

With the knowledge gained through this forum we will work to save what remains of our various rural ways of life so that we may build a more fertile environment.

SEVEN SUPPORT WORK AREAS

1. National Coordinating Office
2. Security/Peace Keepers
3. Mobilization/Transportation

If you are interested in mobilizing local communities and setting up transportation centers, contact our office immediately.

4. Fundraising

The Gathering is limited only by our access to resources.

5. Education for Survival

People in alternative education will develop curricula around Gathering issues to be used in traditional and alternative education systems. They will also establish a program to involve younger people in the Gathering.

6. Health for Survival

Health workers will supply health and medical facilities and give participants information needed to reduce dependence on existing institutions and to practice alternatives.

7. Communications/Media

Support the March on Washington
April 26, 1980

Stop Nuclear Power ★ Zero Nuclear
Weapons ★ Full Employment ★ Safe Energy
★ Honor Native American Treaties ★

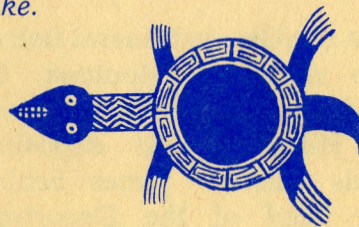
Sponsored by

Coalition for a Non-Nuclear World
236 Massachusetts Ave. NE, No. 506
Washington, D.C. 20002
(202) 544-5228

A TIME FOR ACTION

The Survival Gathering can contribute to the end of our feeling of helplessness and the beginning of building our destiny. We can utilize it as a means to advance all of our efforts, as we organize properly and use each of the work areas to supply the needs of the Gathering and an ongoing network.

This is the time to make a solid commitment for a future. We don't want endorsement without action. We don't need rhetoric—we need solutions and dependable groups of people willing to work. *The future of the coming generations is at stake.*



"Whatever befalls the earth befalls the people of the earth. Humans did not weave the web of life, we are merely a strand in it. Whatever we do to the web we do to ourselves. . . tribe follows tribe and nation follows nation like the waves of the sea. It is the order of nature and regret is useless. Your time of decay may be distant, but it will surely come, for even the whites whose God walked and talked with them as friend to friend, can not be exempt from the common destiny. We may be family after all. We will see."

*Chief Sealth (Seattle), 1855
translated*

1980 Black Hills International Survival Gathering

July 18-27

in the Black Hills
of South Dakota



sponsored by

The Black Hills Alliance

P.O. Box 2508

Rapid City, South Dakota 57701

(605) 342-5127

THREE SIMULTANEOUS EVENTS

I. A Citizens' Review Commission on Energy Development Corporations

Participants will present testimony and documentation on practices and policies that threaten the survival of our communities: local, national, and international. The information will form a base to plan effective means to neutralize corporate dangers and create life-sustaining alternatives.

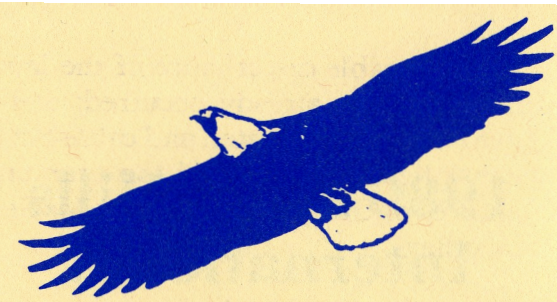
II. An Alternative Technology/Land Self-Sufficiency Project

Participants will build a model self-sufficient community with working alternative energy projects that can be applied to the further decentralization of energy and improved quality of life. Corresponding workshops will explain each demonstration project and instruct on its design and construction, as well as its application in local communities.

III. A Forum on Indian Genocide and the Planned Extinction of the Family Ranch and Farm

Methods that have been used against people worldwide in order to dominate their resources will be analyzed and documented.

For hundreds of years Indians have had their life-giving resources destroyed and have faced displacement from their homelands and forced assimilation. The corporate value system continues to threaten them and family farmers and ranchers as well. In 1979 alone 40,000 U.S. family ranches and farms were eliminated.



The Black Hills International Survival Gathering is a means of bringing people from local, national and international communities together to actively participate in planning and strategizing for survival of life beyond the 1980's.

For ten days in July 1980 people from many parts of the world will gather in the Black Hills to document and diagnose the threats to survival so that we may determine and practice the best methods of assuring a future for our children.

The Black Hills—the physical and spiritual center of North America—and the whole Northern Great Plains region is a target for elaborate and deadly energy exploitation. The issues making survival in the Black Hills a point in question are the same issues that face all of our communities.

An Oasis

The Black Hills are considered an "oasis" of the Great Plains: a natural haven of fresh water, lush vegetation, wildlife and clean air; the recharge area for most of the region's groundwater. The Paha Sapa, as the Hills are known to the Lakota People, are an ancient and sacred place, greatly revered. The life sustaining capability of this environ-

ment is threatened by more than 25 multinational corporations now prospecting for uranium, oil, natural gas, coal and iron ore on one million acres of land.

A National Sacrifice Area

"Perhaps the solution to the radon problem is to zone the land into uranium mining and milling districts so as to forbid human habitation."

—Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory
Report, 1978

From the Grants Mineral Belt of New Mexico north to Montana, through Colorado and Wyoming and east to the Black Hills, a vast depository of minerals exists. James Schlesinger, former head of the Department of Energy, called this "America's energy ace-in-the-hole." It is this area, our home, which is slated to be "sacrificed" for uranium mining and milling—the most dangerous part of the nuclear fuel

cycle, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The cancer rate in Fall River County in the southern Hills is already 50 percent higher than the other South Dakota counties as a result of uranium mining in the 1950's and 1960's.

Furthermore, "A National Sacrifice Area" means that the development, which is totally dependent on the availability of water, can only last as long as the water—about 35 years. It is a "terminal" development because as it unfolds, water consumption will be so great that it will deplete and contaminate the aquifers that supply water to the entire region. Just one of the proposed Tennessee Valley Authority mines will remove 675 gallons of water every minute for ten years. The existing and planned coal gasification plants, coal-fired plants, nuclear reactors, high-voltage powerlines, stripmines and pipelines will be rendered useless. Severely polluted air and soil will be part of the wasteland legacy of energy development. The agricultural economy will be dead.



Considerable disturbance of the land and water has already occurred: wells have been contaminated and cattle have been killed as a result of the uranium ventures of Union Carbide, Kerr McGee and others.

Survival Is the Issue

The world economy is developing along monopoly lines. Most capital investment and media are controlled by a few multi-national corporations. 75 percent of all uranium reserves and 25 percent of all coal reserves in the U.S. are owned by a few oil companies. The policies and practices of these giant corporations affect our communities in many ways: from higher prices, lower wages and forced jurisdiction to non-existent or inadequate houses and heat, fewer jobs, deteriorating health and the ever-growing danger of nuclear holocaust. While "inflation" is blamed for an ever-decreasing standard of living in the United States, the oil companies have increasing record profits.

We Need Your Help

In an effort to loosen the corporate grip on our lives, we have divided the International Survival Gathering into three simultaneous events and seven supporting work areas. Please familiarize yourself with these ten areas and indicate on the back of the enclosed orange pledge card which one you are committed to working on.

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