

# RTZ UNCOVERED

20%



## Britain's biggest miner...

RTZ is Britain's biggest mining corporation. It is second in size only to the Anglo-American Corporation of South Africa. Operating in 44 countries with 757 subsidiaries and associates and 74,000 people on the pay-roll, its operations range from uranium mining to chemicals, coal to computers, diamonds to manufacturing. It has appropriately been described as "probably the world's most diversified mining company" and, in 1981, made a bigger proportion of profit from its overseas subsidiaries than any other mining company on earth.

## ... and those who don't approve

RTZ has also earned itself an unenviable reputation throughout the world for its violations of indigenous land, manipulation of governments, disavowal of international law, implicit support for repugnant regimes, and general contempt for its critics.

Among these critics stands PARTIZANS, vocal presence at recent annual general meetings of the company and authors and publishers of this counter-report.

PARTIZANS is not a pressure-group as such, but an umbrella organisation for many communities and organisations affected by RTZ's operations. Initiated in 1978 at the request of North Queensland Aborigines, it first attracted widespread attention during its Week of Action (observed in Australia, Eire, the Federal Republic of Germany, Spain, and throughout Britain) and its International Tribunal in early 1981. Since then PARTIZANS supporters have kept in close touch with the representatives of many communities opposed to RTZ - especially in Australia, Canada, Namibia, New Zealand and North America - and endeavoured to represent their grievances and complaints. On several occasions, these representatives have themselves attended RTZ annual general meetings and other forums. Some of their evidence is presented in this report: other documents are available from PARTIZANS at its London office.

PARTIZANS does not formally adopt a policy on disinvestment, anti-recruitment, direct action or workers' control. It does, however, vociferously support any activities designed to limit the depredations and power of RTZ - and indeed all multinational corporations. To this end, PARTIZANS publishes reports, holds meetings and sponsors overseas delegations. Unlike the company it confronts, it operates collectively and its files are open. New supporters are welcome.

PARTIZANS is at 218 Liverpool Rd, LONDON N1 1LE, telephone (01) 609 1852

The £3 a year sub brings 6 issues of PARTING COMPANY and automatic right to attend meetings. RTZ UNCOVERED was written and produced by Angie Aldridge, Brigida, Chris Whitehouse, Jonathan Ringshall, Roger Moody, Sigrid Shayer, Steve West, Steve Wibberley and Tarin Brokenshire; typeset by Mick Licarpa; printed by COMMUNITY PRESS, 2 St Paul's Rd, LONDON N1.

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*"Finding an untainted investment can be a difficult task, as owners of Krugerrands and shareholders in Barclays Bank and Rio Tinto Zinc regularly testify."*

Alex Brummer in THE GUARDIAN (London) 20/11/82

# RTZ: a potted history

Three thousand years ago, the Phoenicians discovered copper in Andalusia, south-west Spain. Following them came the Romans (with their slave workers), the Moors, the Spanish, and in 1873 the London financier Hugh Matheson. With vast profits from his uncle's opium trade, plus £2 millions raised from London speculators by understating risks and overrating capital returns, taking time off from endowing churches and reclaiming prostitutes, he bought the Rio Tinto Mine, named after the adjacent, heavily polluted river. Spain survived the major damage inflicted upon its economy, and the *Rio Tinto Company* flourished, becoming within five years the biggest mining company in the world (helped by its role in the Secretan Copper Cartel - a lesson well learned). Suppression of wages, exploitation of women workers and minimising revenues to the Spanish government kept profits flowing - sulphur emissions blowing and many miners dying - until the 1920s when Auckland Geddes took over.

Previously an Anatomy Professor, bureaucrat, MP, ambassador, and later a writer of psychic drama, Geddes was pushed into diversification by labour problems (they wanted a union), political instability and increased American competition. Membership of another copper cartel, controlling 95% of the world market, provided enough money to collaborate with Ernest Oppenheimer's Anglo-American empire (gold, diamonds) in ruthlessly acquiring the Rhokana Corporation in the Northern Rhodesia copper belt: minority shareholders were deceived by manipulating interest rates.

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*"Since the mining region was occupied by General Franco's forces, there have been no further labour problems...*

*Miners found guilty of troublemaking*

*are court-martialled and shot."*

Sir Auckland Geddes at the 1937 AGM of Rio Tinto [RTZ forerunner]

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Despite being on the winning side in the Spanish Civil War, the Franco Regime's hostility to foreign capital resulted in then chairman Mark Turner (Foreign Office, merchant banking) bringing in business whizz-kid Val Duncan to sell off two thirds of the Rio Tinto Mine, and soon afterwards the Rhodesian copper interests. *Rio Tinto* used the cash to explore for investments in safer climes, where mineral rights were vested in the Crown. Though its continuity in the copper trade was ensured by buying into the South African *Palabora Mining Company* (set up after some adroit juggling of the borders of tribal homelands), the new wonder-fuel beckoned. Encouraged by the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority, Val set out on his mission to 'save civilisation and find uranium'.

