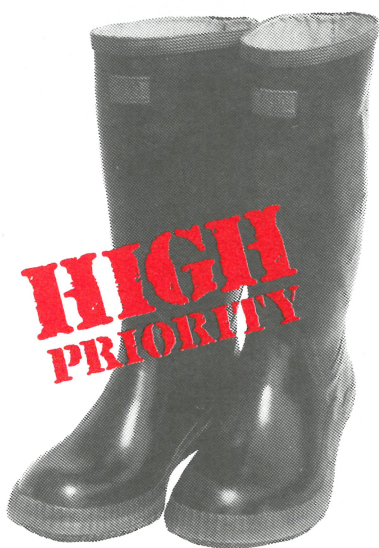


BOOTS for PEACE



DANIEL COLLINS PHOTO

How could boots be so important? Why is this a priority item for Nicaragua? The answer is simple. Large amounts of rainfall make rubber boots a necessity for farmers who must often work in muddy fields. One of the most important priorities of Nicaragua is to be able to raise enough food to feed its people. In addition, an increase in export crops (cotton, coffee, etc.) would bring much-needed trade earnings to this underdeveloped country. The Nicaraguans themselves recognize that the key to the success of the revolution lies in the development of the rural sector.

. . . addressing the needs of small farmers . . .

Since the overthrow of the Somoza dictatorship in 1979, the people of Nicaragua have made remarkable progress in addressing the needs of small farmers. The land reform program, for instance, has given more than 6 million acres of productive farmland to over 90,000 formerly landless peasants. Thousands more now work in agricultural co-operatives. One result is that Nicaragua has been able to come closer to food self-sufficiency than any other Central American country. But all these gains are threatened by the hostility of the United States. The embargo has cut trade, causing increasing costs, and many goods in short supply. The U.S.-backed 'contra' attacks on Nicaragua, in addition to killing thousands of people and destroying farms, force the government to spend scarce resources on defense. Consequently, sectors like farming are often unable to obtain even the most basic tools. For the first time since 1979, Nicaraguans are going hungry.

That's why one of the Tools for Peace national projects this year focuses on goods that are needed by farmers in Nicaragua. You can help by giving the following:

- rubber boots (up to size 8)
- shovels (long handle, round nose)
- axes
- sharpening files.

All donations must be in new or near-new condition.

You can also help by donating money to be used in bulk purchases of these items.

Join with thousands of other Canadians in supporting the struggle for peace and justice in Nicaragua.



Coalition for Aid to Nicaragua

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There are Tools for Peace Committees across Canada. The nearest contact in your area is:

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