



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION *of the United States of America* SANTA BARBARA COUNTY CHAPTER

3rd Quarter

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October 2008

NEWSLETTER UNDERWRITTEN BY ONESOURCE IMAGING & PRINTING

UNA-USA Santa Barbara Annual Meeting! By Michele Rod



UNA-USA Annual Meeting: "Save Chad/Darfur" at American Red Cross Santa Barbara on February 16th. Photo by Kathy Beh.

On Saturday, February 16th, UNA-USA Santa Barbara held its annual meeting: "Save Chad/Darfur" at American Red Cross Santa Barbara.

What does it take to make a difference? Bill Felstiner of the "Chad Relief Foundation," who spoke at the Santa Barbara UNA annual meeting, discussed his relief efforts in Chad to better the lives of refugees at several camps.

Bill stated that there are 2.5 million displaced people in Chad; 240,000 from Sudan and 50,000 from the Central African Republic. There are an influx of refugees in the East and Southeast of Chad. There are 3 refugee camps in the South, which are supported by the Central African Republic. Each have about 13,000, which makes approximately 35,000-45,000 in all three camps.

Bill defined refugees as people who flee a problem from one country and move to another. They then become the responsibility of the United Nations (UN). The UN serves as the general contractor and is responsible for coordinating services and security in refugee camps. The UN hires NGOs to contribute to relief efforts.

Bill discussed the "theory" of refugee camps. He mentioned that the objectives of refugee camps are to provide just enough support to keep people alive, but it is not a permanent solution. There are three solutions which can be strived for: repatriation, transfer to a different part of the host country, or integration into the local population.

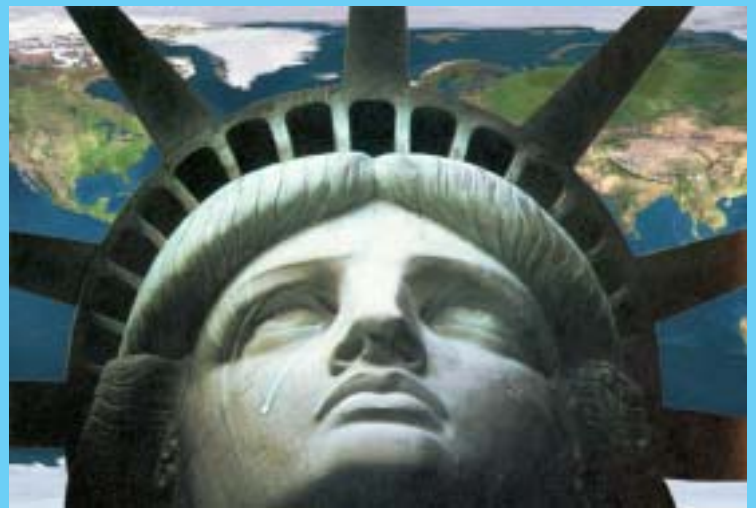
The three camps in the area are Amboko, Gondje, and Dosseye. There are several aspects of a refugee camp which were examined and evaluated.

For sheltering, the families are given a tent, blanket, mat, and some utensils when they first arrive. Some choose to make huts. Malaria is common due to water leakage in the tents where

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A Santa Barbara City College Adult Education Program
Presented by Santa Barbara Coalition for Global Dialogue
including UNA-USA Santa Barbara Chapter

"America's Tattered Global Image: What Can the Next President Do?" *U.N. Day 2008 Celebration*



Saturday, October 25 / 8:00 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

Global Networking Hour: 8:00 A.M.

Program: 9:00 A.M. / Free Admission

Fe Bland Auditorium, SBCC West Campus

721 Cliff Drive, Santa Barbara, CA

Featuring Speakers:

Benjamin Gohen

Professor of International Political Economy at UCSB

Helena Cobban

Author and Member of International Institute for
Strategic Studies

Peter Haslund

Chair of Global and International Studies at SBCC

Adam Green

Coordinator for Environmental Studies at SBCC

Moderator:

Stanley Roden

Mediator and Lecturer in Political Science and
International Law

Local

President's Message



Once again the elections are upon us. I don't have to remind our members that this may be one of the most important elections we have ever participated in. In fact, the elections were on our minds when we decided to pursue the title of our upcoming UN Day, **America's Tattered Global Image: What Can the Next President Do?** Our next President will have to cope with these issues if our image is to be repaired. At the UN Day, after we hear viewpoints from three noted experts and four college students, our audience will be invited to participate in the dialog. Conclusions reached will be forwarded to the next occupant of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington DC.

