

June 23, 2009

## Dear Friends,

We recently had the privilege of meeting with Penti Baihua, an indigenous community leader from the Ecuadoran Amazon, when he visited our office (see photo). We exchanged contact cards with Penti, and he told us why his card features a picture of an aguila arpia, a harpy eagle. The harpy eagle builds its nest high in the trees of the rainforest, he said, and creates an extensive protected area around the nest. The parents then fly long distances to hunt outside this safe zone and carry the food back to the nest. Their purpose, Penti explained, is to ensure a sustainable future for their young. Penti and his community view the harpy eagle as symbolic of their own desires for a sustainable future in the rainforest.

After hearing Penti's story, we shared with him the significance of the photos on our Muste Institute contact cards. In one image, a Mapuche woman leader from Argentina speaks about indigenous rights at the closing rally of the Americas Social Forum in Guatemala. In another, a group of Israeli and international activists pull a concrete barricade away from a Palestinian road. In the third, a South Asian activist in New York speaks at a demonstration in defense of immigrant rights. All three of these actions were supported by the Muste Institute, thanks to your contributions.

Penti has taken these images, and the stories behind them, back home with him as he continues to demand that indigenous communities have a say in how the rainforest is protected. And we hope you will share Penti's story, and those of our other grantees and sponsored projects, with your friends and colleagues to encourage them to support all of this important work.

Sincerely,



Jeanne Strole and Jane Guskin  
Co-Directors



VOL. 16, NUMBER 4

SUMMER 2009

## Rainforest Activist Visits New York

Penti Baihua speaks, listens and asks questions at an event organized by the government of Ecuador in conjunction with the Eighth Session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, held May 18-29, 2009 in New York City. Penti represents Ome Gompote Kiwigimoni Huaorani (We Defend Our Huaorani Territory), a grassroots effort based in the Huaorani communities of Bameno, Bowanamo and Gabaro in the Yasuní Biosphere Reserve, in the Amazon region of Ecuador. In addition to defending their own territory, the members of Ome Gompote speak out for the rights of "uncontacted" peoples—indigenous communities which have chosen to avoid all interaction with outsiders—to maintain their traditional way of life in the Yasuní area. With a \$1,500 grant from the Muste Institute's NOVA Fund, Penti was able to come to New York to confront officials from governments, international financial institutions and UN agencies about their plans affecting the ancestral lands of the Huaorani communities. Penti also traveled to Washington DC for followup meetings and met with supporters in New Jersey who organized a bake sale that raised \$1,300 for Ome Gompote.



PHOTO BY JUDITH KIMERLING

PHOTO BY THOMAS MARCZEWSKI



Co-directors Jeanne Strole (left) and Jane Guskin (right) pose in front of the Muste Institute library of books about peace and nonviolence. Jeanne and Jane took over last October following the departure of executive director Murray Rosenblith; in April the Board voted to confirm them as co-directors.

## Co-Directors Head Dedicated Team

by Peter Muste, Board Chair

Over the years, we haven't published much in *Muste Notes* about the Institute's staff. Our focus is always on the many exciting projects sustained through our grantmaking, fiscal sponsorship and building programs, all made possible by your contributions. But at the urging of some of our supporters, we've decided to share with you the faces that bring this great program work to life every day.

continued on page 2

## New Grant: Gush Shalom Confronts Occupation

With the generous support of an anonymous donor, the Muste Institute was able to make a \$2,000 grant in April to Gush Shalom (the name means "Peace Bloc" in Hebrew), based in Tel Aviv, Israel.

For more than 15 years Gush Shalom has worked to influence Israeli public opinion toward an end to the occupation and support for the Palestinian people's right to establish an independent sovereign state along the 1967 "green line." The Muste Institute supported Gush Shalom with a grant from our general fund in 1993, the year the group was founded, and again in 2004.



June 16, 2008: Gush Shalom leads a demonstration in Herziya, north of Tel Aviv, to protest Israel's blockade of Gaza. The action was organized in solidarity with a group of Gaza fisherfolk who used their last fuel to launch 10 boats in a nonviolent challenge to the naval blockade, which prevents them from working. With the support of dozens of activists from other groups, Gush Shalom hired a boat at the Herziya marina, hoping to take their solidarity protest to the sea. The captain refused to let them use the vessel for their demonstration, so they took to the streets instead.

### Social Justice Grant Program Restored

The Muste Institute has restored two cycles of general social justice grantmaking for the coming year; application deadlines will be in October 2009 and April 2010. Applicants are asked to check our website after August 15, 2009 for deadline dates and revised guidelines. We've had to reduce this fund for economic reasons, so if you value the activist projects it supports and want to help us make it stronger, please donate today.

## Dedicated Team

(continued from page 1)

Like our Board of Directors, the Muste Institute office staff is made up of activists who share a lifelong commitment to social justice.

