transferred to the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

Sixty percent of the rainforests are controlled by the Forestry Commission. Only about 22,000 hectares are included in the State's system of National Parks and Nature Reserves; that is less than one percent of a total of 300,000 ha. The remainder is privately owned.

So the future of much of the state's rainforest will be governed largely by the policy of the Forestry Commission. The Commission's present policy is to phase out general purpose rainforest subject to existing commitments. The catch is that practically all remaining rainforest under the FC's control is committed to the mills and extensive logging. The 'phasing out' may not occur until all rainforests have been logged.

An accurate assessment of the amount of remaining rainforest is unknown. While the FC's estimates there is 300,000 ha, conservationists suggest that the figure could be as low as 150,000 ha, and that only about 100,000 ha remain untouched by loggers. The discrepancies in these estimates result from the definitions used, with the FC defining "rainforest" in the best interests of the timber industry.

The FC estimates include land which once supported rainforest, but which may now be degraded farmland. While the Commission estimates the amount left in the state overall, it excludes from its definition rainforest which also includes Brush Box emergents. Thus the Commission denigrates that the 70 ha of Terania Creek it proposes to log is rainforest. Similarly the FC states that less than 20% of Washpool Forest is rainforest because Terania Creek it has hardwood emergents which tower over the rainforest canopy. The Commission's motivation in redefining "rainforest" is not hard to find; by playing down the rainforest element, it hopes to tone down public objections to its logging proposals.

The Commission's behaviour in relation to the Terania Creek Inquiry and the Washpool and Hastings Valley studies has led to great dissatisfaction with the Commission among conservation groups. Although the environmental impact study at Hastings Valley is not completed, logging in the area has not been halted. The Forestry Commission as the "determining authority" is responsible for advertising and adjudicating the EIS. Thus it is empowered to make the final decision, but environmentalists are urging the Planning and Environment Commission, the State's highest body, to review the issue, logging that its Minister, Eric Beckett, will take the matter to Cabinet.

The Commission has not announced how it will proceed after the 2 March deadline for submissions on the EIS. The Rainforest Action Centre, which is preparing an asthma as organizers believe their time will be better spent strengthening public opinion against logging. Along with other conservation groups, the RAC is calling for a public inquiry into the Commission.

Jeff Angel, Co-ordinator of the Centre, notes that the EIS shows that hardwood loggers don't need Washpool for at least some of the alternative rainforest timber north of Washpool would last at least five years. "There is plenty of time", he comments, "to develop alternatives. These include reafforestation, the use of softwood timber, technical assistance to rainforest mills to switch to alternative timbers and the diversion of pine sawings from Bathurst. Jim Somerville, member of the wilderness group, the Coelog Committee, has presented the Bathurst alternative in a submission to the Forestry Commission. He suggests that the Commission offer financial assistance to one or more of the mills at Washpool to relocate at Bathurst where vast amounts of timber will become available by 1980."

The Australian Conservation Foundation, the timber industry's lobby group, ran a six week television and press campaign in November-December 1980 to put the case for logging. Along with the fallacious claim that logging is actually beneficial to rainforests, the ACS's chief tactic was to cry "unemployment!".

Statistics on Australian forest trends released by the Australian Conservation Foundation demonstrate the hypocrisies of the ACS in claiming that it is concerned about unemployment. Sawmills, with their eyes fixed firmly on their profit margins, are introducing new technology and reducing the number of people out of work. In the last decade, during which log output has increased by 14%, the number of people employed in the timber industry is estimated by the Bureau of Census to have dropped by 24%.

Alternatives to rainforests, a soon to be expired resource at the present rate of felling, must be embarked upon soon to avoid future unemployment. Reallocation programmes would create immediate employment, while all references to rainforest logging discussed above would provide jobs well into the future.

The decision on Washpool and rainforest logging in NSW will depend on how much pressure is applied to the Government and by whom. The timber industry is asserting itself strongly, and environment groups are placing emphasis on lobbying politicians. They are urging the wide section of the community which is opposed to logging to voice their opposition by writing to Premier Banfield, other members of the NSW Parliament and to the newspapers.

In the majority of Australian Labor Party branches there is strong support for the protection of rainforests, but Ministers Lin Gordon and Don Day (the member for Casino in the heart of the North Coast timber industry) represent a small but strong pro-logging faction. Don Day refers to the Washpool EIS as "a statement of intention" to log, and is determined to use it to "log as much as possible" because of its importance to the people of his electorate. However the commission's report for the AEP says that the party would be prepared to sacrifice Day's seat over the issue. The Government's term ends early in October, but a decision could be held sooner. The decision on Washpool may be held over until after the election.
Australian rainforest extends discontinuously from Cape York down the lowlands and highlands of the East coast to Tasmania, rarely extending more than 150 kilometres inland (see map). There is a further small pocket of rainforest in the North West of the Northern Territory. At the time of European settlement rainforest covered 1% or 5 million ha of Australia. Today, accurate figures of how much is left are not available but most estimates range between a quarter and one third of the original amount, ie: 2 million to 2.67 million ha. Of this perhaps half had been previously logged or damaged by adjacent land usage, so the total amount of virgin rainforest may be as little as one million ha. Very little of what remains is protected within National Parks or Wildlife Reserves and most is on Crown land and available for logging.

Queensland contains more rainforest than any other state. Since settlement it has been destroyed by timber extraction and the clearing of the land for farming. Virgin rainforest has been destroyed to such an extent that the Queensland Department of Forestry admits that "the private cut of rainforest is now almost negligible, and the Crown cut is also likely to decline as logging operations progressively move from virgin to recut areas".

