

W. Bennett 25/1/93

When Oxford historian Peter Carey and his friends started the Cambodia Trust they expected to be providing education and communications for a country recovering from a brutal reign of terror. Instead they found themselves occupied with the severely practical matter of providing artificial limbs for the thousands of men, women and children crippled by the deadly harvest of land-mines.



THE CAMBODIAN TRUST

Putting a Nation back on its Feet

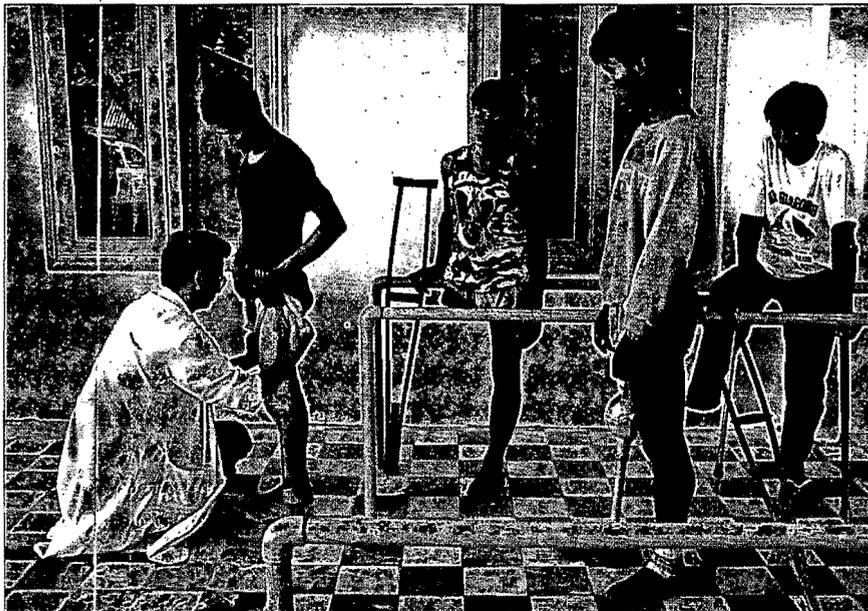
The harsh sun of dry season Cambodia scorched down on the midday road as we hurried back towards the provincial capital of Kompong Thom, Pol Pot's birthplace in the heart of Khmer Rouge territory. To our west lay a holding centre for villagers displaced by the recent fighting - 3,000 families camped out on a dusty plain with little more than the blue plastic Oxfam tarpaulins to protect them from the elements: families with young children and pitiful belongings loaded on buffalo carts, self-supporting peasants expelled from once fertile villages and lands now occupied by Pol Pot's teenage soldiers.

'Prince Sihanouk came six weeks ago to tell us that the 13-year civil war is over and that we should return. But we tried and found our houses booby-trapped and our fields mined. So much for the peace which the UN was supposed to have brought.' The words of the village official echoed their quiet reproach as I contemplated lunch at the government guest-house. But there would be no midday meal today, at least not one which our stomachs could hold down. The demons of the Cambodian civil war would see to that. Five miles down the road, we overtook a curious cavalcade - two young Cambodians hurrying barefoot, a hammock slung from their broad shoulders, with a grey-haired woman following behind, dented

ABOVE: Dr Peter Carey in Cambodia, April 1993

LEFT: One of the photographs commissioned by the Independent which brought help flooding in for Cambodian amputees in 1990

RIGHT: Trainee Cambodian prosthetists



NIC DUNN/OP

fossils and bones. At one stage, the vertebrae of a large fossilized reptile were used as a dining-room candelabra, while a live donkey, slow-worms, snakes and pet rodents had the run of the house. Buckland's son Frank, later a distinguished surgeon and naturalist, and his daughter Elizabeth, who later wrote her father's biography, left delightful accounts of their eccentric, informal and quite un-Victorian childhoods in Christ Church.

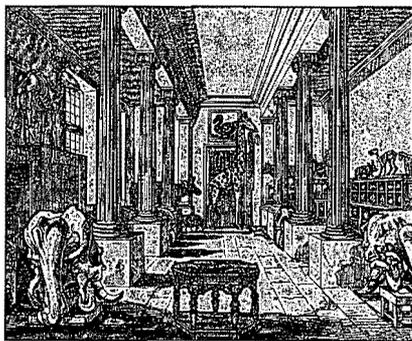
Exotic animals, living and dead, seem to have been popular in early nineteenth-century Oxford, for one of the attractions of the Botanical Gardens was a cage of large apes at the Danby Gate. They were the property of the chemist, Dr Charles Daubeny, MD, who held a medley of chémico-botanical chairs between 1824 and 1867. Though sharing with his friend and colleague, Canon Buckland, a desire to demonstrate the 'Glory of God in the creation' to young gentlemen of the University, Daubeny never took Holy Orders. A bachelor don, he first lived in Magdalen, then, as Professor of Chemistry, in the Ashmolean Museum, and eventually in the Professor's House in the Botanical Gardens.