### A.J. Muste Memorial Institute

339 Lafayette Street, New York, NY 10012  
phone (212) 533-4335 fax (212) 228-6193  
email <info@ajmuste.org>  
website: www.ajmuste.org

#### Board of Directors

Susan Kent Cakars	Peter Muste, Chair
James A. Cole	Jill Sternberg
Christine Halvorson	Nina Streich
Melissa Jameson (on leave)	Robert T. Taylor
Carol Kalafatic	Martha Thomases, Vice Chair
Bernice Lanning, Secretary	John Zirinsky, Treasurer
David McReynolds	

#### Staff

Jeanne Strole, Co-Director  
Jane Guskin, Co-Director  
Rose Regina Lawrence,  
Assistant to the Co-Directors  
Salvador Suazo, Superintendent

**Jeanne Strole** was in high school on Long Island when she first joined up there with Peacesmiths, a nonviolence and social justice group led by the late Susan Blake. She later moved to New York City and became involved in Indymedia, a grassroots journalism collective. When Jeanne joined the Muste Institute staff in 2003 she brought a diverse work history in media, graphic design and art. Jeanne is also a skilled artist and continues to be involved in activist projects in addition to her work at the Muste Institute.

**Jane Guskin** became active in social justice efforts after a trip to Nicaragua in 1988. In 1990, after moving to New York City, she joined the Nicaragua Solidarity Network, a Muste Institute sponsored project and tenant group, where she began editing newsletters on Latin America and immigration issues. Jane joined the Muste Institute staff in 1993. She also writes, edits, plays music and engages in activism. Jane is co-author of *The Politics of Immigration: Questions and Answers*, published in 2007 by Monthly Review Press.

The Muste Institute has developed personnel policies that encourage staff to stay and grow with the Institute; we believe these policies strengthen the organization and create continuity and efficiency for our programs and our



Rose Regina Lawrence, assistant to the co-directors, sorts through a pile of grantee folders. Rose Regina began helping out at the Muste office on a contract basis last October; in April she joined the staff. She brings a background in public health and a broad range of work experience.

donors. While some organizations hire and train new employees every few years, the Muste Institute staff and board can focus their energy on promoting the Muste Institute and developing its programs.

Now that you've met the people who make it all happen, we hope you'll renew your support for our important work!

# Travel Grants Boost Indigenous Women's Summit

Encouraged by a \$20,000 grant from the Appleton Foundation, the Muste Institute's NOVA Travel Fund reached out in March to indigenous women from throughout the hemisphere who were invited to participate in the 1st Continental Summit of Indigenous Women of Abya Yala and the 4th Continental Summit of Indigenous Peoples and Nationalities of Abya Yala, held May 27-31 in Puno, Peru. After reviewing some three dozen applications received for our April 1 deadline, we made nearly \$25,000 in grants to 23 groups for indigenous women's travel to the summits:

**Articulação dos Povos Indígenas do Brasil (APIB)**, Brasilia, Brazil: \$1,250

**Asociación para el Desarrollo Integral de Guatemala Maya, Ajsamajel Winaq, ASODIGUA**, Sololá, Guatemala: \$1,106.80

**Asociación Indígena Lafkenche**, Temuco, Chile: \$1,500

**Asociación de Mujeres Waorani de la Amazonia Ecuatoriana, AMWAE**, Puyo, Pastaza, Ecuador: \$541.84

**Asociación Multiétnica de Mujeres Xna Ixim**, Alta Verapaz, Guatemala: \$1,500

**Centro Ecuatoriano de Promoción y Acción de la Mujer – CEPAM**, Quito, Ecuador: \$814.16

**Centro Mesoamericano para la Acción Sostenible en Derechos Humanos – CEMAS**, Guatemala City, Guatemala: \$1,075.80

**Comité Pro Mejoras Pasto Calle, Latacunga**, Cotopaxi, Ecuador: \$1,067.68

**Comunidad Charrúa Basquadé Inchalá**, Montevideo, Uruguay: \$1,500

**Consejo de Ayllus y Markas Qullanas – CONAMAQ**, La Paz, Bolivia: \$300

**Consejo Indígena del Sur – CONISUR**, Villa Nueva, Guatemala: \$1,500

**Consejo de Mujeres Indígenas Nahuat**, Rivas, Nicaragua: \$860.50

**Consejo Nacional Indígena-MONEXICO**, Managua, Nicaragua: \$880.50

**Coordinadora Nacional de Comunidades del Perú Afectadas por la Minería – CONACAMI Perú**: \$1,500

**Coordinadora Nacional de Mujeres Indígenas de Panamá – CONAMUIP**, Panama City, Panama: \$713.76

**Coordinadora Nacional de Organizaciones de Mujeres Trabajadoras Rurales e Indígenas – CONAMURI**, Asunción, Paraguay: \$609.23