Rainforest in Queensland is important for two unique reasons. As the dominant heavy vegetation along the North eastern coast, it is top soil retention and control of run-off essential to protect the down stream and hill off areas of the Great Barrier Reef. The rainforest areas in the North East as a barrier to the spread of agri-cultural diseases from South East Asia.

At the moment concern is focused on two significant rainforest areas in East Gippsland. These are under threat from wood chipping of any Victorian rainforests.

National Park Association of NSW Ltd.
152 Bathurst St.,

Contact Groups

Australian Conservation Foundation, C/2: Total Environment Centre
138 Argyle St.,

Another National Park contains small pockets of rainforest, mainly in East Gippsland. These are threatened by the policies of the relevant managing body. Tasmanian forest management is extremely wasteful and the Government receives the least payment per forest unit in Australia. Once a rainforest area has cleared it is normally burnt and reseeded with faster re-generating eucalypts. More areas of significant Huon Pine rain forest will be flooded by the proposed second dam on the Gordon River, and it is this major threat that is currently being challenged by Tasmanian, mainland, conservation groups.

Tasmanian Wilderness Soc.
102 Bathurst St.,

The publicity generated by the campaign to save Moreton Island from this threat is, in turn, creating another one - that of uncontrolled recreational use by the people who have flocked to the island in the last few years. Leases for sandmining on the island have been held for the past twenty-five years, but they did not become an issue until 1975, when the Brisbane City Council, in a new town plan, proposed the majority of it for protected or national park or make most of it a park but was condemned by the Department of Main Roads. Rather than accept the recommendation of the inquiry, the State Government established an interdepartmental committee to review its findings. In June 1977. After three and a half years, the committee has been unsuccessful in coming up with a recommendation acceptable to the Government.

Publicly the Government claims that no decision has been made on Moreton Island; privately the Government has been behaving in a different fashion. It is apparent that the government believes that some mining, at least, is desirable. Thirteen leases granted for the mining of sand were due to expire in 1977, 1978 and 1980. The Mines Minister, Ken Cameron, renewed all licenses for periods from five to twenty-five years. Despite the inquiries recommendation that they should not be renewed. His successor, Victor Sullivan, renewed a further lease due to expire on 30 November, the day after the State Elections. Because of changes to the Mines Act in 1979 lease renewals can be granted automatically by the Mines Regulator, therefore there is no avenue for the public, to formally object. By renewing these licences the Government has greatly restricted its options and strengthened the miners case for compensation should a decision be made to limit mining.

Sandmining interests have been openly calling for the mining of sand on Moreton Island again, due to the land open space. In response to the public outcry, the Queensland Government commissioned an environmental impact study in October 1975. Two strategies were proposed: make all the island a national park or make most of it a park but allow mining on 6.4% of the island. This mining was to be completed by 1990. Rather than accept the recommendations of the inquiry, the State Government established an interdepartmental committee to review its findings. In June 1977. After three and a half years, the committee has been unsuccessful in coming up with a recommendation acceptable to the Government.

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Low point for highest waters

By Simon Balderstone

Spencers Creek is an alpine waterway which begins just below the highest point in Australia – the summit of Mt Kosciusko, in the Kosciusko National Park. But the creek, despite its position, has the dubious distinction of having its waters ruled “unfit for human consumption” by health authorities because of sewage pollution.

You see, the creek is in the midst of the ski resorts of the national park, and thus typifies the continual battle of priorities the New South Wales National Parks and Wildlife Service has in controlling the park and the activities pursued therein.

A team from the Service has recently completed a draft Plan of Management for the national park and it will be released in late March or early April for public comment. The final plan will eventually reach the Minister for Planning and Environment, Mr Bedford, for his consideration.

The draft Plan of Management is believed to contain the following recommendations:

- Three new ski run areas – with provision for essential services, lifts, etc. but with no overnight accommodation – be allowed to cater for the increased popularity of skiing.
- As a traffic-easing option, a mass transit transport system be operated into the ski areas, with a terminal down the valley, possibly near the Park entrance.
- Several huts near the summit be removed.

The one ski resort which will not be allowed to build up accommodation from its present level to the limit set in the 1974 Plan of Management is Charlotte Pass, at the headwaters of Spencers Creek.

Charlotte Pass has been the scene of some of the most reprehensible examples of ecological destruction in the park, such as, extensive soil erosion (which required urgent remedial works), the effects of nutrients from sewage treatment in Spencers Creek, and the damage to the David Moraine by electrical reticulation works and snow clearing.

Another example, a savage reminder of the possible consequences of resorts in national parks, was a major oil spill in the winter of 1979, when 4,000 litres of heating fuel flowed into Spencers Creek.

The draft Plan of Management is liable to put an ultimatum to the proprietors of the Charlotte Pass resort; if the resort proves to be environmentally destructive, its lease may not be renewed in 2015. There is fair warning of this in the NPWS Planning Issue Statement on Resort Areas.

... Because of the area’s important nature conservation values, a careful and critical evaluation of future management options will be made before any decisions are taken regarding extending or renewing any leases. The preferred long term option is to phase out all developments” says the statement.

The NPWS is particularly forthright on Charlotte Pass because of past events, and, now, the proof that the area is a habitat of the endangered mountain pygmy possum. It is not so forthright with the other major resorts, and, of course, once the Plan hits the Minister for Planning and Environment, proprietors of the big ski resorts such as Thredbo (Lend Lease) and Perisher (Kerry Packer) will pile on the pressure, and, if past experiences are anything to go by, may well be partly successful.