In Australia, *Mary Kathleen Uranium* (with its exemption from Company Tax) was up for grabs, while Canada offered staggering concessions in Newfoundland and Labrador, a stake in *Brinco*, and the chance to pollute not just Elliot Lake (later to be part of *Rio Algom*) but the whole Serpent River System. However, the 1959 Test Ban Treaty took its toll on the uranium contracts with England and the United States. Time was needed to build nuclear power stations to take up the slack. Hurriedly closing down several of its uranium pits, it was time for *Rio Tinto* (and its Rothschilds finance) to reunite with the Oppenheims.

## *Fouls*

In 1962 uranium contract profits enabled *Rio Tinto* to merge with *Consolidated Zinc* to form RTZ, with CRA being created to look after the Australian interests. *Consolidated Zinc*, itself the result of a merger between Imperial Smelting and the Zinc Corporation in the late 1940s, had already been injected with urgently needed money by Harry Oppenheimer. This compensated for falling revenues from its lead/zinc waste processing at Broken Hill, New South Wales, and also maintained English control over the vast bauxite deposits at Weipa in Queensland. (At nearby Mapoon, the few remaining inhabitants were soon to be forcibly removed, their houses burnt to the ground and their church bulldozed.) On discovering the Weipa deposits, *Consolidated Zinc* had set up *Comalco* to turn the formerly fertile



Joyce Hall, representative of the Weipa People, outside the 1981 RTZ AGM

area into a barren wasteland as it strip-mined away huge amounts of top-soil. *Comalco* secured 105 year leases for thousands of square miles for less than 1% the normal rent (the lowest royalty rates in the world) and grazing, timber, water and farming rights. The Weipa Aborigines were neither consulted nor considered.

*ConZinc* also operated the Rum Jungle uranium mine from 1953 until the early 1970s. Situated on Aboriginal land, the deposit supplied fissionable material for the first British bombs - to be dropped on Aborigines and radiate servicemen during the 1950s tests in South Australia. With virtually no environmental restraints imposed, Rum Jungle polluted an entire river system. Fortunately - for *RTZ* - after being abandoned, clean-up at Rum Jungle became the legal responsibility of the Australian authorities.

Other promising *ConZinc/Comalco* operations included the Bell Bay Aluminium Smelter in Tasmania (where the furnaces liberate poisonous fluorides into the air or disperse them into the sea), and the notorious Avonmouth lead and zinc smelter which some years later was found to have up to 350 times the permitted lead level in the factory atmosphere.

There was also a secret agreement to build a dam and power station to produce electricity for an aluminium smelter to be built on Tiwai Point in Bluff Harbour. This became New Zealand's biggest-ever economic blunder. Apart from the furore over losing one of the country's most scenic areas, only 7% of the promised jobs were realised and the government ended up paying for the dam and the power station; *Comalco* got its electricity at such an absurdly low price that, in 1974 (a bad year for hydro-electricity), New Zealand spent \$40 million on oil to compensate for electricity *Comalco* had used at one tenth the price. Public pressure forced a renegotiation but *RTZ* (together with Kaiser Aluminium, *Consolidated Zinc's* partner in *Comalco*) pulled every diplomatic string available, up to and including the US Secretary of State for Energy, and little harm was done to *Comalco's* profits.

Also in the offing was a plan for an aluminium refinery. Brisbane was rejected as the initial site (to escape pollution regulations) and it was eventually built at Gladstone, where millions of tons of red mud produced as waste were pumped into surrounding mangrove swamps, turning them into barren eye-sores.

#### *In-offs*

RTZ expanded rapidly throughout the 1960s. *ConZinc Rio Tinto* (now *CRA*) was formed out of *ConZinc* in 1962. In England there were mergers with *Copper Pass* (tin smelting and refining) and *Borax Holdings* (parent company of *U.S. Borax and Chemical Corporation*). *Pillar Ltd* was absorbed (aluminium fabrication and manufacturing), and in Canada *Rio Algom* (RTZ's Canadian arm) bought *Lornex Mining Corporation* (copper and molybdenum in British Columbia). RTZ's 'jewel in the crown', the *Bougainville Copper Company* came into being, helped by an enormous and unprecedented 10 year tax holiday, not to mention the cooperation of the colonial authorities in bulldozing the farms and houses of the Nasioi people who were in the way. Social devastation and poisoning of the environment were to follow, resistance being met with clubs and tear gas. But for RTZ it was a significant move - they were enjoying the profits of operating in a Third World country, and continue to do so despite the renegotiated agreement in 1974, after a strike by New Guinea University students demanding national control of the company.

In 1970 a public relations exercise backfired when *Comalco* created a public scandal by distributing cut-price shares (just before they became publicly available at more than twice the price) to politicians, judges and media people throughout Australia and New Zealand.