**Frente de Lucha Mapuche y Campesino**, Esquel, Chubut, Argentina: \$1,122

**Fundación para el Desarrollo Integral del Hombre y su Entorno – CALMECAC**, Guatemala City, Guatemala: \$1,156.58

**Grupo de Mujeres Mayas Kaqla**, Guatemala City, Guatemala: \$1,106.80

**Movimiento de Mujeres Indígenas Tz'ununija'**, Guatemala City, Guatemala: \$1,500

**Organização das Mulheres Indígenas de Roraima – OMIR**, Boa Vista, Roraima, Brazil: \$1,139

**Organización Mapuche Warriache**, Trelew, Chubut, Argentina: \$1,500

**Red de Mujeres Indígenas y Biodiversidad/RAIS**, Panama/El Salvador: \$670.70



PHOTO BY MARIA MARTHA DELGADO

At the 1st Continental Summit of Indigenous Women of Abya Yala, five of the nearly 50 women whose trips were supported by the NOVA Travel Fund. From left to right: Luisa Tzul of CEMAS, Hilaria Cruzabie of CONAMURI, Vilma Tuy of ASODIGUA, Carmen Alvarez of Grupo de Mujeres Mayas Kaqla and Deysi Cierra of Red de Mujeres Indígenas y Biodiversidad/RAIS.

Also in the April cycle, we granted \$1,000 to **Associação de Mulheres Indígenas Pankararu** of São Paulo, Brazil for travel to the International Congress of Traditional Medicine, Interculturality and Mental Health, held June 7-10, 2009 in Tarapoto, Peru.

The NOVA Travel Fund helps grassroots activists from Latin America, the Caribbean and indigenous territories throughout the hemisphere to participate in regional meetings. The next deadlines are August 1 and October 1, 2009. Guidelines are on our website in English at [www.ajmuste.org/novaintro-eng.html](http://www.ajmuste.org/novaintro-eng.html), and in Spanish at [www.ajmuste.org/novaintro.html](http://www.ajmuste.org/novaintro.html).

## Counter-Recruitment Grants, April 2009

The Muste Institute's Counter Recruitment Fund makes small grants for grassroots efforts to inform young people about the realities of military service, help them protect their privacy from recruiters and refer them to non-military education and employment options. Our next deadlines for proposals are July 13 and October 5, 2009. Guidelines are on our website at [www.ajmuste.org/counter-recruit.htm](http://www.ajmuste.org/counter-recruit.htm).

**Arise for Social Justice**, Springfield, MA: \$1,500 to expand peer counseling in high schools and colleges in and around Springfield to educate students about military service and its alternatives.

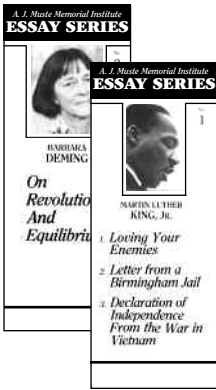
**Historic Peace Churches of Columbus**, Columbus, OH: \$750 for educational activities and distribution of materials

about the realities of military service and non-military alternatives to at-risk and under-served youth in central Ohio, and a proposed youth conference aimed at capacity building.

**Peace and Justice Center**, Burlington, VT: \$1,500 to publish a revised booklet on local alternatives to military service and distribute it in high schools throughout Vermont as part of the Recruiting for Peace Campaign.

**Washington Area Truth in Recruiting**, Bellevue, WA: \$1,170 to establish new local counter-recruitment groups in Washington state, particularly in rural communities, and for capacity building to expand peer counseling around the realities of military service.

# ESSAY SERIES ON NONVIOLENCE



**#1: Martin Luther King, Jr.** – America's leading apostle of human dignity – *Loving Your Enemies; Letter from a Birmingham Jail; Declaration of Independence from the War in Vietnam.* Also available in Spanish – see #13.  
 qty: \_\_\_\_\_

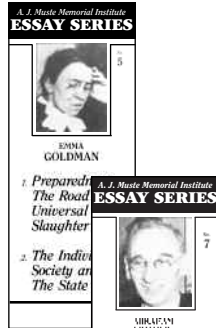
**#2: Barbara Deming** – the feminist connection to nonviolence – *On Revolution and Equilibrium*  
 qty: \_\_\_\_\_

**#3: Henry David Thoreau** – the original architect of resistance – *On the Duty of Civil Disobedience*  
 qty: \_\_\_\_\_

**#4: Jessie Wallace Hughan** – suffragist, peace activist, founder of the War Resisters League – *Pacifism and Invasion; On Duelling*  
 qty: \_\_\_\_\_

**#5: Emma Goldman** – fiery orator, anarchist, agitator for peace and liberation – *Preparedness: The Road to Universal Slaughter; The Individual, Society and the State*  
 qty: \_\_\_\_\_