It is unfortunate that Daubeny, like Buckland, is best remembered today for the eccentricities recorded by his students and friends, for he was also a man of agile intellect and formidable influence as a teacher. Though a physician by training, he abandoned his appointment at the Radcliffe Infirmary to devote himself to what would now be called investigations in the life sciences. The early nineteenth century, after all, was a challenging time to cultivate such interests. The identification of the chemical elements as the 'building blocks' of all things was currently taking place; while Wöhler's synthesis of urea in 1828 demonstrated that organic substances were not necessarily formed by mysterious life-forces, but by natural processes of chemical combination.

Daubeny's primary interest was organic chemistry and in particular the growth of plants. Working mainly in his Magdalen laboratory, he was one of the earliest experimenters to study the relationship between atmospheric gases, mineral nutrients within the soil and light passing through filters of different colours, in the chemistry of plant growth. His ideas were deeply influenced by the German chemist Justus von Liebig, who worked with him when he visited England

in 1842 on the relationship between nitrogen, oxygen and carbon dioxide in plant respiration. As Sherardian Professor of Botany and Sibthorpean Professor of Rural Economy, Daubeny was ideally placed to develop the research potential of the Botanical Gardens and to give the latest scientific advice on agricultural matters. He built the Garden's elegant glass-houses, and was one of the first scientists to recognize the rôle played by 'jungles' in maintaining the chemical balance of the atmosphere.

Daubeny lacked Buckland's charismatic gifts as a lecturer, but he was always at pains to emphasize the importance of science to the education of the nation's future leaders. Whether a young man was destined to administer India or tend a rural parish in Cornwall, Daubeny knew that Oxford students were likely to end up in positions of influence,



It was vital for them, therefore, not only to be cultured, classically educated Anglican gentlemen, but also to possess a coherent understanding of the natural world and the ways in which its laws could be practically applied for the benefit of humanity.

Though a meticulous experimenter, Daubeny never lost his nervousness before a lecture audience. On one occasion he dramatically told his audience that if the contents of the two bottles which he was holding were mixed, then the lecture theatre would be destroyed in a frightful explosion. He turned, tripped, dropped both bottles – and nothing happened! A wise technician had changed their contents beforehand.

A convivial, rotund little man, Daubeny was a favourite on the Oxford dining circuit and famed for his late arrivals, especially in Magdalen Chapel, where the hurried arrival of his spherical, surpliced form invariably necessitated the unseating of more punctual worshippers to give him access to his stall.

His most famous work was his study of *Active and Extinct Volcanoes* (1826, 1848). Following extensive field work across Europe, Daubeny proposed that volcanoes were not caused by a hot core within the earth, as von Humboldt argued, but by the oxidation of deep, alkaline rocks upon their exposure to water. He pointed out, very plausibly, that all the major volcanoes of the world were near water, and that when the sea penetrated unoxidized rocks in the crust, a heat reaction took place which created molten magma. Though we now know that Daubeny was incorrect, the theory

held powerful sway for many years, and added further lustre to Oxford's geological reputation.

Oxford's approach to experimentation and natural history within the context of a classical education had a profound effect upon the intellectual life of Victorian Britain. Accessible as it was to a non-mathematical audience, it took science to the nation's rising leaders during their most impressionable years, and established the plausibility of an archaic world of dinosaurs that was still acceptable to a Christian gentleman.

I wish to thank two former Chemistry Part II research students, Nigel Miller (Univ 1986) and Beatrice Heales (Pembroke 1990), whose excellent theses on Charles Daubeny, conducted under my supervision, greatly amplified my own understanding of this remarkable Oxford scientist.

Allan Chapman

Allan Chapman is a historian of science and a member of Wadham College.