Until four years ago there was no public vehicular access into Perisher, but suddenly cars were allowed in, and Mr Packer now has a 1,500 capacity car park as part of his resort. Lend Lease have mammoth plans that if successful will double the size of Continued on page 40.

Dom building on Spencers Creek to stop the flow of oil pollution. June 1979

Continued on page 40.
The Pacific has suffered a long history of oppression. The days of "blackbirding" and the use of islander slaves on Queensland canefields have been replaced by a less blatant but no less insidious political and economic powerlessness. The Australian Government, through its involvement in Pacific organisations and through its aid policy, helps maintain Pacific island dependence on Wester powers in the Western World. Australia will soon sell uranium to France. France continues to test nuclear bombs on Moruroa Atoll in 'French' Polynesia against the wishes of the people. And Australia is negotiating a uranium trade agreement with Japan despite the Japanese plan to dump nuclear waste in the Pacific. All Pacific nations oppose radioactive waste dumping in their waters.

In this special Chain Reaction supplement, we look at the Pacific report on the political, environmental and health effects of nuclear and military development. The following pages go through the political, environmental and health effects of nuclear and military development. The following pages go through the political, environmental and health effects of nuclear and military development.

The Chain Reaction Nuclear-Free Pacific Supplement
Editor Linnell Secomb

Thanks to the Clothing and Allied Trades Union of Australia (Victorian Branch), The Federated Miscellaneous Workers' Union of Australia (Victorian Branch), the Plumbers and Gasfitters Union, Gasfitters Union (Vic), Roy薤eis (La Trobe University students newspaper), and the Uranium Fighting Fund of Friends of the Earth.

Supplement cover: Penrhyn Islanders and through its aid involvement in Pacific economic powerlessness. The Australian Government, through its involvement in Pacific organisations and through its aid policy, helps maintain Pacific island dependence on Western powers in the Western World. Australia will soon sell uranium to France. France continues to test nuclear bombs on Moruroa Atoll in 'French' Polynesia against the wishes of the people. And Australia is negotiating a uranium trade agreement with Japan despite the Japanese plan to dump nuclear waste in the Pacific. All Pacific nations oppose radioactive waste dumping in their waters.

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Low level facts

French Government secrecy, lies and repression are part of life in 'French' Polynesia. Roger Wilson examines nuclear testing and accidents and moves for independence in 'French' Polynesia.

WELLINGTON, New Zealand Make your first foray onto the streets of Papeete, and two things immediately strike you. The first is the humidity. The second is the fact that the streets are clogged with cars, mopeds, the gaily-painted passenger trucks - but few pedestrians. Everyone, but everyone is motorised in some way or other.

The humidity cannot be attributed to the influence of the French in 'French' Polynesia. But the proliferation of the motor vehicle can be, and is just one of the many ways in which Western 'civilisation' has permeated the traditional Polynesian lifestyle. Some examples of this are relatively innocuous.

Some examples are not innocuous. The Australian visitor must be struck by the vast military presence in Tahiti. Add to this the highly visible gendarmes and local police, and the somewhat less visible Renseignements Généraux (secret police) and there are the markings, if not the substance, of a highly efficient police state.

But why? one might ask. "What grand strategy makes it imperative for the French to maintain such forces over 15,000 km from the Metropole?"

"But why?" one might ask. "What grand strategy makes it imperative for the French to maintain such forces over 15,000 km from the Metropole?"

The strategy is, of course, France's determination to hold the balance of power in any superpower conflict between East and West. The arrogance of the strategy is lost on the French mentality, as is its stupidity. But the political sensitivity of testing nuclear weapons on European soil is not lost. Hence the need for a far-off 'host' country with a compliant population who will acquiesce rather than try and fight against such heavy odds. In the case of 'French' Polynesia, the French carry this off with ease.

The French Government's determination to maintain a nuclear presence in 'French' Polynesia is not to pretend to be, nor even to be, nuclear-free. Indeed, the French try to make the French nuclear presence as invisible as possible - it is just one of the many ways in which the French Government seeks to control the population without discrimination. But the French Government's lies and repression are par for the course. The French Government's lies and repression are part of life in 'French' Polynesia.
The islands on this map are not to scale, and are primarily those mentioned in the text.
MARGARET KATHLEEN
URANIUM
KEEPS READING
CHAIN REACTION.

They are about the seabed

Japan is planning to dump radioactive wastes in the Pacific. Although Pacific nations oppose such clear waste dumping in the Pacific, the Australian Government continues to negotiate uranium trade agreements with Japan. Jackson Davis reveals new information that shows that leaks from past USA dump sites have contaminated edible fish and that some dump sites are situated in prime commercial fishing grounds.

The USA seal dump programme was ended in 1970 not to protect the environment but to save money. It simply became cheaper to dispose of nuclear waste on land. But now that land sites are filling up, the nuclear industry is again turning to the sea to get rid of these wastes. There are no fewer than six active programmes in the USA involving various forms of radioactive dumping at sea, including

- The USA Nuclear Regulatory Commission plans to regulate bio-medical wastes, permitting research laboratories to pour more radioactive materials down the drain into sewers and hence into the sea.
- The USA military currently dumps alleged low-level waste into the ocean, at will, refusing to disclose how much and where for 'security' reasons.
- The USA military wants to bury nuclear submarines at sea, by sinking them off the coast of California.
- The USA and other Pacific rim nations are planning to store high-level radioactive wastes (spent reactor fuel) on mid-Pacific Islands.
- The USA has invested more than $56 million in its Seabed Disposal Programme, aimed at depositing high-level radioactive wastes in the ocean floor.
- Although the USA is the acknowledged leader in radioactive contamination of the oceans, Great Britain has

Japanese experimental radioactive waste dumping operation is monitored by a moving camera.

