

Gulf crisis not new

by Roxanne Poulin

OTTAWA (CUP)—The United States and Europe are simply "reaping what they have sown" in the Persian Gulf, says Maude Barlow, a visiting professor at the University of Ottawa.

As a member of an international delegation of women who recently visited the Gulf on a peace mission, Barlow says she saw the crisis from another perspective — a perspective not shown by the Canadian media.

"It [the crisis] didn't just start with Iraq and Kuwait," said Barlow, who is also the chair of the Council of Canadians. "It took years to build up this bitterness."

She said historically the involvement of Europe and the US in the Middle East has been the stage for "a lot of distressing political power plays."

The area has been used as a source of cheap oil, big weapons and a location to play out cold war politics, she added. Europe and the United States have never promoted democracy, justice or the equal distribution of goods.

"That kind of situation gives rise to dictatorships," she says. "They [the intervening powers] may crush him [Saddam Hussein], but there'll be another one tomorrow."

The delegation, led by Marguerita Papandrea, the former wife of the ex-prime minister of Greece, visited Baghdad, Turkey and Jordan. The members met with women in the area to find a common cause, met with senior government officials and brought specific propositions to the government of Iraq as to how war can be avoided.

Despite the oppressive dictatorship of Saddam, Barlow says the feeling she got from speaking with the women in Iraq and other countries was that the declaration of a military ultimatum from the US has only served to embitter the people of the middle East and paint Saddam Hussein as a victim.

"In an odd and sad way, we have

made him a hero and maybe a martyr," Barlow commented.

After years of abuse from the outside, she says the people are ready to overlook the dictator's violation of human rights because he will fight back against the oppressors. In case of war this, according to Barlow, gives their army strength.

Greener than thou

by Joey Goodings

Despite the diversion of public attention to the Gulf War, the Student Action for a Viable Environment (SAVE) tour continued with its presentation Friday, urging young people to take action for the environment.

Approximately 15 people attended the presentation which, in varying forms, will reach over 800 schools across Canada for an audience of approximately 300,000 students.

SAVE is an organization run entirely by people of high school age.

The presenters emphasized the power young people can have when working in groups. "When protesting alone, there may be no effect," said Jean-Francois Parent of Montreal.

High school students were instrumental in saving South Morseby island in B.C. from being clear-cut. Other students initiated a movement which led to the banning of styrofoam plates in their state.

The tour encourages youth to form networks of environmental groups in high schools and universities. "It's interesting to see people network, it's very empowering. When people network they can get things changed," said Angus McIllwraith of St. John.

SAVE is promoting membership in the Environmental Youth Alliance, which has grown from 25 students in B.C. in July to its present membership of over 25,000 students in several different countries.

Jordan Hanson, of the Campus Environmental Action Group (CEAG), was encouraged by the idea of SAVE to hold a meeting with high school environmental groups in Halifax. "I didn't realize there were so many," said Hanson.

Friday's presentation focused mainly on consumption and student action. Earlier in the day, Parent acknowledged that the presentations must integrate discussion of the Persian Gulf War. There was a moment of silence for those who have already died in respect of the vigil that was being held simultaneously at Grand Parade Square.

SAVE is concerned about the lack of media attention given to the environment. "It's a dying fad, it's not front page anymore."

"People recycle some things and their conscience is clear," said McIllwraith.

There are presently two groups of students with SAVE who are touring the nation, and one native student who is targeting schools on reserves. Last Friday's group considers the overall response to the tour a great success.

The tour finishes its work in Nova Scotia on Wednesday.

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THEATRESPORTS

Jan 30 Wednesday \$3 A long overdue evening of great improv theatre featuring pre-Canada Winter Games exhibition matches between our own beloved Halifax Theatre-sports League & members of the PEI expansion team! Start the new year off right by laughing yourself into an attack!

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barrington at salter • entertainment 420-1051 • Kitchen Open 12-2 pm & 7-10 pm

NATIONAL WEEK OF ACTION

January 28th to February 1st

Schedule of Events:

Monday January 28th

Open Forum:

- 12:00noon to 1:30 pm
- Room 307 Student Union Building
- Report on the Draft Report on Affirmative Action
- Report from Senate Sub-Committee

Tuesday January 29th

International Students Concerns Day:

- 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm
- International Students' Luncheon
- Green Room, Student Union Building
- Price \$2.00
- Speakers : **Lynn Atwell** - International and Disabled Student Advisor
- Eric McKee** - Vice President of Student Services

Wednesday January 30th

Students' Rights Day

- Film: *The Problems Physically Challenged Students Face at University*
- Speaker: **Steven Estey**
- 3:00pm - Room 224/226 (tentatively sheduled) Student Union Building

Thursday January 31st

Aboriginal Students' Concerns Day

- 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm
- Speaker **TBA**
- Green Room

Student Union Building

Friday February 1st

LOBBY DAY

BURGESS TRAVEL LTD.

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Don't Delay, space is limited. Prices vary according departure dates and do not include taxes and fuel charges.

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CALIFORNIA from \$589	ITALY from \$899
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CALGARY from \$509	HONG KONG from \$1369

The above fares are subject to availability and advance purchase rules. The fares vary according to departure date and are those in effect Jan. 17, 1991.
****Extra savings for persons age 62 and older. You may receive a further 10% discount of many fares and bring as travelling companion along of any age for the same price.

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MARCH FOR PEACE

Grand Parade
Saturday Jan. 26
NOON