



Published by the Anarchist Association Of The Americas



Photo by Uta Fellechner

Women Declare Peace

ROMULUS, New York -- The international women's peace movement has come to upstate New York.

In a large-scale direct action here on August 1, more than 2,000 women from half a dozen nations brought their protest against war and nuclear destruction to one of America's largest arms storage areas. The women broke the rural quiet of Seneca County--where the 11,000-acre Seneca Army Depot is located--to impress on the Pentagon that its multi-billion dollar arsenal will not be tolerated.

The protest and acts of civil disobedience, in which 265 women were arrested in a two-day period, were directly inspired by the encampment of women peace activists at England's Greenham Common. The action here near the Seneca Depot includes an encampment which will remain at least into Labor Day weekend. Women are urged to

come and join this new Encampment for a Future of Peace and Justice and let themselves be heard on the questions of war and peace.

Despite press reports which centered on the hostility of the local townspeople, the weekend action--for the women participating--was a strongly positive experience and one that displayed a real sense of community and a particularly sincere commitment to non-violence. The encampment (there were in fact two) is a large one, but the methods chosen for operating ran smoothly and there was always a relaxed atmosphere. The networks set up worked well and tasks were all performed voluntarily.

Along with the trainings for the August 1 action over the weekend there were a series of workshops on militarism and battered women, El Salvador, the legacy of Rosa Lux-

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