Construct from page 22.

any case, at a depth considerably less than intended.

Atolls are not designed to withstand nuclear explosions. "If an explosion fell, in a submarine liddable, into the sea after the test, the tidal wave in France was aware of the risks, but were not sufficiently concerned to change their plans.

What are the prospects for the future? The papas of French Polynesia and the nuclear tests are inexorably tied. Independence becomes a real possibility since the islands is directly related to the nuclear tests. Independence first, and the tests will certainly stop afterwards.

Independence may not, however, be the panacea for all of Polynesia. Remark about French interest in the nuclear plateau of Nukuhiva in the Marquesan group, to the north of 'French Polynesia', as an alternative test site. Certainly there has been an air base constructed in the Marquesan capable of taking aircraft as large as a Boeing 747.

No such aircraft land there though, nor will any in the foreseeable future, which begs the question of the reason for the airport. Some commentators see the Marquesas separated from the rest of 'French' Polynesia as an event of independence and that such major works in the Marquesans are the expression of a policy for the French.

But rumour abound in Polynesia - as do anywhere where officialdom clamps down on information. One of the results of this is an appalling public ignorance on matters nuclear - to the point where 'la bombe' is blamed for...
dumps ten times more radioactivity at sea than the USA. But all sea dumping programmes pale before the Japanese programme, scheduled to begin as early as September 1981. This would amount to several dozen of 100,000 curies per year indefinitely—more radioactive garbage annually than the USA disposes in 24 years. The site of the planned dumping is the Pacific waters just north of Micronesia. Why Micronesia? Henry Kissinger put it bluntly: "There are only 90,000 people out there. Who gives a damn?"

The Japanese Government has testified at length on the "safety" of their programme, but their testimony and their documents reveal fundamental flaws in their evaluation of its safety. They have assumed, for example, that the massive quantities of radioactivity they plan to dump will disperse evenly in the entire Pacific Ocean and thus be diluted to 'acceptable' levels. In fact the Farallon experience shows that the released radioactivity sticks to the ocean floor in concentrated form, where it is effectively trapped from the dumpsites. The Japanese Government is not only scientifically flawed, it is ill conceived on political, moral and economic grounds. Politically, the Japanese would have to carry out the programme against the unanimous will of the Micronesian people. Economically, the proposed dumping programme will further contribute to the unemployment of the Micronesian people. The United Nations, and the proposed dumping programme, appear to be part of an arms race and its borderlines are the Micronesian people. The Japanese programme is not only militarily dangerous, it is economically and politically disastrous. The US, and Japan, are bringing to the dumpsite.

The lesson of the Farallon incident is that the releasing of radioactive materials into the world ocean is not a benign act. The issues of a nuclear-free, independent, and self-determining Pacific have been raised. It is now clear that what we put into the ocean has a direct impact on our future. This is the lesson of the Farallon incident, and it is the lesson of the Pacific nuclear weapons test bas.

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1. "The Pacific has always been considered a dumping ground for the US and its allies. It is now clear that what we put into the ocean has a direct impact on our future. This is the lesson of the Farallon incident, and it is the lesson of the Pacific nuclear weapons test bas."

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In 1975, the first conference for a Nuclear-Free Pacific was convened in Suva, Fiji. This established a Pan-Pacific movement for a nuclear-free and independent Pacific. Since then, reports on the NZEFPNCC (New Zealand External for Peace and Nuclear Disarmament) have been delivered to Japan within a three-year period. The movement for the New Zealand External for Peace and Nuclear Disarmament has been conducted in discussions on the presence of nuclear weapons in the Pacific, including the reprocessing of radioactive materials and the promotion of nuclear-free policies. The movement has been supported by the Australian Group for Peace and Nuclear Disarmament, which has raised over $US 30,000 for the NZEFPNCC's first year of operation. Within the PANPCC (Pacific Action Network) network, campaigns have been created around specific issues: RIMPAC (Rim of the Pacific military exercise), Trident, the USA nuclear powered and armed first-strike submarine scheduled for deployment in 1982; and independent medical and environmental surveys among Pacific victims of nuclear weapons testing.

With the aim of exposing the true situation of peoples and eliciting support on international solidarity, solidarity days have been organized. In addition to 6 February, Waitangi Day, and 1 March, Nuclear-Free Pacific Day; other days scheduled for 1981 include: 14 July, Bastille Day against French colonialism.

Sandi Galazin currently works at the Pacific Concerns Resource Center office in Honolulu and is the delegate to the Nuclear-Free Pacific Conference in 1980. She has been active in Hawaii with the Native Hawaiian Sunrise for Land and Self-determination.

Contact List — Groups Active on the Nuclear-Free Pacific

Australian Capital Territory
Canberra Environment Centre, PO Box 1875, Canberra City 2601. Telephone (06) 247 4700.

New South Wales
Association for International Cooperation and Disarmament, PO Box 2423, Sydney 2000. Telephone (02) 617 0151.

Northern Territory
Movement for a Non-Nuclear Future, PT 691, Darwin 0801. Telephone (08) 81 6222.

Queensland
Campaign Against Nuclear Power, PO Box 239, North Quay 4000. Telephone (07) 221 0188.