Wishing you a Happy and Healthy 2008!

Sincerely,

Catherine Dishion
President

A very special thank you to Sam Wake and his family who remembered UNA-USA, Santa Barbara Chapter, in his trust. Sam was well known as the founder of the Wake Center. He also was a long time supporter and member of the UNA-USA and served on our Advisory Board. We will truly miss Sam and always remember his generosity. If other UNA members and supporters have considered Planned Giving to UNA-USA, please contact our President, Catherine Dishion (805) 884-7131.

Global Humanitarian Photojournalists!

By Jacob Foko



Jacob Foko

Global Humanitarian Photojournalists (GHP) was the brainchild of Jacob Foko. He is a founder of the Cameroon Association of Humanitarian Photojournalists based in Cameroon, Africa. It was his deep desire to start a similar organization here in United States and provide humanitarian services globally. He then met Anne Rodriguez while attending the Brooks Institute. These two working together were able to pull together their resources and create Global Humanitarian Photojournalist, Inc based in Santa Barbara, CA. The next step was to find a similar organization in which they could partner with, so that they could accept donations and begin working immediately to help the single mothers and children of the Congo. UNA-USA was a brilliant fit, as their mission and goals are very similar to that of GHP. UNA-USA Santa Barbara Chapter has been wonderfully supportive of this new organization allowing GHP to create a committee under their nonprofit status, called the Global Humanitarian Committee.

GHP's first project included a trip to Congo-Brazzaville. There Jacob fell upon a small organization, called NGO, Urgences d'Afrique. Jacob felt that this organization would be the perfect first project for GHP. Jacob then began to film a documentary regarding this small organization and it's plight. Dr. Anne Tafaro was the

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International

UNA-USA Brown Bag Forum Adopt-A-Minefield

“Clear a path to a safer world”

Wine and Cheese Reception
Free Admission

Thursday, November 13

5:30 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.

Faulkner Gallery,

Santa Barbara Central Library

40 East Anapamu Street, Santa Barbara, CA



GHP -continued from page 2

leader of this Congo-Brazzaville based organization and is nothing short of amazing. Her dedication and commitment to her organization and the people she helps is inspiring. Urgences d’Afrique, helps single mothers and children who were victims of rape during and after the civil war. Due to poverty and other issues, education and income have been very hard to come by. Dr. Tafaro’s organization provides education, employment training, medical services and self-empowerment. She believes with the proper support these single mothers will regain their own power and be able to care for themselves and their children. Her main goal is to bring them a better life and ultimately happiness. Mandated Aikido classes also help these woman relieve stress, learn self defense mechanisms, and help balance them emotionally and physically. Though Dr. Tafaro has done an amazing job, there are still areas where this or-

Dr. Carl Q. Christol, Distinguished Emeritus Professor, international law and political science, University of Southern California, an expert on the laws and customs of war. Dr. Christol, author of numerous publications on international policy and affairs, is Landmines Chair for the United Nations Association of the USA (UNA-USA) at Santa Barbara County Chapter. There will be a showing of a film entitled “Bombies” filmed in Laos identifying dangers to civilian populations following the indiscriminate emplacement of cluster bombs during a civil war. The film is a joint production of the government of Canada, the MacArthur Foundation, and the Rogers Documentary Fund. The presentation will include an assessment of international efforts to outlaw these weapons. A discussion period will allow for a consideration of the ways and means for obtaining an affirmative outlook by the U. S. government to the world consensus on the illegality of such weapons.

Adopt-A-Minefield is a campaign of the UNA-USA, engaging individuals, community groups, and businesses in the United Nations’ effort to resolve the global landmine crisis. The Campaign helps save lives by raising funds for mine clearance and survivor assistance and by raising awareness about the landmine issue, including unexploded ordnances from cluster bombs.

www.landmines.org



Children of the single mothers and poor families having a free basic education provide by the organization “Urgences d’Afriques” in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo on January 20th, 2008. This free education is held to help the children of single mothers that were raped and abused during and after the civil war. Photo by Jacob Foko.

ganization needs much support.

Dr. Tafaro has a dream that one day each woman and child in her organization will be able to live in clean, safe housing. She also hopes to acquire transportation for these women and the necessary supplies to be able to participate in the welding training program safely. Another main concern is malnourishment, making it difficult to focus on other pressing issues, if the basic necessities are not met. GHP is committed to helping Dr. Tafaro with her small organization. We are hoping to solicit donations and funding to acquire these necessary items for the women and children who Dr. Tafaro cares for. We will be updating our website with our progress. If you are interested in becoming involved and/or want to make a donation, please contact UNA-USA Santa Barbara Chapter or visit our website at www.globalhpo.org.