E P I T A P H

Where shall we our famous
Professor inter,
That in peace he may rest his
bones?
If we hew him a rocky sepulchre,
He'll rise and break the stones,
And examine each stratum that lies
around;
For he's quite in his element
underground
If with mattock and spade his body
we lay
In the common alluvial soil,
He'll start up and snatch those
tools away
Of his own geological toil.
In a stratum so young the Professor
disdains
That imbedded should lie his
organic remains.
But exposed to the drip of some
case-hardening spring
His body let stalactite cover,
And to Oxford the petrified Sage
we will bring
When he is incrustated all over.
There 'mid mammoths and
crocodiles high on a shelf
He shall stand as a monument
rais'd to himself.

aluminium pan and green coconut in hand. Taking a pig to market perhaps – but no, the body in the hammock was too large. Others had noticed it too. Stop, stop! The four-wheel drive Toyota braked to a halt, the reddish dust hanging in the air. I looked into the hammock, my eyes alighting on mangled flesh, the torn remains of a lower limb floating in a pool of blood, and a twisted tourniquet bound tight below the knee. Just four hours ago a whole human being, a young man chopping wood in a jungle clearing; now an ashen-faced land-mine victim being hurried for succour to the district clinic, a bamboo barrack with little more than morphine to its name. Seats down, clear the back, able-bodied passengers onto the roof rack (with the young man's wood, mustn't forget that given its precious price in human blood), the silent cargo laid out like a Khmer Christ on the plastic foam. Grey-haired mother with coconut pressed to her son's lips, strong brothers gripping hand and torso, nurturing body contact. Hurry, driver! Not to the clinic, but to the provincial hospital. Amputation surgery alone will save this life. So we return with our bloody burden to celebrate what remains of Cambodian New Year. Just an ordinary day, a day with five more amputees, avatars of Cambodia's ceaseless Calvary.

Four years earlier, in November 1989, I had sat in a seventeenth-century manor house in north Oxfordshire with two friends: Stan Windass (St Edmund Hall 1949), Director of the Foundation for International Security, a charity dedicated to conflict resolution, and John Pedler, a retired diplomat who had served in Cambodia in the 1950s. We were there to discuss the establishment of a trust to help Cambodia, which was then experiencing the renewed onslaughts of the Khmer Rouge and their non-Communist allies – Prince Sihanouk's Armée Nationale Sihanoukiste and ex-Premier Son Sann's Khmer People's Liberation Front – after the collapse of the first Paris International Conference on Cambodia in August 1989. The gem-mining town of Pailin, close to the Thai-Cambodian border, had just been captured by the Khmer Rouge, and it seemed that the whole country might again fall under their sway. A return to Year Zero seemed imminent, and with it a repetition of the terror regime which had followed the Khmer Rouge victory of April 1975, when nearly one-fifth of the population of Cambodia had perished.

How easy it had all seemed then! We would raise money to host a conference in Oxford. This would bring together some of the leading international protagonists to negotiate a solution to Cambodia's crisis, a solution which would both tame the

THE CAMBODIAN TRUST



Khmer Rouge threat, by ensuring their international isolation, and bring Cambodia back into the international community by ending the decade-old Western blockade imposed after the December 1978 Vietnamese invasion. These were the heady days of the end of the Cold War when the Berlin Wall had just fallen, and Communist regimes were crumbling all over Eastern Europe. The Vietnamese had withdrawn their last combat troops from Cambodia in September 1989. Surely now it would be possible to resolve the Cambodian problem and prevent further unnecessary suffering?

Sustained by such high hopes, we launched the Cambodia Trust with a public appeal in the *Independent*, and approaches to various grant-giving bodies. This was still before the onset of the recession in mid-1990, and start-up funds began to flow in: £15,000 from the Ashdown Trust, for example, enabled us to pull off something of a coup when we were able to purchase an INMARSAT (International Maritime Satellite) telephone system – of Norwegian manufacture, as export of US technology to both Cambodia and Vietnam was then still banned – and install it in the office of the Council of Ministers in Phnom Penh. For the first time since 1975, when Pol Pot had cut Cambodia off from the outside world, Cambodians could make international calls without having to go through Moscow. In a very real way, Cambodia was now no longer isolated, and the new

The 200 million anti-personnel mines sown in Third-World countries constitute an even greater long-term ecological problem than global deforestation.

communications system facilitated a whole range of high-level diplomatic contacts, which ultimately led to the Gareth Evans initiative and the 1990 Security Council peace plan. Thus, although our Oxford international conference never took place, we were able to play a small part in bringing the political protagonists together – though whether the resultant peace agreement will really ensure long-term stability in Cambodia

is quite another matter.

Certainly the INMARSAT initiative ensured a warm welcome for the Trust's first mission to Cambodia in January 1990. We thought education and further technical inputs would be high on the Phnom Penh Government's agenda. However, when we asked Prime Minister Hun Sen what his priorities were in the humanitarian field, his reply was unequivocal: help us with de-mining and with the provision of modern artificial limbs. The Khmer Rouge's unrestricted mine warfare against the civilian population of Cambodia's western and central provinces was leaving an ever-swelling number of casualties in need of prostheses.

It is estimated today that there are some 200 million anti-personnel mines sown in Third-World countries, with at least 8 million of these in Cambodia (one for every Cambodian). They are part of the long-term legacy of the Cold War and will take many decades to clear (one Russian officer observed in 1989 that, so ubiquitous were mines in the Afghan countryside,

the Afghans would be 'fighting the land' for at least 40 years after the Soviet withdrawal). They constitute an even greater long-term ecological problem than global deforestation. At least seven countries are known to have supplied mines to the warring factions in Cambodia (United States, the former Soviet Union, China, Belgium, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam), and two (China and Britain) have provided training in mine-laying techniques. The 1981 UN Weapons Convention, which has sought to restrict the use of conventional weapons which 'may be deemed to be excessively injurious or to have indiscriminate effects', has been almost totally ineffective. Only 35 UN member states have signed it and even fewer have ratified it. Britain is not in either category.

We were thus being asked to respond to a major humanitarian crisis, and one about which we were almost totally ignorant at the time when the Trust was founded. We had seen the Trust as a facilitator, which might be able to play a small part in brokering a political settlement. We were now having to rethink our priorities. Obviously, given our charitable status and lack of expertise, we could not involve ourselves with the de-mining problem. For this we requested the help of HALO (Hazardous Areas Life-Support Organization), a British charity specializing in mine clearance. We introduced them to Cambodia and enabled the signature of a contract with the Phnom Penh Government in October 1990. This was the basis for their current role in the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia demining programme, which has lifted some 16,000 mines to date and has helped clear agricultural land in the western provinces prior to the resettlement of 372,000 Cambodian refugees from the Thai-Cambodian border.

To fulfil Prime Minister Hun Sen's second request, the provision of modern artificial limbs, we consulted the British Limb Fitting Centre at Roehampton, founded in 1917 to cope with the great numbers of British amputees from the First World War. We asked the Centre to suggest appropriate technology for Cambodia, given the need for the mass production of limbs at low cost and of a type which could permit amputees to return to their previous lives as rice farmers and fishermen. The Roehampton experts suggested a modified version of the MAP (Modular Assembly Prosthesis) limb, which had been standard in the British National Health Service from 1968 to 1990. This limb is made out of three component parts - a polypropylene moulded socket, an extruded aluminium tube shank, and a polyurethane moulded foot. At that time, the only artificial limbs available in Cambodia were being laboriously made by hand out of wood and leather components by the French-based Handicap International organization, and the American Friends Service Committee. Between 1982 and 1990, these two organizations had made just over 3,000 artificial limbs. Two-thirds of these were for the same patients because such limbs often wear out or, in the case of adolescents, have to be periodically replaced to adapt to normal bodily growth.

The total number of amputees in Cambodia is almost certainly in excess of 20,000, with a further 6,000 in the returnee population from the Thai-Cambodian border camps. This means that the proportion of amputees in the population is nearly four times that of the UK. And over 75 per cent of all Cambodian amputees are under the age of 25, whereas in the West, where vascular disease rather than trauma is the main cause of amputation, 60 per cent are over the age of 60.

It became clear to us that it would take many years just to fit the backlog of amputees, let alone deal with the many new victims who are losing their limbs daily to mine blasts. Currently, there are at least 150 amputations being carried out every month in the Cambodian provincial hospitals. That figure is set to rise significantly as the border refugee populations begin to return to the heavily mined areas of western Cambodia, the country's most fertile farming region, where nearly two-thirds of all border returnees have elected to settle.

The mammoth task of setting up a modern prosthetics programme in a war-torn country like Cambodia could only be undertaken with major financial support and a fair measure of luck. The latter we seemed to have in abundance. In 1990, the NHS decided to phase out its MAP systems in favour of a more advanced (and much more expensive) carbon fibre limb. We were thus able to acquire - at scrap

price - nearly all the limb stock, components, moulds, machinery and blueprints of the British prosthetic companies which had hitherto been contracted to provide limbs for the NHS.

The money for these purchases came in a remarkable way. In July 1990, I had gone on holiday to Devon fully expecting that we would have to wind up the Trust by the end of the month because our funds were running out. On my return to Oxford, I found an urgent message waiting for me at Trinity College lodge from the editor of the *Independent Magazine*. Would I write a text, within 48 hours, to go with some powerful photographs by the world-famous photographer Sebastiao Salgado depicting the plight of Cambodia's amputees? I immediately agreed, and concluded the article with an appeal for the modest sum of £20,000 to enable us to purchase the stock of a leading British prosthetic limb manufacturer, Vessa.

Within six hours of publication an anonymous donor had pledged us £20,000. Within six weeks, we had received £60,000, with another £10,000 being added from a German translation which appeared in the *Tages Zeitung*. At last we were in business.

