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World Food Day

by Alexia Wilkinson

About 30 people turned out for the World Food Day presentation at the Gallery Lounge on October 16. World Food Day is an annual event that is meant to remind us of global hunger problems and to inform us of possible solutions.

After viewing two films, Top Priority and Elements of Survival, the startling statistics became clear. The world's population is increasing at a rate faster than new sources of food can be produced.

Food-aid must only be considered a short-term form of emergency relief. It is important that the emphasis be placed on training Third World farmers in agricultural technology and encouraging their governments to give them fair prices for their crops.

As it is now, some Third World governments spend more money

on militarization than they do feeding their poor. Of course, social, economic, and political problems that these countries face are complex, but Food Day tells us priorities must be redefined

Starvation is a global problem. Even now, in underdeveloped countries, 90,000 people die every day of famine and malnutrition.

enough to become involved.

During discussion led by Dr. Qureshi of the U of A Political Science Department, students were trying to understand these problems and search out new answers. As one person noted, "Dialogue is the first step", and this presentation certainly offered that opportunity. Qureshi was happy with the turnout, saying that he was exceedingly impressed that the youth of one of the best fed nations in the world should be concerned

Peace groups take government to court VANCOUVER (CUP) - Two nat-

ional peace groups are developing a legal case to charge the federal government with complicity in American nuclear war-fighting strategy.

At a recent conference in Victoria, both Lawyers for Social Responsibility and the World Federalists of Canada agreed to be lead plaintiffs in the case and plan to gather evidence for it over the next six months.

"We think we have a good chance of winning," said Fred Knelman, a former Concordia University professor who presented research on Canada's role in U.S. nuclear strategy.

We could have as many as two or three million people represented. - all the nuclear weapons free zones in Canada, some of the major unions, the major churches, and native people's organizations are flocking to be co-plantiffs on the issue," said Knelman.

While previous cases challenging the legality of nuclear weapons themselves have failed, Knelman said the new case could be based on "intent" law, and examine American nuclear was fighting policies.

Similar cases currently underway in Britain and the Netherlands are using intent laws to challenge acceptance of cruise missiles and participation in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), on the basis that American policy has moved beyond the nuclear standoff known as deterrence, to plans to fight and win a nuclear war.

"In numerous ways, Canada is now in complicity with the American nuclear war fighting strategies," said Knelman, citing the 245 classified Canada-U.S. military agre-ements and the 84 Canadian military installations integrated with American nuclear policy.

"The opportunity exists for us to be one of the major obstacles to the fulfillment of a global strategy which will inevitably lead to a nuclear Armageddon," he said. Knelman said some of the ways which Canada participates in American strategy are cruise missile testing, uranium exports, the manufacture of MX missile components, and anti-submarine warfare testing.

"The cruise missile has a clear first use function - it means you commit a nuclear lobotomy on the body politic by knocking our command, control, communication and intelligence centers," he said, arguing there is no defensive or deterrent use for the weapons.

With regard to uranium mining, Knelman said Canada violates its own treaties of 1955 and 1980, which state no Canadian uranium will ever be diverted into U.S. weapons.

"It turns out that there isn't a nucler weapon in the U.S. arsenal that doesn't have Canadian uranium in it," he said. "And there is probably a bulk of weapons in the British and French arsenal now that have Canadian uranium in them.



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