

YES! I'll help Nicaraguans live...and learn!

☐ I have goods to donate.

☐ I'll help work on the campaign.

☐ I can donate funds.

Enclosed is: _____

☐ I don't need a tax receipt. This funds local and provincial campaigns. Cheques to: Coalition for Aid to Nicaragua/Tools for Peace.

☐ I need a tax receipt. Funds the national campaign. Cheques to INTER PARES (T4P).

Return this coupon to the address on the back.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CODE _____ PHONE _____

THE TOOLS FOR PEACE CAMPAIGN

works in every province to support the people of Nicaragua with material aid, and through education and political action in Canada. An annual shipment of donated and purchased goods is sent to Nicaraguan schools, hospitals and community groups.

PRIORITY!

- NOTEBOOKS
- SAFETY GEAR
- RUBBER BOOTS
- FISHING GEAR
- CORRUGATED ROOFING

For three years, Tools for Peace has prioritized notebooks — an essential tool for education. Last year 50,000 notebooks, each with a map and solidarity greeting were shipped to Nicaraguan students.



PHOTO BARB STEWART

Remarkable achievements in education

After the overthrow of the Somoza dictatorship in 1979, Nicaragua's efforts in education won worldwide acclaim.

A two-year campaign reduced illiteracy from 53% to 12%. By 1985, 1,400 new elementary schools were built. The number of teachers jumped from 12,700 to 50,000.

Student enrolment doubled.

The Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua, where most of the country's indigenous people live, was all but abandoned under the Somoza dictatorship. Now there are 44 new schools and exciting plans for bilingual education that respects the region's native cultures.

'After we come home from school we do chores and eat dinner. Then we do homework with mother."

Sound familiar? But for 10-year-old Luis and his brother Herman, "homework" means teaching their mother to read and write.

Maria is one of 200,000 Nicaraguans who take part in adult education programs in their neighbourhoods, in workplaces, and in the countryside.

Luis and Herman are typical Nicaraguan schoolchildren. Despite their youth, they shoulder a great deal of family responsibility. Sometimes they have to stay home to help with the farmwork. But they have access to education that their parents could scarcely dream of. For now, Luis and Herman are hoping for a Grade 4 education.

Basic literacy. A rudimentary education. Not lofty ambitions by Canadian standards — but things that make a world of difference in the new Nicaragua.

PRIORITY NOTEBOOKS NICARAGUA

Tools for Peace

"We have 66 new schools in this coffee-growing area.

...The big question is: will we have the supplies to keep them open? It's as simple as that — no notebooks, no school."

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
REPRESENTATIVE

Nicaragua: A people's dreams in danger

The US-backed contra war has hampered Nicaragua's efforts in education. Since 1982, the contras have destroyed hundreds of schools and killed 115 teachers; many more have been kidnapped or injured.

Like health care centers, farming co-ops, and other symbols of progress in the new Nicaragua, schools and teachers are favourite contra targets. Educators risk their lives, especially in the remote northern zones.

By 1985 education expansion had slowed and illiteracy levels threatened to rise again. Years of hard work were jeopardized as the war diverted resources from the education system into defense.



PHOTO A.N.N.

IN 6 MURDEROUS YEARS, the contras – Ronald Reagan's "freedom fighters" – have killed 20,000 Nicaraguans and injured or kidnapped 20,000 more. Their attacks on civilian and economic targets have cost \$3 billion in damages.

We can help

Today, a new literacy drive is underway in spite of the war. But for Nicaragua, essential items like paper, notebooks, pencils, and texts must all be purchased abroad. The shortage of foreign currency, combined with the US trade embargo, make this difficult.

That's why Nicaragua is calling for international support to get notebooks to people like Maria, Herman and Luis.

Education is enshrined in the new Nicaraguan constitution as a

basic right for all. It is key to the survival of the new Nicaragua. Let's help it grow.

If you can donate notebooks or funds for the Tools for Peace campaign, clip the attached coupon.



PHOTO FACs
Education remains a high priority for the Sandinista government.

TOOLS FOR PEACE
National Office
is located at:
1672 East 10th Ave.
Vancouver, B.C.
Canada V5N 1X5
(604) 879-7216.
Or contact:

TOOLS FOR PEACE
523 MACKENZIE AVE
376 7361



PHOTO FACs
Their new-found literacy is threatened by a costly contra war. Tools for Peace is helping Nicaragua's education survive.