Since those heady days of August 1990, we have managed to establish a major prosthetics programme in Cambodia, which is now fitting upwards of 200 patients a month with modern limbs. Our centre in Phnom Penh was opened by Prince Sihanouk in February 1992, and another centre in Cambodia's main deep-water port of Kompong Som (Sihanoukville) began fitting patients in May 1993. We are also preparing to begin a major training programme for Cambodian prosthetists and orthotists, which is designed to produce some 60 graduates by the end of the decade, graduates who will form the core of Cambodia's National Rehabilitation Service in the twenty-first century. We aim to have our programme fully Cambodianized within seven years.

A small endeavour hatched on a winter's evening in a north Oxfordshire manor house has grown into a fully fledged prosthetics programme in Cambodia. Provided it is not blown off course by political events, it should prove a source of support for Cambodia's disabled for many years to come.

Dr. Peter Carey is a Fellow and Tutor in Modern History at Trinity College and founder Chairman of the Cambodia Trust. Further information about the Cambodia Trust and its work (including details of sponsorship of Cambodian prosthetic students) can be obtained from Ms Jean Hollis, 21 Union Street, Woodstock, Oxon, OX20 1SH; tel: 0993 811674; fax: 0993 813244.



Currently, there are at least 150 amputations being carried out every month in the Cambodian provincial hospitals

This is a summary of
what happened at the AID
and State Department Mtg
as well as the letters to
President Clinton and
Diana Ohlbaum



UNITED STATES

OFFICE OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

1620 L ST. NW Suite 700, Washington, D.C. 20036

TO: STAN HEAR

Tel.# 456-2372 Fax # 456-7028

FROM: PAUL MILLER

Tel.# 634-9610 Fax # (202) 634-4135

MESSAGE:



MEMORANDUM TO CAROL RASCO THROUGH STAN HERR

FROM: Paul Steven Miller
DATE: March 9, 1994
SUBJECT: Foreign Assistance Act and the Disability Community

Attached are some materials from the National Coalition for Foreign Policy and Disability regarding issues concerning the Clinton Administration's Foreign Assistance Act. I have tentatively set up meetings with this group and AID (Alex Palacios, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Legislative Affairs) and State (Katherine Dalpino, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Human Rights and Human Affairs) to discuss their concerns. The meetings are presently scheduled for March 16, 1994. I wanted you to be aware of the issues. Please let me know if you want more information or if there is anyone else you feel it is appropriate to get involved in this issue. Thanks. I can be reached at 634-9610.

*Paul Carol a copy
of follow-up letter.*

NATIONAL COALITION FOR FOREIGN POLICY AND DISABILITY

Executive Committee

Edward Roberts,
Chairman

Bruce Curtis
Justin Dart
Barbara Duncan
David French
Nora Groce
Todd Groves
Jeanette Harvey
Ralf Hotchkiss
Susan Parker
Suzanne Reter
Paul Silva
Susan Sygall

President Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

March 2, 1994

Dear Mr. President,

The National Coalition on Foreign Policy and Disability, which is made up of disabled and non-disabled individuals and organizations with extensive experience working on issues affecting disabled people worldwide, requests your leadership and vision. We are asking for your support to ensure that American Foreign Policy in general and the Peace, Prosperity and Democracy Act of 1994 currently being written by your administration in particular, affirm the inclusion of persons with disabilities.

With the passage of the recent Americans with Disabilities Act, we as a nation have clearly set forth our belief that in a democracy, each individual is entitled to full participation in society. We believe that our nation's activities overseas should reflect and be consistent with the laws and ideals we cherish at home.

The United States seeks to foster a stable and democratic world by promoting broad-based, equitable, and sustainable development projects and programs throughout the Developing World. It is the hallmark of these United States funded development programs that there be equity for all. The United States, on principle, does not design projects or fund programs that actively discriminate against individuals because of gender, race, religious belief, or ethnic background. Our legislation has specifically identified women, minorities, poor people and underserved populations as groups that must be actively involved in projects funded by the United States. We, of the National Coalition on Foreign Policy and Disability, request that citizens with disabilities be included among these specifically designated groups.

As stated in the GAO's 1991 report "Assistance to Disabled Persons in Developing Countries", few of the thousands of assistance and development programs which our nation has funded have made any effort to include people with disabilities. Perhaps this is because historically, individuals with a disability have been seen as needing to be taken care of by society, rather than as citizens capable of actively contributing to their country. The global disability rights movement, originated here in the United States has challenged this attitude by demonstrating the effectiveness of disabled persons as leaders, planners, and participants in policies and programs. Now it is time for the United States to promote this approach of inclusion of persons with disabilities in all international development initiatives.