South Australia
Campaign Against Nuclear Energy, 310 Angas Street, Adelaide 5000. Telephone (08) 223 6917.
Pacific Action Network, 31 Addison Road, Back Forest 5035. Telephone (08) 797 6247.

Victoria
Fighting for the Earth, 366 Smith Street, Collingwood 3066. Telephone (03) 419 8700.
South Pacific Action Network, PO Box 328, North Melbourne 3051. Telephone (03) 416898.

Western Australian
Campasular for Nuclear Energy, 537 Wellington Street, Perth 6000. Telephone (09) 312 5942.

1980 Nuclear Free Pacific Conference delegates marched to the French Consul in Hawaii to protest against the testing of two neutron bombs on Mururoa during the conference.

What You Can Do
1. Contact the groups active in your state (see contact list for more information and work with them in the Chain Reaction movement).
2. Distribute information. This issue of Chain Reaction would be a good start.
3. Organize a public meeting in your area. The groups listed in the contact list can help by advising you. Speakers, literature and slides or films are available.
4. Write to the Prime Minister or Minister for Foreign Affairs, urging the Australian Government to:
   — Oppose the Japanese plan to dump radioactive wastes in the Pacific.
   — Oppose French nuclear bomb tests in the Pacific.

Chain Reaction
Greenland, research and promotion of appropriate village technology, improvement of health care and guarantees of environmental protection. Readers of Chain Reaction may be interested to read the text of Resolution 11 of 1977 which concerned the peaceful and safe uses of the Arctic Circumpolar Zone.

"Inuit Circumpolar Conference Resolution 97–11 A Resolution on Arctic Policy: Peaceful and Safe Uses of the Arctic Circumpolar Zone"

Whereas, we Inuit recognize that it is in the best interests of all circumpolar people that the Arctic shall forever be used for peaceful and environmentally safe purposes; and

Whereas, we Inuit are equally interested in the continuation of our homeland free of human conflict and discord; and

Whereas, we Inuit acknowledge the emphatic contributions to scientific knowledge resulting from a cooperative spirit in scientific investigations of the Arctic;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that

1. the Arctic shall be used for peaceful and environmentally safe purposes only;
2. there shall be prohibited any measure of a military nature such as the establishment of military bases and fortifications, the carrying out of military maneuver and the testing of any type of weapon and/or the disposition of any type of chemical, biological or nuclear waste;
3. a moratorium be called on implementation of nuclear powers; and
4. all steps be taken to promote the rights of the Inuit people of Alaska.

The Eskimos know of course that they can pass resolutions till the cows come home and nothing necessarily comes from them. However they've learned a lot by observation of the Europeans and North Americans in their northerly thrust, first for whale oil and now for petroleum oil. They came off second best in regard to the disposition of the whale resource by Yankee whalers last century. Ironically the "white-imposed IWC quota is a legacy of the "white" depredations on the Bowhead stock of a hundred years ago.

This time, having learned from their dealings with Atlantic-Richfield, Humble Oil and British Petroleum, the Inuit are fighting back (all 4,000 of them) with every resource they can muster.

At the end of April 1981, for instance, members of the AEWC will be visiting Canberra, Australia, as part of a delegation to the world assembly of the World Council of Indigenous Peoples. To be hosted by the National Aboriginal Congress, the assembly will discuss matters of mutual interest to ensure political, economic and social justice to indigenous peoples throughout the world. Economic goals include "right to land and tenure" and "right to resource use, ownership, management and profit". Social goals include "freedom to maintain culture, language and traditions"; "recognition of distinctive views of indigenous peoples" and "mutual respect of all cultures". Political goals include "right to self-determination", "right to organize and administer self" and "right to control own education".

They will be particularly interested to visit Australia because until very recently they regarded this country as aggressively anti-Eskimo. They acknowledge that their judgement has been based on the anti-whaling stance of the Australian delegation at IWC meetings. Because the IWC was set up to control commercial whaling the Eskimos resent the intrusion into aboriginal subsistence whaling. And because Australia plays a big part in the Scientific Committee, which provides "evidence" on whaling stocks, the AEWC believes the Australian Commissioner's role is critical. Therefore at the last IWC meeting in England when the Commissioner, Professor Ovington, agreed to chair a special working group to develop management plans and guidelines for aboriginal subsistence whaling and agreed that representatives of indigenous peoples involved in such hunting should participate, the AEWC felt that at long last the IWC was beginning to treat the Inuit with responsibility.

However, the meeting is not scheduled until the next annual IWC meeting in mid 1981. In the meantime Prof Ovington, who as Australia's Director of National Parks is conscious of creating good working relationships with Inuit Elders in respect of Kakadu National Park, wrote to the USA Commissioner expressly requesting Inuit representation at an earlier meeting of a steering committee held in February 1981 in Seattle.

The National Aboriginal Conference has already resolved to support their indigenous brothers of the Arctic by standing with them on the Bowhead whiten issue. A telegram to the last IWC meeting spell it out:

"The National Aboriginal Conference, the elected representatives of the Aboriginal peoples of Australia, strongly supports the rights of indigenous people throughout the world to carry on subsistence whaling necessary to their lifestyles. In particular, the NAC urges the Inuit of the World Council to support the hunting rights of the people of Alaska at the July 21–6 meeting of IWC. J P Hagan, Chairman."

Already there has been personal contact. Reg Birch, NAC member from Wyndham, Western Australia, had discussions with Jake Adams, AEWC Chairman, in Nuuk, Greenland in June 1980.

Australian Aborigines understand the values implicit in the Inuit's relationship with the Bowhead. Generosity is an esteemed personality trait. Not only does a hunter aspire to be successful, he also wants to be able to share. In the conclusion to her report, Rosita Worl wrote: "The persistence of the desire to participate in subsistence activities has perplexed those who cannot understand the strong cultural attachment. Whaling societies believe their cultural survival is based on a direct and intimate relationship with their environment and the hunting of bowhead whales."

Reference: Socio-cultural Assessment of the Impact of the IWC on the Inuit Communities of the Davis Strait by Rosita Worl, University of Alaska, 1980 (Prepared for the USA Department of the Interior, December 1979)
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- MB 2210 36x3" dia Half cells 15V 8.5W 500x290mm $285.00
- MB 3310 36x3" dia Full cells 15V 17W 915x290mm $395.00
- MB 4310 51x3" dia Full cells 21V 21W 1220x290mm $700.00

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GROUP I: (1 only)
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GROUP II: (2 only)
- 51x3" dia Full cells 21V 21W 1220x290mm $632.00

GROUP III: (10 only)
- 40x3" dia Half cells 17V 5W 500x290mm $220.00
- 44x3" dia Full cells 18V 10W 640x290mm $420.00

GROUP IV: (4 only)
- 36x3" dia Half cells 15V 7.5W 500x290mm $220.00
- 44x3" dia Full cells 18V 10W 640x290mm $420.00

GROUP V: (14 only)
- 36x3" dia Full cells 16V 9.5W 515x280mm $440.00

GROUP VI: (4 only)
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Grape picking in a Pokolbin vineyard in the Hunter Valley
Existent & Proposed Coal, Aluminium, Power Station & Dam Developments in the Hunter Valley Charted November 1980

Key
Existing: Existent
Proposed: Proposed

Coal Mines:
1. Between Raymond Terrace-Maitland-Cessnock and Toukley, there are 36 coal mines.
2. Between Singleton and Muswellbrook, there are 15 coal mines.
3. Saxonvale
4. Mt. Thordley
5. Werkworth
6. Wamba and Wambo No. 1
7. Blythman, Lamington
8. Bloomingfield
9. Barix
10. Hunter Valley No. 1
11. Ravensworth No. 2
12. Swamp Creek
13. Howick North
14. Liddell State
15. Mt. Arthur South
16. Foybrook and Foybrook No. 1
17. Bayswater No. 2
18. Mt. Arthur North
19. Mt. Sugarloof
20. Muswellbrook No. 1
21. Muswellbrook No. 2
22. Liddell
23. Energy Recycling Corp., P/L
24. Ulan No. 1

Coal Liquefaction (Coal to Oil Conversion):
25. Muswellbrook to Stock Dept.

Power Stations:
26. Eraring
27. Munmorah
28. Vales Point
29. Wangi

Aluminium Smelters:
30. Kurri Kurri
31. Kurri Kurri (expansion)
32. Lochinvar
33. Tomago

Dams:
34. Glenbawn
35. Lowstock
36. Chichester
37. Liddell
38. Allyn River
39. Grahamsie State Reservoir
40. Chichester Reservoir
41. Kerrabees
42. Wybong Creek
43. Tilga

Area of intensive existing coal mining activity with some 36 mines in area 1 and 15 mines in area 2.
limits to area set aside for coal liquefaction
Power station sites
Aluminium smelter sites
Dam sites
Vineyards

NOTE: Many of the new developments are on a bigger scale than existing installations.

TOTAL ENVIRONMENT CENTRE-CHAIN REACTION map by Jeff Angel, Rod Meyers and Gary Herrn
TASTE THE DIFFERENCE

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ENERGY BOOM FOR THE HUNTER

It is no coincidence that the attack on national parks is associated with coal mining. The NSW government has a major chance for growth being in the development of the state’s coal reserves – black coal, to be exported directly for electric power, processed for liquid fuels. Most of the projects are planned for the Hunter Valley, north of Sydney.

The mass of projects – open cut mines, aluminium smelters, power stations, dams to supply water to coal developments and expanded towns, a coal liquefaction plant – are shown on the map (pages 26–37). Together, they will make the Hunter into an Australian “Ruhr Valley”; the town of Muswellbrook will be surrounded by heavy industry.

Typically, the industrialization is propped up by state funding of infrastructure, cheap electric power, secret agreements and staunch defence by politicians. Only recently, under sustained public and media pressure, have the social and environmental costs come to light. A brief inventory of the Hunter Valley proposals makes some of the problems obvious.

COAL MINES

At least 25 new, mainly open-cut, coal mines are scheduled. They will be larger in size and depth than the Hunter’s traditional coal industry.

Planning of buffer zones near the towns is inadequate and coal mine problems severe. Coal seems often carry salt, which may affect water quality for irrigation. One coal seam, the Greta seam, has a high sulphur content: sulphuric acid mine drainage is thus a particularly dangerous problem. The rapid expansion in coal will put pressure on road and rail transport systems in the Hunter.

The unanswered question is: what about the future? Coal’s major advantage is its large reserve: the energy security of Australia rests on that. The Energy Authority of NSW has already shown that the state’s coal reserves, under an exponential growth curve, could be in short supply in the not too distant future.

COAL LIQUEFACTION

Adding to the pressure on coal is interest in coal liquefaction. The Energy Authority of NSW has already shown that the state’s coal reserves, under an exponential growth curve, could be in short supply in the not too distant future.

Coal liquefaction is a massive technological undertaking and voracious consumer of coal. Environmental impacts are only starting to be explored. Toxic emissions could be a major problem.