“God and War - Does Religion Cause Violence?: What role does religion play in driving people? Why do some people say their religion inspires them to kill others or oppress them?” presented by the Santa Barbara Coalition for Global Dialogue including UNA-USA Santa Barbara Chapter at the Fe Bland Auditorium, SBCC on Saturday, April 19th. The event was also part of the conference sponsored by SBCC’s Middle East Studies Program. The panelists were Mark Juergensmeyer, Dr. Nader Hashemi and Imam Ibrahim Kazerooni; the respondents were Yoav Ben Horin and Mona Kanwal Sheikh; and the moderator was Dr. Peter Haslund. Photos by Jacob Foko.

terms of water, there are numerous wells and good rainfall, although malaria is a common problem.

The UN aims to have refugees return home, integrate, and move to a more permanent area. The UN declared that the CRF is not a safe place to return. The UN has encouraged self-sufficiency by providing refugee families with seed and livestock, halving the rations given out to cover the cost and encourage farming. This, however, was not as effective as intended. There are still plots of land allocated for growing vegetables and housing livestock.

In terms of health, there is one health clinic at each camp. There are 2 doctors for 35,000 people, and 1 health worker for every 1,000 people. There are approximately 623 new cases of malaria a month. The clinics are unfortunately under-utilized, due to the unfamiliarity of modern medical practices. Refugees are familiar with traditional healers and cultural practices.

Education is somewhat available, however there is a lack of resources. Preschools and Primary schools are still present, although there is low attendance.

In terms of security, there are no external threats. Internally, cattle trampling agriculture occurs. There is limited recreation and very little micro-lending.

NGOs know the situation and are working to make things better, although they lack resources. The “Chad Relief Foundation” is a virtual non-profit (only online). Their current projects include financing the construction and maintenance of wheelchairs for handicapped people (they identified at least 80 people in the refugee camps who were handicapped and had limited mobility).

They are also working on financing the construction of latrines and overhangs on the border, where refugees often get stuck for several weeks trying to get through. They are working with the Bren School at UCSB to increase agricultural production. They are working with CARE to provide school supplies. They are also trying to get a contract for 8,000 solar flashlights in response to the lack of electricity.

The “Chad Relief Foundation” aims to be a model of how people in privileged countries can make a difference in the lives of people in poor countries. For more information, please visit www.chadrelief.org

Meeting -continued from page 1

mosquitoes can breed. There is no electricity in the camps.

Food, consisting of flour, oil, salt, and grains, is distributed once a month. There is a lack of nutritional balance in the rations. To put it in perspective, Bill mentioned that Chad’s average of spending on food per week is \$1.23 worth per family, while the U.S.’s average is \$341.98 per week. In

Local



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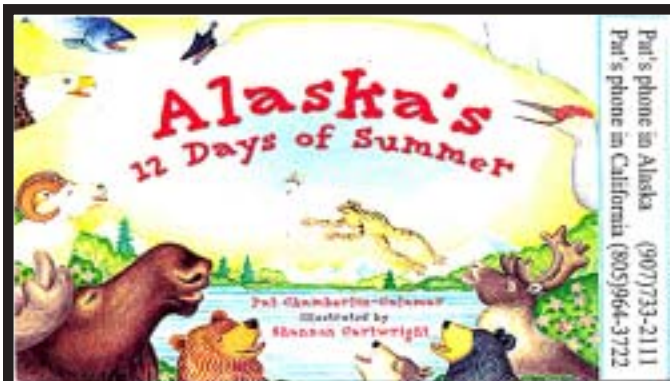
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International



Chad Relief Foundation President Bill Felstiner and UNA-USA Santa Barbara Chapter President Catherine Dishion at UNA-USA Annual Meeting: "Save Chad/Darfur" at American Red Cross Santa Barbara on February 16th.
Photo by Kathy Beh.

Santa Barbara Association for UNESCO Working with Ghanaian Network!

by Sarah Blackmun-Eskow

Members of UNA-USA Santa Barbara Chapter United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Committee, the Santa Barbara Association for UNESCO (SBAU), are

joining with faith-based organizations in Ghana to organize a network that will bring information and technologies to village people. Bill Allaway, chair of the chapter, and members Steve Eskow and Sarah Blackmun are working to raise money for the interfaith project, which begins with the Presbyterian Church of Ghana and its 2,900 congregations. Allaway has been to Ghana a number of times, most recently in June 2007. Blackmun and Eskow spent two months there earlier in 2008; they worked with the national church and also with Ghana Telecom University College, which is supporting the project.

