



Third World Network

87 Cantonment Road, Penang, MALAYSIA.

M-139 Goa Housing Board Colony, Alto-Betim 403 112, Goa, INDIA.

Date: 8th October 1985.

Dear *Shri Mathan,*

The TWN would like to bring to your attention the following 'Action Alert' from D. Rajeandran, Secretary of Sahabat Alam Malaysia (SAM) and Coordinator of the Asia-Pacific People's Environment Network (APPEN).

APPEN ACTION ALERT: BOMBING OF THE RAINBOW WARRIOR

The Asia-Pacific People's Environment Network (APPEN) is a coalition of over two hundred groups formed to bring together all diverse non-governmental groups and people in the Asia-Pacific region. It aims to collect and disseminate information pertaining to environmental issues and make demands in the name of Asia-Pacific environmental groups and people with regard to the environment to Governments, UN agencies, Media, Research and Educational Institutions. It also links up with networks in Latin America, Africa and other Third World countries through Sahabat Alam Malaysia (SAM) which has been appointed coordinator of APPEN.

APPEN is outraged at the criminal act of the bombing of the Greenpeace ship, the RAINBOW WARRIOR, on July 10, 1985 in Auckland Harbour, New Zealand. We denounce the part allegedly played by the French Government in the sinking of the RAINBOW WARRIOR. The life of a crew member was lost in this "criminal attack which no excuse can justify." The sinking of the RAINBOW WARRIOR has shown to what extent the French Government is willing to sacrifice not only the lives of environmentalists but also the people of the South Pacific for their own selfish ends.

We also abhor the order to the French forces to remove by force if necessary the protest flotilla led by Greenpeace. It is further shocking to know that France is determined to continue its nuclear tests in the South Pacific despite mounting pressure from regional governments, an embarrassing spy scandal, and the gradual collapse of the Mururoa Atoll where it has been detonating nuclear warheads for almost 20 years.

APPEN, on behalf of the people of the Asia-Pacific region and GREENPEACE INTERNATIONAL strongly supports the peace fleet in its fight to stop the French Government in its nuclear blast tests. THE ANTI-NUCLEAR LOBBY SHALL PREVAIL!

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WHAT YOU CAN DO:

1. Send letters and cables of support to Greenpeace in their campaign to mobilize world opinion against the criminal act leading to the bombing of the RAINBOW WARRIOR and the death of a crew member, and the decision to continue with the protest flotilla to Mururoa Atoll.

Mr David McTaggart
Chairman
Greenpeace International
Temple House
25-26 High Street
Lewes, East Sussex BN7 2LU
ENGLAND

2. Send letters and cables of support to the Prime Minister of New Zealand supporting the action taken by his Government and calling on him to institute legal action against France if proven they are involved in the criminal act.

Honourable David Lange
Prime Minister
Parliament Building
Wellington, Acetearoa,
NEW ZEALAND

3. Send letters and cables of protest to the Prime Minister of France condemning their involvement in the criminal attack against the RAINBOW WARRIOR and the continuance of the nuclear tests despite the protests of the 13 nations of the South Pacific Forum which only recently adopted the Treaty of Rarotonga declaring the South Pacific a nuclear-free zone which bans nuclear testing.

Honourable Laurent Fabius
Prime Minister,
The French Republic
C/o The French Embassy,
Shanti Path,
Chanakya puri,
New Delhi.

4. Send copies of letters and cables to the major newspapers and magazines in France, New Zealand and in your country and as well as to APPEN.
5. As postage by air to all organizations is exorbitant, we will be very grateful if you can reproduce this APPEN ACTION ALERT and circulate it to all concerned groups in your country.

We thank you for your kind assistance in this very important campaign of solidarity for our friends in GREENPEACE. We hope to hear from you soon.

Note: Please send carbon copies of all your letters and cables to:

THIRD WORLD NETWORK
M-139, Goa Housing Board Colony,
Alto-Betim 403 112, Goa.

for transmission to Malaysia and follow up action.
Carbon copies on air-mail (thin) paper preferred.