Ronald Mulock, NSW Minister for Mineral Resources and Development, told the Government that the government, working together, to ensure that all of these changes are for the better; it will be up to us to see that the changes do not debase the quality of life of those who live in this area . . . .

And on 19 June 1980 Mr. Mulock told the Fourth National Conference of Australian Mining and Petroleum Associations the people of the Newcastle/ Hunter region may be charged that there has been and will continue to be proper attention given to the environmental impact of all major projects approved. No government is going to allow such a large and beautiful part of the State to be despoiled physically or alienated politically.

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Development minifield

Continued from page 35.

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More tonnes of sand from 17 to 20% of Moreton Island and it is believed that the government is trying to cater for these interests without provoking further public opposition. A public opinion poll conducted in November 1980 found that 67% of people in the Brisbane region opposed any sandmining on Moreton Island, less than 20% were in favour including 6% who favoured limited mining as recommended by the public inquiry. The Government having been returned with a clear majority at the last State elections, and therefore having another three years before facing the voters again, may be prepared to weather the storm of adverse opinion and give the go-ahead to mining. The Liberal Party has endorsed the findings of the public inquiry as their policy. Fortunately both the Labor and Democratic Parties have adopted policies more consistent with popular feeling on the issue and are totally opposed to mining.

However, the mining companies would still have to gain export approval from the Federal Government before they can proceed. They almost certainly would have to produce an environmental impact study before any decision could be made and this should be expected to take at least six months. Moreton Bay was recently included on the Australian Heritage Commission's Register of the National Estate and this will add weight to the argument against the granting of export permits. The campaign to save Moreton Island is being spearheaded by the Moreton Island Protection Committee which was established in 1978 to lobby for a national park. Over the whole of the unsettled part of the island, the committee has drafted a management plan and is prepared to implement it to ensure that recreational damage is minimized. It also organizes weekend trips to the island to allow members and visitors to see and enjoy the beauty of the island.

The Moreton Island Protection Committee can be contacted at PO Box 238, North Quay, 4000. Telephone (07) 221 0188. Membership of the committee is $4.00 and donations are always welcome.

Low point for highest waters from p.18

Thredbo and include a convention centre, shopping complexes, restaurants and so on.

Sewage in the resorts is a big problem. On a peak skiing day at Perisher, 2.5 million litres of sewage flow into Perisher Creek and down to Guthega Dam. The NPWS expresses concern also about the impact of sewage flowing into the Thredbo River, particularly that from Len Lye's proposed expansion!

In other waterbodies, it is a problem too. Altham Lake has been found to contain many thousands of times the recommended safety level of "organic matter". The source of the pollution is the Altham Hut, which is almost certain to go.

Blue Lake, Kosciusko National Park

Water pollution in the park has become such a problem, that the Plan of Management is likely to include a voluntary code for bikers and campers to camp a reasonable distance from waterways. Bodies representing such people, it should be noted, are ready to fully cooperate in this scheme. Wherever a stronger, readily agreed, there is no profit-motive involved.

That is the difference between the reaction of those groups and the likely howls of protests and mountains of pressure which will come from the skiing organizations and resort entrepreneurs when the State government prepares to consider proposals such as those as limiting accommodation to approximately 9,000 in the next Plan of Management.

Federal support against the State Government and twice Viner's Government agreed to compromises which completely ignored the expressed wishes of the Communities.

After viewing Take Over, I was left in no doubt about how little our governments care about people. It is not just a film for Land Rights supporters - all Australians who care how we are governed should see it. One note of caution. Be prepared to concentrate for the film is long (about 90 minutes) and the audio quality is bad in parts.

The reality of Aboriginal affairs is purely a matter for arrangements between governments, and the wishes of black people have no place in this.

That is the message of Take Over, a film record of events at the Aurukun Aboriginal Community during March 1978. This is the period when the Government of Queensland moved to take over the community from the Uniting Church.

As the movie tells the story, the State Government action was bitterly resisted by the Community and clearly expressed in the apparently endless series of community meetings with politicians and public servants. Yet the State got its way in the end. The State Government is the obvious "villain of the piece" in the Federal Government, represented by Ian Viner in meetings with the people at Aurukun. Its dealings with the Aurukun people represent the most shameless act of duplicity I have ever encountered. Twice the Community were offered

The two songs on the record The Noonkanbah Story and The Road to Noonkanbah are powerful and important to Australian political culture. They dramatically describe the events, and the aspirations and struggles of Aboriginal people facing the plunder of their land by profit-hungry corporations.

R U Ready (the real singer prefers to remain anonymous saying "it is the issue which is important, not the singer") was involved in the pickets and protests in support of the

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for state run national oil company so that it can obtain a share of the oil revenues. It also makes clear that while energy cost will continue to rise, a programme of conservation and a shift to a renewable energy future will enable present and future generations to enjoy a reasonable standard of living.

Saddler is quite aware of the drawbacks of the 'energy boom' and yet there is a hint that he believes that, at least for the present and future generations to enjoy the 'new environmental handbook' which resulted in four fat volumes conclusions and little else. So much of discussion papers, weighty for public debate ... but if you want to inform yourself about...machines in the 'technology debate'.

The emphasis is on Australia. As well as attractive. Staying one's ground and hoping that Ronald Reagan will read this book and take the environment to his society and its ills in perspective? It concerns me that though the book addresses the need for energy conservation and also the problems of syn-fuels, it does not, I feel, address the problems of a growth society well enough, or the need for a steady state economy. The book emerged as an interesting time. The foreword notes that there was no USA presidential candidate who showed an acceptable environmental record. Once you hope that Ronald Reagan will read this book and take the environment to heart.

