

part of her letter to the attention of faculty and students at the University of Alberta. Writing of her job Dr. A.G. Stock says:

"An interesting assignment, but not a particularly easy one on the face of it. Most of the problems will become clearer when I get there, but one at least is comprehensible from a distance: all the books have been destroyed. Dacca University alone has lost 25,000 volumes: other universities, and in particular rural schools and colleges, have suffered as much or more. If you can organise any propaganda to persuade students to send their discarded textbooks to Bangladesh, please do. Courses are roughly parallel, so anything useful in a college syllabus in almost any subject would be useful there, and in English literature, anything from primary school readers up to the poets and dramatists of any period. I foresee a danger of a whole generation growing up illiterate in English for want of anything to read."

A group in the English Department plan to put Bangladesh boxes in as many teaching buildings as possible. We urge you to put books suitable for school and university use in them and we'll see that they're sent to the people who need them. It costs approximately ten cents per book, mailing charges, so if you can also give non-textbooks that can be sold, we'll use the proceeds to send the others.

Thank you.

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Vietnam

Either Kimball Cariou does not hear well, or only hears what he chooses to listen to. In his article on Rev. Morgan's "Peace Congress" meeting, your readers may be surprised to learn that the U of A Vietnam Action committee has quarrels with the Vietnamese.

The Vietnamese, too, may be surprised to learn this. As those present at the meeting will know, the Vietnamese in fact welcome support from the antiwar movement. At the meeting, I offered to read the text of a telegram from Nguyen Minh Vy of the Paris Office of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. This telegram reads:

"Highly appreciate your initiative in organizing Oct. 26 Picket Lines and Nov. 18 mass anti-war demonstrations. U.S. War in Vietnam is intensified and fiercer than ever although Vietnamese have shown maximum goodwill. Nixon administration doesn't respond to legitimate demands, namely genuine independence and freedom. Firmly believe your activities will contribute important part to mobilize American opinion demanding Nixon administration immediately end Vietnam war and support to the Thieu Puppet Administration. Withdraw U.S. Troops from S. Vietnam, let the South Vietnamese settle their own affairs without foreign intervention."

Our hypocritical friends Kimball Cariou and Rev. Morgan choose to ignore this however. If one were to extend their

formula of 'self-determination' for the Vietnamese then one would have to approve of the 10,000 so-called U.S. "civilian" advisors, or the 2000 aircraft rushed to the Thieu regime in Saigon. After all the Vietnamese agreed to it! What can we do?

However, for those who choose to see reality as it is, and as the Vietnamese portray it in their telegram above, the Vietnamese are being forced to negotiate with foreign powers, the future of their country under the barrage of 3½ Hiroshimas per day, and the pressure of the international superpowers. Such a ceasefire will obviously lead to a continued U.S. presence in Indochina and a maintenance of the Thieu regime, a solution which cannot bring lasting peace. Canada, which has had a bloody complicity on the ICC and arms sales, would enforce such an agreement. Is this not "foreign intervention?"

The anti-war movement, at its national conference, Nov. 4 and 5, made clear the rights in this case: 1) the right of the Vietnamese, under the intense pressure they now face to negotiate any solution they choose, 2) the absolute granting of no rights of any other nation, U.S. or Canada to be in Vietnam. The anti-war movement is not under an intensive bombing attack. It can, and is, mounting an international campaign for the war-makers to leave Vietnam NOW. We stand for unconditional self-determination for the Vietnamese, as Nguyen Minh Vy says, "without foreign intervention."

This is not the only point Cariou had difficulty hearing. Those at the meeting will clearly remember I identified myself as chair-person of UAVAC and spoke for that organization alone. Kimball will no doubt also lack credibility with the hundreds of students who heard me speak in classes or public meetings for UAVAC, and know I did not attempt to use the anti-war movement as a forum for the Young Socialists as Kimball would imply, even though I am a member of that group as well.

What about the literature tables? Is it true that UAVAC put up tables in hopes to be identified as the "Peace Congress"? Well, as the article points out, both Rev. Morgan and I both went to some lengths to make clear the distinction between the two groups.

The real reason UAVAC set up its tables was, as sometimes happens in democracies, to explain its side of the case. This apparently, as his faulty hearing indicates, does not please Kimball. However, in the anti-war movement we have two principles: non-exclusion and democracy. This does not please some members of the Peace Congress who would not let some UAVAC activists sign their mailing list. When UAVAC held its Hot Cottage Benefit several weeks ago, we INVITED groups to set up tables, including the Peace Congress. Kimball Cariou knows full well that I invited him personally to set up a table to represent a group he belongs to, despite the fact this group also has group differences with the anti-war movement. We in UAVAC are not afraid of being misidentified. For seven years our demands have remained the same and are all the more important now - U.S. OUT NOW! NO CANADIAN TROOPS TO VIETNAM! Vietnam for the Vietnamese! This is the way to end a bloody and unjust war. This is the way to peace.

Henry Malta
Chairperson
UAVAC

the battered child in Edmonton

by

MARY VAN STOLK

author of *The Battered Child in Canada*

At present in the Province of Alberta legislation exists which urges everyone having knowledge of the abuse of children to report to the Department of Health and Social Development. As it now exists, there is no penalty for failure to comply with this law. A recent example of the failure of our present reporting law was exemplified in an article carried in the *Edmonton Journal* of November 27th, which stated that a twenty-two month old baby boy was indecently assaulted and, in the terms of a city police morality detective, "The worst case of child mutilation he had ever seen".

The child was assaulted on Tuesday, November 21st. The attending physicians made a full report on Wednesday to the hospital social services, who in turn reported it to a representative of the child protection division of the Provincial Department of Health and Social Development the same day. The police were not informed until three days after the assault occurred. The *Edmonton Journal* quotes a police spokesman as saying, "The social worker had explained that she 'had been too busy to call' the police", who as a result of this delay lost valuable evidence and were unable to conduct certain tests which should have been made.



a model child protection act

Everyone, being a member of the medical profession, who fails to make an immediate report by telephone, followed by a report in writing, to the Police and the provincial Child Welfare or Children's Aid Society of the Province in which he is practising, any bodily injury to a child, which, in his opinion, may have been caused by maltreatment, is guilty of an indictable offence or an offence punishable on summary conviction and is liable to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months, or to both fine and imprisonment. This report shall be made notwithstanding that the information is confidential or privileged and no action shall be instituted against the informant unless the giving of the information is done maliciously or without reasonable and probable cause. Neither the physician-patient privilege nor the husband-wife privilege shall be a ground for excluding evidence regarding a child's injuries or the cause thereof, in any judicial proceeding resulting from a report pursuant to this Act. The Provincial Child Welfare or Children's Aid Society shall investigate complaints of neglect and abuse of children and offer protective social services in an effort to protect the health and welfare of the child and to prevent further abuses. In addition, coroners and medical examiners shall be required to report fatalities they suspect to be the result of physical abuse.