Please address all correspondence and inquiries to:

World Institute on Disability
510 16th Street, Oakland, CA 94612
(510) 763-4100; fax (510) 763-4109

In the arena of international aid and development, there is already a strong precedent for redesigning programs to reflect fundamental human rights. In the early 1970's, women were rarely considered or included in international policy or programs. The addition of the Perry Amendment to the Foreign Assistance Act in 1973 made a review of the impact of new programs on women a requirement of all funded programs. Our international programs now reflect our domestic policy on gender equality and promote a fuller participation of all members of the community. We therefore suggest a similar approach be taken for inclusion of persons with disabilities.

In order to accomplish this change, we request that current and future legislative language, beginning with the Foreign Assistance bills currently under review in the House and the Senate, include:

1. the phrase "persons with disabilities" inserted wherever development program policy specifically addresses the inclusion of traditionally underserved populations such as women, urban poor, minorities, etc.;
2. a paragraph which addresses the issues of disabled persons which includes the role of disabled persons in creating and implementing such policy;
3. the phrase "persons with disabilities" inserted wherever non-discrimination policies are written.

Mr. President, we respectfully call upon the leadership and commitment to disability you and your administration have already clearly demonstrated, in order to benefit persons with disabilities worldwide. The inclusion of disabled persons as one of the groups to be brought into the mainstream does not require significant legislative revision or a specific "set aside". The impact of including persons with disabilities in United States Foreign Policy, however, will make a real and lasting difference for millions of children and adults worldwide.

Sincerely,

Edward V. Roberts

Ed Roberts
Chairman

Mr. Paul Miller
Deputy Director,
Consumer Affairs
The White House

February 25, 1994

Via Fax: (202) 634-4135

Dear Paul:

Thank you for your time and support today. I want to follow-up on our conversation by introducing the National Coalition on Foreign Policy and Disability to you and provide you with some key written points as we discussed.

The National Coalition on Foreign Policy and Disability was recently created and mobilized to ensure that the Administration's efforts to create a new Foreign Assistance Act clearly includes language that guarantees that persons with disabilities are included in United States foreign assistance policy and programs. I am sending to you with this letter, a list of the Coalition charter members and a draft letter from Bob Metts which spells out the underpinnings of our request. The Coalition is now finalizing materials which will be sent to you shortly.

We need your help to assist us in getting White House support to send a clear message to Congress that language integrating persons with disabilities be included in their efforts to design a new Foreign Assistance Act. In addition, we would greatly appreciate your help in identifying the appropriate White House staff person to work with us in this effort.

As we spoke, the House and Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs and Committee on Foreign Relations, respectively, are in the process of finalizing their new foreign assistance bills. Neither bill, HR3765 and S1856, addresses the inclusion of persons with disabilities and disabled-directed organizations in their language. Likewise, in testimony to the House and Senate, February 3rd and 9th, the Honorable J. Brian Atwood, Administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development, never mentioned persons with disabilities.

Specific points of action for the new Foreign Assistance Act language could include:

1. that the phrase "persons with disabilities" be included wherever development program policy specifically addresses the inclusion of

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NATIONAL COALITION FOR FOREIGN POLICY AND DISABILITY

Executive Committee

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Susan Parker
Suzanne Reier
Paul Silva
Susan Sygall

Mr. Paul Miller
Deputy Director
Consumer Affairs
The White House

Via Fax (202) 634-4135

March 21, 1994

Dear Paul:

On behalf of the National Coalition for Foreign Policy and Disability, I want to take a moment of your time to thank you for your support, provide you with a debriefing on the USAID and State Department meetings, update you on where the National Coalition for Foreign Policy and Disability is in our efforts, and provide you with where we need your support.

First, your help and the leadership of the White House was of vital importance in securing the meetings with USAID and the State Department. These meetings were a pivotal part of the process to include persons with disabilities into President Clinton's new Foreign Assistance Act. A brief summary of the meetings follows.

USAID Meeting:

Participants:

Paul Miller, White House

Alejandro Palacios, USAID, Deputy Assistant Administrator
(Legislative Affairs)

Ryan Conroy, USAID, White House Liaison

Francine Marshall, USAID, Deputy Division Chief Legislative
and Public Affairs

Susan Parker, Paul Silva, Bruce Curtis, David French
(National Coalition for Foreign Policy and Disability)

Outputs:

USAID staff are now aware of the need for including persons with disabilities in the new Foreign Assistance Act as well as ongoing programs and projects.

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USAID stated that although they had consulted extensively with the PVO/NGO community they had not met with disability leadership or disabled-directed US PVO's.

USAID was made aware of disability resources and development projects currently undertaken by disabled Americans.