The project, called FIDE, The Faith and Development Network, has already begun to bring information and access at affordable prices to such technologies as solar lanterns, farm irrigation pumps, and cargo bicycles. To learn more, or to join the effort, please call Bill Allaway at (805) 687-9810 or e-mail him at Boallaway@aol.com.



Sarah Blackmun and Steve Eskow in Ghana in May, 2008. Photos by Sarah Blackmun.

Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF!

By Kyle Morford



The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is the world's leading organization for the development of children. Established on the 11th of December 1946, UNICEF's main priorities are young child survival and development, primary education and gender equality, child protection, HIV/AIDS, early childhood, and policy advocacy and partnerships. UNICEF has many responsibilities and despite being poorly funded, they accomplish quite a bit. In 1965, UNICEF received the Nobel Peace Prize for its work. For 62 years now, UNICEF has been on the front lines in almost every country in the world, providing help to children and mothers facing huge adversities.

One of the largest campaigns UNICEF sponsors every year is the Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF Halloween fundraiser. The idea is that children take their orange UNICEF donation boxes door to door and instead of asking for candy, they do something for the millions of children around the world that are not as fortunate, and collect small change and cash donations. The funds generated from this event go towards funding different projects that UNICEF allocates it towards, such as getting water, education, and medicine to the children who need it the most. You can order the orange UNICEF donation boxes from <http://youth.unicefusa.org/trickortreat/> and support these wonderful projects. It only takes a small donation to truly impact the lives of children all over the world. So this Halloween, think of those less fortunate than yourselves and support Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF. For more information or get involved, please contact Kyle Morford at kychase411@yahoo.com

International

How UNICEF Makes a Little Go a Long Way

3¢ - Can protect and boost one child's immune system and prevent blindness for a year with Vitamin A capsules.

6¢ - Can provide one packet of oral rehydration salts for one child to treat severe dehydration and diarrhea, a leading cause of death among young children.

30¢ - Can provide one exercise book to serve as a tool for basic education in school for a child.

50¢ - Can immunize one child against polio for life.

80¢ - Can immunize one child against measles.

\$1.05 - Can provide a child with a pencil, paper pad and a pen to use in the classroom.

\$5.00 - Can provide a box of 100 disposable syringes for use during immunization campaigns.

\$10.00 - Can provide one insecticide-treated mosquito net to protect children against malaria. Cost includes net, supplies, training & transport.

\$15.00 - Can buy one carton of high energy protein biscuits to support and rehabilitate three severely malnourished children for one month.

\$15.41 - Can buy one chalkboard for a classroom to facilitate teaching and help students to learn visually.

\$61.00 - Can provide a small scale micro-filter, water purifier, and disinfectant used to eliminate harmful micro-organisms in turbid water in cases of emergency.

\$130.00 - Can provide a family hygiene kit containing detergent, soap, wash basin, towels, bucket, toothbrushes, and toothpaste for 10 families.

\$182.00 - Can buy one school-in-a-box kit to provide basic education to 80 children during times of crisis to allow them to continue their education.

\$194.00 - Can provide a recreation kit for individual and team sports. Each kit can cater to up to 90 children playing simultaneously.

\$729.00 - Can provide one tent for families whose homes were destroyed to use for lodging.

\$1699.00 - Can provide one large tent to set up a clinic or hospital after a disaster.

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Links & Information Resources

UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

By the year 2015, all 191 UN Member States have pledged to meet these goals.

- 1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger***
 - 2. Achieve universal primary education***
 - 3. Promote gender equality and empower women***
 - 4. Reduce child mortality***
 - 5. Improve maternal health***
 - 6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases***
 - 7. Ensure environmental sustainability***
 - 8. Develop a global partnership for development***
- www.un.org/millenniumgoals***

1. UNA-USA Santa Barbara County Chapter: ***www.unasb.org***.
2. UNA-USA Southern California Division: ***www.unasocal.org***.
3. UNA-USA: ***www.unausa.org***.
4. UN Foundation: ***www.unfoundation.org***.
5. The United Nations (UN): ***www.un.org***.
6. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO): ***www.unesco.org***.
7. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF): ***www.unicef.org***.
8. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR): ***www.ohchr.org***.
9. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR): ***www.unhcr.ch***.
10. 34 Million Friends of United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA): ***www.34millionfriends.org***.