

# Nicaragua must survive!

This image is from the 1988 Tools for Peace calendar.

claire kujundzie

Solidaridad  
Canada-Nicaragua

## TOOLS FOR PEACE

The coalition for Aid to Nicaragua works in over 100 communities from coast to coast.  
National office: 1672 E. 10th Ave., Vancouver, B.C., T5N 1X5 Ph. (604) 879-7216

Since 1979, the people of Nicaragua have worked enthusiastically to build a new life. Here, new homes are under construction for the thousands displaced by the war.



# BUILDING PEACE IN NICARAGUA

**HOPES FOR PEACE** and a better life blossomed in Nicaragua in July of 1979. A popular uprising swept away the decades-old tyranny of the Somoza dictatorship.

The new Sandinista government made remarkable progress — health care and education became available for all, and tens of thousands of peasants received land to farm. “Nicaragua Libre” — free Nicaragua — promised a brighter future for a population that had been impoverished and oppressed for so long.



As the war drains scarce resources, the expansion of schools and health clinics has slowed and Nicaragua faces food shortages.

**THOSE HOPES** were threatened in 1981 as the US-backed contra army began its dirty war, attacking schools, health clinics and farm co-operatives. The human cost has been tragic: 40,000 killed, wounded or kidnapped.

**ECONOMICALLY**, the U.S. has blocked



Many communities have been destroyed by contra attacks. 20,000 Nicaraguans have died; 250,000 have lost their homes. The costs of war and the American embargo now jeopardize many of Nicaragua's social gains.

international loans to Nicaragua since 1982 and imposed a trade embargo in 1985. The contras have attacked bridges, food storehouses, and other economic targets.

**THIS WAR OF ATTRITION** has cost Nicaragua a staggering \$3.5 billion in economic losses over the past five years - eight to ten times the annual value of its exports. The limited resources of this small country of 3 million people must now be directed to basic survival — increasing food production, housing displaced people, and organizing defense.

**SINCE THE FIRST** Tools for Peace shipment to Nicaragua in 1981 (\$25,000 worth of fishing

“Last year was very difficult. Our co-operative had only two screwdrivers, a hammer and whatever our ingenuity could put together. Then we received materials from Tools for Peace.”

• CO-OP MEMBER NEAR ESTELI

gear), the campaign has grown nation-wide, involving thousands of volunteers in over 100 communities coast-to-coast. The 1986 collection topped \$2 million in value.

**IN NICARAGUA**, Tools for Peace goods are distributed to unions and popular organizations by the Augusto Caesar Sandino Foundation (FACS) a non-governmental agency. A new FACS office in the Caribbean port town of Bluefields will help get aid to the people of Nicaragua's Atlantic coast.

**TOOLS FOR PEACE** also works with Nicaraguan government ministries to deliver health and educational supplies to hospitals and schools.

**ENDORSERS** • Iona Campagnola - Past President, Liberal Party of Canada • Dr. Anne Squire - Moderator, United Church of Canada • Pauline Jewett - MP, NDP • Warren Allmand - MP, LIB • Bishop Remi de Roo Victoria • Bruce Cockburn • Oxfam Canada • Jeff Rose President, Canadian Union of Public Employees • Marion Dewar - Past President, New Democratic Party • Bob White - President, Canadian Auto Workers • Michael Czerny - Jesuit Centre for Social Faith and Justice • Rev. Walter McLean - MP, PC • **COALITION FOR AID TO NICARAGUA NATIONAL OFFICE: 1672 EAST 10TH AVENUE, VANCOUVER, B.C. V5N 1X5 PHONE: (604) 879-7216**

## The Tools for Peace Campaign

**MATERIAL AID** Each year, thousands of Canadians donate funds or needed items for a people-to-people shipment of priority goods. This has made Tools for Peace the largest non-governmental aid effort of its kind received by Nicaragua. The specific goods collected vary as Nicaragua's urgent needs change, but medical supplies, tools and educational supplies have been priorities.



**EDUCATION** It's no small task to counter the deliberate distortions of a U.S. administration obsessed with destroying Nicaragua. Using factual information, audio-visuals and first-hand testimony from Canadians and Nicaraguans, Tools for Peace informs Canadians about what's really going on in Nicaragua.

### POLITICAL ACTION

Through Tools for Peace, thousands of Canadians have called on our government to:

- increase official aid to Nicaragua, and make emergency food aid available immediately.
- actively and openly promote the Contadora peace process and a negotiated end to the war.
- increase contact with Nicaragua, by opening an embassy in Managua, and inviting Nicaraguan government representatives to Canada.



**SOLIDARITY** is as important to the people of Nicaragua as our material aid. Our campaign lets them know they are not alone in their difficult struggle.

## PRIORITY: NICARAGUA

✓ **Yes, I'll support Tools for Peace:**

- ☐ I'd like to volunteer.
- ☐ Send me more information.
- ☐ I have goods to donate.
- ☐ I'll organize a Tools for Peace Campaign.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my donation of:

- ☐ \$15 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50
- ☐ \$100 ☐ \$200 ☐ \$500

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **I don't need a tax receipt.** Unreceipted funds support organizing and education through local and provincial campaigns. Make cheques payable to: **Tools for Peace/Coalition for Aid to Nicaragua.**

☐ **Send me a tax receipt.** Receipted donations fund the national education and material aid campaign, including purchase of goods and shipping. Make cheques payable to: **Inter Pares\* (Tools for Peace).**

\*INTER PARES is a Canadian non-governmental agency that supports community-based development projects in Nicaragua and around the world. INTER PARES collaborates with TOOLS FOR PEACE on our material aid and education work. CHARITABLE REGISTRATION #0447771-09-10.

**Return this coupon to:**  
Your local T4P committee. 

► This year, Tools for Peace will focus on these critically-needed items:

• **NOTEBOOKS** to continue Nicaragua's world-renowned progress in literacy.

• **RUBBER BOOTS** for the growing number of women in agriculture.

• **CORRUGATED ROOFING** for thousands displaced by the contra war who are building new communities.

• **SAFETY GEAR** (like gloves, ear muffs, goggles, and visors) to improve working conditions in fields, mines and factories.

• **FISHING GEAR** for an important industry that feeds people and provides export earnings.

• **OTHER ITEMS** are also being collected. Contact:

