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N O P R O D U C T I O N

N O S T O C K P I L I N G

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International TO CAMPAIGN BAN LANDMINES

DESIGN: Glenn Rugar/Visual Communications COVER PHOTO: Bobby Nee Adams

International TO CAMPAIGN BAN LANDMINES

One hundred million uncleared landmines lie in the fields and alongside the roads and footpaths of one third of the countries in the developing world. Claiming over 200 victims a week, landmines are a weapon of mass destruction in slow motion.



Brad Guice



Mines Advisory Group

Top: Soviet PMN anti-personnel mine.

Bottom: Italian Valmara 69 anti-personnel mine

What makes mines so abhorrent is the indiscriminate destruction they cause. Unlike bullets or artillery shells, mines cannot be aimed. They lie dormant until farmers, children or animals trigger their detonating mechanism. Landmines cannot distinguish between the footfall of a soldier and that of a child.

Those who survive the initial blast usually require amputations, long hospital stays and extensive rehabilitative services. In Cambodia alone there are over 30,000 amputees injured by landmines—and they are the survivors. Many others die in the fields from loss of blood or lack of transport to get medical help. Mine deaths and injuries in the past few decades total in the hundreds of thousands.

Landmines are now a daily threat in Afghanistan, Angola, Cambodia, Iraq, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Somalia, for-



Peter Menzel

A victim of a landmine recuperates in a makeshift hospital in Somalia.

mer Yugoslavia and dozens of other countries. Mines recognize no ceasefire and long after the fighting has stopped they continue to maim or kill. Mines also render large tracts of agricultural land unusable, wreaking environmental and economic devastation. Refugees returning to rebuild their lives in war-ravaged countries face this terrible obstacle.

“From a humanitarian point of view, we believe that a worldwide ban on antipersonnel mines is the only truly effective solution.”

Cornelio Sommaruga, President, ICRC

The stark reality is that many more mines are deployed every day than are removed. It costs about 100 times more to remove one mine than to produce it. The United Nations has estimated clearance costs of as much as \$1,000 per mine. Leading producers and exporters of landmines include China, Italy and the former Soviet Union. The United States was also in the front ranks in the recent past. At least 56 countries have manufactured about 200 million antipersonnel landmines in the last 25 years. More than 350 different types of antipersonnel mines exist.

Even if no more mines are ever laid, they will continue to maim and kill well into the next century. Yet the global crisis worsens every day. Bold steps must be taken now to save future generations of innocent civilians.

The Campaign

The international campaign to ban landmines, launched in 1992, is coordinated by a steering committee of six organizations. It brings together human rights, humanitarian, medical, development, arms control, and environmental groups who work locally, nationally, regionally and internationally. In calling for a ban, the campaign seeks a full examination of the Landmines Protocol of the 1980 Weapons Convention which, although intended to control the use of mines, has been a complete failure. The campaign believes existing international law provides for the banning of landmines due to their indiscriminate nature and the excessive harm they cause to civilians.



Landmine amputee in Cambodia.

The Call for a Ban



Demining in Iraqi Kurdistan.

The campaign calls for:

- An international ban on the use, production, stockpiling, and sale, transfer or export of antipersonnel mines; and
- The establishment of an international fund, administered by the United Nations, to promote and finance landmine awareness, clearance and eradication programs worldwide; and
- Countries responsible for the production and dissemination of antipersonnel mines to contribute to the international fund.

First Steps

In 1992, the United States, at the initiative of Senator Patrick Leahy and Representative Lane Evans, enacted a one-year moratorium on the export of antipersonnel mines. In 1993, it extended the moratorium another three years.

“Governments, non-governmental organizations, and people everywhere must work together to put an end to this senseless slaughter of the innocent.”

U.S. Senator Patrick Leahy

The European Parliament passed a resolution in 1992 calling on its member states to declare a five-year moratorium on the export of mines.

The United Nations General Assembly passed resolutions in 1993 calling for a worldwide moratorium on the trade in antipersonnel landmines, and the establishment of a voluntary trust fund for mine clearance.