**#6: Rosa Luxemburg** – courageous leader of Germany's democratic socialist movement – *Prison Letters*  
 qty: \_\_\_\_\_



**#7: A. J. Muste** – foremost 20th Century pacifist theoretician and activist, minister, socialist – *Who Has the Spiritual Atom Bomb?*  
 qty: \_\_\_\_\_

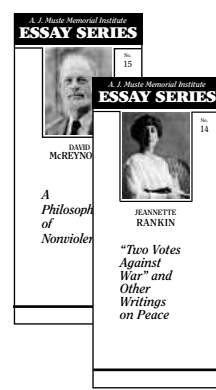
**#8: On Wars of Liberation** – three essays on peace resistance struggles, including analysis of Gandhi's position  
 qty: \_\_\_\_\_

**#9: Aldous Huxley** – Twentieth Century visionary and prolific writer – *Science, Liberty and Peace*  
 qty: \_\_\_\_\_

**#10: Paul Goodman** – pacifist, anarchist, activist – *The Morality of Scientific Technology; The Psychology of Being Powerless*  
 qty: \_\_\_\_\_

**#11: Some Writings on War Tax Resistance** – thoughts, poems, tales from resisters, including Juanita Nelson, Allen Ginsberg and Pete Seeger  
 qty: \_\_\_\_\_

**#12: Sidney Lens** – peace and labor activist, socialist, occasional political candidate – six articles spanning three decades on the state of the U.S. labor movement  
 qty: \_\_\_\_\_



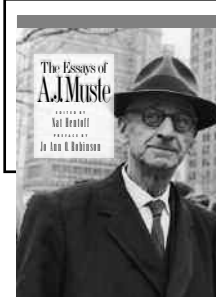
**#13: (Spanish) Martin Luther King, Jr.** – Spanish language translation of *Loving Your Enemies, Letter from a Birmingham Jail and Declaration of Independence from the War in Vietnam.*  
 qty: \_\_\_\_\_

**#14: Jeannette Rankin** – first woman in Congress, suffragist, pacifist – *"Two Votes Against War" and Other Writings on Peace*  
 qty: \_\_\_\_\_

**#15: David McReynolds** – longtime activist with the War Resisters League, Socialist Party presidential candidate – *A Philosophy of Nonviolence*  
 qty: \_\_\_\_\_

**Peace Agitator: The Story of A.J. Muste**, by Nat Hentoff  
 A 250-page biography with many photos, profiling the 'grandfather' of the U.S. peace movement – minister, labor activist, pacifist and resister. Introduction by Larry Gara.  
 qty: \_\_\_\_\_

**Wear Your Peace Shirt**  
 Muste Institute t-shirts are black cotton with a four-color geometric design and the words: "There is no way to peace, peace is the way – A.J. Muste" Available in large and extra large. Shirts are made in the U.S.A.



## The Essays of A.J. Muste

Edited by Nat Hentoff, preface by Jo Ann O. Robinson. Originally issued in 1967, this new 500-page edition includes Muste's "Notes for an Autobiography," plus essays on pacifism, civil rights, trade unionism and foreign policy, written between 1905 and 1966.

**SPECIAL OFFER: FREE SHIPPING!!** If you use this form to order our Essay Series pamphlets, books or t-shirts, we will provide free shipping (via US mail, book rate). Send in your order today!

### Essay Series

- 1 Martin Luther King, Jr. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Barbara Deming \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Henry David Thoreau \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Jessie Wallace Hughan \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 Emma Goldman \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 Rosa Luxemburg \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 A. J. Muste \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 On Wars of Liberation \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 Aldous Huxley \_\_\_\_\_
- 10 Paul Goodman \_\_\_\_\_
- 11 War Tax Resistance \_\_\_\_\_
- 12 Sidney Lens \_\_\_\_\_
- 13 Martin Luther King, Jr. (Spanish) \_\_\_\_\_
- 14 Jeannette Rankin \_\_\_\_\_
- 15 David McReynolds \_\_\_\_\_

### Quantity

- Pamphlets (total qty): \_\_\_\_\_ x \$2.00 each (\$1.40 each for 20 or more) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Sampler Pack \_\_\_\_\_ x \$20.00 (one each of all 14 available pamphlets) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- The Essays of A.J. Muste:* \_\_\_\_\_ x \$20.00 \* \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Peace Agitator:* \_\_\_\_\_ x \$5.00 \* \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- T-Shirts: (L) \_\_\_\_\_ (XL) \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**I am enclosing a tax-deductible contribution for the Muste Institute's work promoting active nonviolence and social justice:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\* for bulk rates, contact the Muste Institute office

**SHIP TO** \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check or money order payable to AJMMI and send to:  
**A.J. Muste Memorial Institute**  
**339 Lafayette St.**  
**NY, NY 10012**