Coalition members provided USAID staff with the letter to Diana Ohlbaum, Subcommittee on International Economic Policy, Trade, Oceans and Environment of the United States Senate, outlining our proposed amendments to HR3765.

Results:

USAID representatives present stated that they were continuing the process of receiving information from the development community and would incorporate the aims of the National Coalition for Foreign Policy and Disability within the ongoing dialogue of revising foreign assistance policy and programs. They mentioned that they were interested in the inclusion of persons with disabilities but would first need to discuss the issue internally with USAID.

United States Department of State:

Participants:

Katherine Dalpino, U.S. State Department, Deputy Assistant Secretary

Susan Parker, Paul Silva, Bruce Curtis, David French (National Coalition for Foreign Policy and Disability)

Outputs:

Department of State was made aware of the need for including persons with disabilities in the new Foreign Assistance Act as well as establishing an ongoing dialogue between the Department of State and the U.S. disability community,

Department of State was made aware of the disability resources and development projects currently undertaken by disabled Americans.

Coalition members provided Department of State staff with letter to Diana Ohlbaum outlining our proposed amendments to HR3765.

Results:

Ms. Dalpino informed the Coalition that although the State Department had finished their input for the new Foreign Assistance Act, they were both, "sympathetic and interested" in the aim of the Coalition to include persons with disabilities in new foreign assistance policy. Title II of the proposed Foreign Assistance legislation would be an appropriate place for inclusion of persons with disabilities to be addressed.

Currently, the National Coalition for Foreign Policy and Disability has proposed legislative amendments to HR3765 and is engaged in an ongoing process of talking to key individuals in a position to act on behalf of our aim to include persons with disabilities in the new Foreign Assistance Act. We respectfully ask that you interact on behalf of these aims with the appropriate Members of Congress.

Again, thank you for your leadership and key support.

Sincerely,

Edward V. Roberts

Edward Roberts
Chairperson
National Coalition for Foreign Policy and Disability

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In the arena of international aid and development, there is already a strong precedent for redesigning programs to reflect fundamental human rights. In the early 1970's, women were rarely considered or included in international policy or programs. The addition of the Percy Amendment to the Foreign Assistance Act in 1973 made a review of the impact of new programs on women a requirement of all funded programs. Our international programs now reflect our domestic policy on gender equality and promote a fuller participation of all members of the community. We therefore suggest a similar approach be taken for inclusion of persons with disabilities.

In order to accomplish this change, we request that current and future legislative language, beginning with the Foreign Assistance bills currently under review in the House and the Senate, include:

1. the phrase "persons with disabilities" inserted wherever development program policy specifically addresses the inclusion of traditionally underserved populations such as women, urban poor, minorities, etc.;
2. a paragraph which addresses the issues of disabled persons which includes the role of disabled persons in creating and implementing such policy;
3. the phrase "persons with disabilities" inserted wherever non-discrimination policies are written.

Mr. President, we respectfully call upon the leadership and commitment to disability you and your administration have already clearly demonstrated, in order to benefit persons with disabilities worldwide. The inclusion of disabled persons as one of the groups to be brought into the mainstream does not require significant legislative revision or a specific "set aside". The impact of including persons with disabilities in United States Foreign Policy, however, will make a real and lasting difference for millions of children and adults worldwide.

Sincerely,

Edward V. Roberts

Ed Roberts
Chairman

NATIONAL COALITION FOR FOREIGN POLICY AND DISABILITY

Executive Committee

Edward Roberts,
Chairman

Bruce Curtis
Justin Dart
Barbara Duncan
David French
Nora Groce
Todd Groves
Jeanette Harvey
Ralf Hotchkiss
Robert Metts
Susan Parker
Suzanne Reier
Paul Silva
Susan Sygall

Diana Ohlbaum
Subcommittee on International Economic
Policy, Trade, Oceans and Environment
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510-6234

Dear Ms. Ohlbaum,

We are a group of disabled and non-disabled individuals and organizations with extensive experience in issues effecting disabled people worldwide. We desire that American foreign policy reflect the fundamental principles of inclusion and equality of all persons with disabilities. In order to accomplish this change, we ask that the Peace, Prosperity and Democracy Act of 1994 include the following;

1. The phrase "all persons with disabilities," wherever policies or programs specifically address the inclusion of traditionally underserved populations, such as women, minorities, urban poor, etc.
2. A section that addresses the role of disabled persons in all levels of the development process, including the creation and implementation of policy.
3. A prohibition of discrimination on the basis of disability, wherever discrimination is prohibited in the act.

The legislative committee of our coalition reviewed H.R. 3765, the only text of the Peace, Prosperity and Democracy Act available to us; therefore, all of the following references to the Act are drawn from the House document. From our review, we propose the following specific changes to the resolution.