President François Mitterrand announced in 1993 that France had not exported antipersonnel mines since 1985 and would voluntarily abstain from exporting in the future. He called upon other states to do the same.

Also in 1993, the Belgian government announced that it has stopped all trade in antipersonnel landmines, and the Netherlands enacted a moratorium restricting landmines trade to those countries which are party to the Landmines Protocol. In early 1994, South Africa's Defense Minister announced a ban on the marketing and export of landmines.

In 1995, the United Nations will convene a Review Conference aimed at improving the Landmines Protocol.



A physician from the International Committee of the Red Cross with mine blast patient in Somalia.

What You Can Do

- ◆ Endorse the Call.
- ◆ Get your organization to join the campaign.
- ◆ Educate the public and media.
- ◆ Urge your government to stop production, stockpiling, trade, and use of landmines.
- ◆ Urge your government to support the establishment of United Nations voluntary trust funds for mine clearance and mine victim assistance programs.
- ◆ Stigmatize the producers, exporters, and users of landmines.
- ◆ Support funding for rehabilitation.
- ◆ Contact organizations on the back of this brochure for more information.

Facts About Landmines

Average number of people killed or injured worldwide each year	15,000
Average cost of a landmine	\$3 – \$30
Cost to clear a landmine	\$300 – \$1000
Average number of landmines produced each year	10 million
Number of countries with landmine incidents	60+
Nations most affected by landmines	Afghanistan, Angola, Cambodia, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iraq, Kuwait, Mozambique, Somalia, Sudan, former Yugoslavia
Major producers and exporters of landmines over past 25 years	Belgium, Bulgaria, China, Czechoslovakia, France, Hungary, Italy, former Soviet Union, United Kingdom, United States, former Yugoslavia

Organizations Calling for a Ban

(partial listing)

- Australia**
Human Rights Council of Australia
Medical Association for the Prevention of War
Mercy Refugee Service of Australia
People for Nuclear Disarmament QLD
- Belgium**
European Network Against the Arms Trade
Handicap International
Médecins sans Frontières International*
Oxfam Belgium
Pax Christi Flanders
- Cambodia**
Church World Service
Coalition for Peace and Reconciliation
- Canada**
Lawyers for Social Responsibility
- Denmark**
Handicap International
- France**
Action Nord Sud
Handicap International
Fondation France Libertés
International Association of Peace
Messenger Cities
World Union of Martyred Cities
- Germany**
BITS
BUKO
Komitee für Demokratic und Grundrechte
Medico International
Netzwerk Friedenskooperative
UNICEF Germany
- Italy**
AIFO—Associazione Italiana Amici di Raoul Follereau
CIES—Centre for Development Information and Education
EMERGENCY*
FOCSIV—Federazione Organismi Cristiani di Servizio Internazionale Volontario
IRES Toscana
Mani Tese
Pax Christi Italy
Servizio Civile Internazionale
- The Netherlands**
AMOK
International Fellowship of Reconciliation
Johannes Wier Foundation for Health and Human Rights
Pax Christi
- New Zealand**
CALM—NZ Campaign Against Landmines
- Sweden**
Greenpeace International*
Radda Barnen
Swedish Peace & Arbitration Society
- Switzerland**
International Federation Terre des Hommes
Lutheran World Federation*
UNICEF Geneva
- United Kingdom**
British Refugee Council
Campaign Against the Arms Trade
Ex-Services Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament
Jaipur Limb Campaign
Med Act
Mines Advisory Group
- United States**
American Friends Service Committee
American Public Health Association
American Refugee Committee
British-American Security Information Council
Church of the Brethren
Commission on Peace & Justice, Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts
Council for a Livable World
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Division for Church in Society
Federation of American Scientists
Human Rights Watch
IPPNW—International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War
Maryknoll Fathers & Brothers, Justice & Peace Office
Mennonite Central Committee
Northwest Veterans for Peace
Oxfam America
Physicians for Human Rights
Project on Demilitarization & Democracy
20/20 Vision National Project
Executive Director of UNICEF
Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations
Veterans for Peace
Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation
Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children of the International Rescue Committee
World Vision International

* International organization headquartered in this country