Haydn Washington


The layout of the book is extremely attractive. Peter Brown.

I cannot but wonder, however, if Friends of the Earth have not fallen prey to the old Swiss proverb: "All men tend to become what they oppose", for though this book contains the same length text as the first, it is much larger with large margins and weight twice as much. To be fair, it is easier to read and is certainly worth the money.

The book covers issues from population, inflation, energy and transport to environmental education, accessible diet, growing a herb garden and how to push in a environmentally acceptable manner. It has an interesting but short section on toxics. The chapter on the "new ecopornography" is, i.e. the use of advertising by exploiters, has great relevance to Australia in the view of the increasing amount of advertising by the mining industry.

This book amplifies on the first by stressing that wilderness is still at the heart of the environment movement. Indeed, where else can mankind look at his society and its ills in perspective? It concerns me that though the book addresses the need for energy conservation and also the problems of sy-fuels, it does not, I feel, address the problems of a growth society well enough, or the need for a steady state economy. The book emerged as an interesting time. The foreword notes that there was no USA presidential candidate who showed an acceptable environmental record. Once you hope that Ronald Reagan will read this book and take the environment to heart.

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The New Environmental Handbook follows in the footsteps of the first handbook (rarely distributed in Australia) are carried on here, though few of the authors remain the same. As biologist Garrett de Beil notes in the introduction, 'in 1970 it was easy to cover the environment movement because literature and public awareness were sparse. The result of the new environmental consciousness was a wonder book and an important book. It is highly readable and well laid out with many quotable quotes from diverse environmentalists.

I have just read a book called Children in Australia An Outline History by Sue Fabian. It has lots of really interesting photographs and lots of drawings too and this helps you read each page better because you want to find out what the illustrations are all about. In the preface Morag and Sue say that though they wrote the book, for children about children, they think there will be lots of things in it that will surprise adults too. I never knew in the old days that kids were punished if they talked too much or, worse, by having to wear an iron face mask. I thought I wouldn't like to have been a child in those days, but then when I got to the part where a photographer of a lovely baby and he had a closed eye, and a cut and everything to his face, and创造了 by his parents, I thought that people do awful things too in 1980.

Sarah Hardy aged 11

The Next Whole Earth Catalog edited by Stewart Brand. Point/Random House, California, 1980. 608 pages, $15.00 (large format paperback).

Plenty of books ignore the great inequalities which sustain the industrial nations' wealth, and most avoid taking a close look at existing political systems. But these books don't claim to be helping us to understand "whole systems" - a claim which this book makes for its first seventy pages.

While the Catalog is packed with interesting information, the compilers' recommendations must be treated warily. For example Stewart Brand endorses a volume by Milton and Rose Friedman in which conservative economics is used as a justification for increased inequality in countries across the world. It is difficult to imagine a more woolly-headed recommendation.

Subjects covered range from flora and fauna, through soft technology and DIY crafts, to learning and communications. The layout of the book is extremely attractive.

Peter Brown.
The Humane Society believes that there is no place for animals in circuses, intensive farming, vivisection, etc. Please contact us at:

Environmental groups have collaborated on a detailed report about the growth of alternative energy in Victoria. It includes articles on solar energy, wind, water, wood, and other sources.


Earthworks is a collection of articles from the best of Not Men Apart over the last decade. It is the newspaper of Friends of the Earth in the United States of America. The book is split into sections on campaigns, energy, wilderness, nuclear power, wildlife, at home in the world, growth and vortes. It contains articles by David Brower, Lester Brown, Garrett Hardin and Avery Lovins. It makes better use of space than The New Environmental Handbook, and contains cartoons, sketches and photos, but because of its nature, being a selection, it does not hang together as well as the Handbook, as the material is not of uniform quality or tone. Some particularly interesting articles are on the use of public relations, how to frustrate the press, energy, economics and ecology, by H. Oдум, and the arithmetic of growth.

Earthworks brings out the problems of growth—it indicates the danger of exponential growth. Coal in the USA is likely to last only 40-70 years—a similar span to our own.

Perhaps the most important thing about the book is that it is not written in a dry, text book style but rather it explains the principles for harnessing that energy and illustrates them with some basic designs. It is so easy to get the reader with enough information so that he can decide which systems will best suit his particular needs. A list of references is included for more detailed reading.

Leigh Holloway


The Review is a combination of articles, book reviews and general resource guides, all written from an anarchist perspective. As a resource guide this Review is excellent. Every article ends with a reading list, and there are many lists throughout the Review setting out publications, audio-visual productions or simply the objectives of various groups. Finally there are 15 books reviewed, many of which are books about anarchism or anarchist theory.

Jenny Hocking

At Home with Alternative Energy: A Comprehensive Guide to Creating Your Own Systems

This book won't give you all the answers, but for one who is just beginning to think about using energy from the Sun, wind, water, wood or methane, it's a source of a lot of good information on how to get things started.

We point out, it is not a "how to" book, filled with detailed plans for building alternative energy apparatus; rather it explains the principles for harnessing that energy and illustrates them with some basic designs. It is so easy to get the reader with enough information so that he can decide which systems will best suit his particular needs. A list of references is included for more detailed reading.

An interesting feature of At Home is that it is not written in a dry, text book style but rather it explains the principles involved. For instance, Hackleman points out the importance of trapping heat in utilizing solar energy by saying, that heat is slippery stuff, about as likely to stay around as a plateful of cookies in a room full of children.

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