- 1). Sec. 1102(b)(1) ENCOURAGING BROAD-BASED ECONOMIC GROWTH (B)(ii), H.R. 3765 p.14, line 9, insert "disability," between "race," and "religion"
- 2). Sec. 1102(b)(3) SUPPORTING DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION (B), H.R. 3765 p. 18, line 10, strike "and"; after "minorities" insert "and all persons with disabilities;" additionally, line 11, strike "and," insert "all persons with disabilities" after "minorities."

Please address all correspondence and inquiries to:

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3) Sec 1102 (b)(4)(B) H.R. 3765 p.19, line 20 insert, "and management," between "prevention," and, "HIV/AIDS."

4) Sec. 1102(c)PRINCIPLES(1)(A) H.R. 3765 p. 20 line 18, insert "all persons with disabilities" after "women."

5) Sec. 1102(c)(1)(C) NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, H.R. 3765 p.21, line 23 after "women's groups," insert "disabled-directed organizations."

6) Sec. 1103 VOLUNTARY COOPERATION IN DEVELOPMENT(a)(1), H.R. 3765 p.24, line 25, insert "disabled-directed organizations" after "credit unions."

7) Sec. 1103(b)PARTNERSHIP RELATIONSHIP- H.R. 3765 p 26, line 13 insert "disabled-directed organizations," after "credit unions."

8) Sec. 2001 BUILDING DEMOCRACY(a)(1) H.R. 3765 p34, line 16, insert "disability," after "sex."

9) Sec. 7302 HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY AND REPORTS (a) H.R. 3765, p.150, line 9, insert "disability," after "sex."

10) Sec. 8508 (1) and (2) after "sex," insert "disability."

We hope that both the Congress and the Administration will agree with us on the necessity of the preceding changes. These minor changes would affirm our nation's belief that each individual is entitled to full participation in society.

If the Peace Prosperity and Democracy Act does not specifically address the issue of disability, we believe that persons with disabilities will continue to be excluded from participation in the aid process. As stated in the GAO's 1991 report, "Assistance to Disabled Persons in Developing Countries," few of the thousands of development and assistance programs funded by our nation have made any attempt to include disabled persons. The United States does not fund programs abroad that exclude people on the basis of race, gender, ethnic origin, or religion. We believe the same principle should be extended to all persons with disabilities. The restructuring of our foreign assistance provides an opportunity to remedy the situation. We provide here a sample section to be placed in the Act to include persons with disabilities.

Sec. 1102(c)(1)POPULAR PARTICIPATION- change (C) to (D), and (D) to (E). Insert the following paragraph as section (C).

(C) THE ROLE OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS- The expansion of opportunities for all persons with disabilities is essential to reduce poverty and bring about effective, sustainable development. The involvement of all persons with disabilities in economic, political, and social

activities that will enable these men, women and children to become active contributors in their communities and societies, is necessary to promote democracy and to assure sustainable development. Persons with disabilities, including those from local and indigenous groups, must be involved as agents of change in all aspects of the development process. Persons with disabilities, therefore should be integrally involved in the policies and programs undertaken to achieve the objectives and purposes of this section.

We believe that the Peace, Prosperity, and Democracy Act of 1994 is the perfect opportunity to reaffirm the Government's obligation to provide accessible facilities under such laws as the Architectural Barriers Act; therefore, the act should include a section on accessible facilities. Again, we provide a sample.

Chapter 5, Subchapter A -General Provisions. "All facilities rented, leased, constructed or otherwise acquired by the United States Government or its agent under the provisions of this Act shall be in full compliance with all relevant Federal Codes and Standards requiring access for all persons with disabilities."

The implementation of the changes we request will provide immeasurable benefits to the 600 million disabled persons in developing countries. It will also insure that disabled Americans participating in the aid process need not face discrimination overseas by their own government. These changes will demonstrate to the world the uniquely inclusive nature of American Democracy.

Sincerely,

Edward V. Roberts

Ed Roberts,
Chairman



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April 6, 1994

Stanley S. Herr
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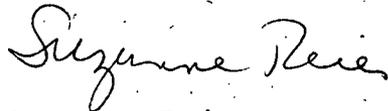
Dear Stan,

It was good talking to you today. Enclosed please find the myriad of documents I agreed to send you.

Here is what we would like you to put as an acknowledgement when you publish your IDEAS paper: *This paper was funded by the International Disability Exchanges and Studies (IDEAS) project (National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research Grant #H133D00005-92) administered by the World Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation International.*

Please let me know if you have any comments or would like more information about the Coalition,, IDEAS, or anything else.

Sincerely,



Suzanne Reier
Director
Int'l Division

SR.rn

Encls.