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*"...there were two or three of us who were always available if somebody came in with something exciting... We didn't wait for a board meeting or any nonsense of that kind."*

Mark Turner, ex-Chair of RTZ, quoted in FORBES MAGAZINE 16/10/78

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The same year, *Rössing Uranium Ltd* was incorporated. Two years before, RTZ agreed a contract to supply the UKAEA with half the uranium it needed for Britain's nuclear programme a decade later. The contract (another was to follow) played a vital role in the capital development of what was to become Namibia's largest mine - and the world's largest uranium development. (Alistair Frame, RTZ's current chair, was UKAEA's Director of Reactor and Research Groups from 1964 to 1968.) Certainly RTZ was not deterred by the International Court of Justice voting in the 1970s, nor by the necessity of allying themselves with South African capital and its military. In 1974 the United Nations passed the famous Decree no.1 forbidding any exploitation of Namibia's natural resources. The British government ignored the Decree and RTZ hid resolutely behind the government's double-think.

Lord Carrington (later to become Foreign Secretary and assist in the protection of the company's assets in Zimbabwe) was appointed to the board. Palpable evidence of the DAILY TELEGRAPH's claim in 1975 that RTZ "...as well as supplying uranium, copper and other metals ... is also in a position to furnish a coalition government should one be required."

In Canada the mammoth James Bay hydro-electric project was started, the impetus coming from *Brinco's* plans for building a uranium enrichment plant. 7000 Cree Indians and Inuit have been directly affected by the flooding, having lost their injunction against it on appeal. But *Brinco* had less luck in Newfoundland, where its part in the Churchill Falls project was nationalised. After twenty years, the Newfoundland government appears sadder but wiser.

*Comalco* then back-peddled on its recycling scheme - started in order to get a share of the can market and to keep the environment lobby at bay. Australia's Trade Practices Act failed to prevent *CRA* joining a zinc cartel. *Comalco's* profits tumbled as the Queensland government increased the bauxite royalties, despite clumsy attempts to prevent it.

*"Australians will be the poor white trash of Asia within 20 years unless there are major changes in policies and attitude."*  
 Roderick Carnegie, Chair of CRA, quoted in AUSTRALIAN OUTLOOK (London) Oct 1982

### *Snookers*

Though Friends Of The Earth prevented RTZ from strip-mining Snowdonia, the exploration for new resources continued worldwide. Perhaps it was cheaper to mine bauxite in Brazil? RTZ filed 47 claims just to be on the safe side. Val Duncan died, and Mark Turner returned to take over in time for CRA's leap into the world of diamond mining in the Kimberleys in Western Australia, proceeds to be sold via De Beers Central Selling Organisation. There was strong opposition from local Aboriginal communities, threatened with the loss of their lands and the destruction of burial grounds and sacred sites. CRA had an easier time with its bid to take over *Coal and Allied Industries Ltd.* Though initially frozen (after the lack of proper notification to the authorities) the bid was finally allowed. The fact that one of CRA's directors chaired the board of the Foreign Investments Review, judging the case, throws a doubt on the impartiality of the decision.

Another success for RTZ in 1979 was chalked up with the start of construction on the Quartz Hill project in Alaska, but only after intensive lobbying by Borax of the U.S. Senate to overturn a 'National Monument' preservation order on the area.

As the decade drew to an end the criticism of RTZ's activities not only became more public, but also more coordinated. The Cerro Colorado scheme in Panama tempted RTZ to take over Texasgulf's share, nominal control being in the hands of the state mining agency Codemin. RTZ paid their salaries - and negotiated with them. But this was a long-term investment, waiting for an upturn in the copper market. 92 Guaymí settlements are threatened with being directly affected by the mine. The Guaymí Congress has voted unanimously on several occasions to oppose it. Further north in Newfoundland *Brinco's* plans for a uranium mine at Kitts-Michelin - also on indigenous land - were rejected, after the company presented woefully inadequate Social Impact Studies.

SWAPO called for compensation over Namibian Uranium at a U.N. Special Hearing, and resistance mounted in the Kimberleys in Australia, fuelled by CRA disrupting a sacred site at Devil Springs in its search for diamonds. CRA employed the world's largest public relations consultants to help stop the development of an Australian diamond-cutting industry, and to reduce social funds available for Aboriginal development. A little later, 1983, CRA was forced to stop drilling at Eastville, Victoria, where it was intending solution mining with hydrochloric acid. If they had waited for permission before starting to drill, they might have appeared more responsible to local farmers worrying about their groundwater. Across the water, New Zealand Maoris attacked CRA for enormous damage to their coast in the course of exploring for gold.

### *Last frame?*

The 1980s break, and the U.N. Law of the Sea Treaty is blocked by the United States after lobbying by the mining companies. RTZ's role is unclear - but RTZ *Deep Sea Enterprises* is a member of the powerful Kennecott Consortium which is committed to deep sea mining as soon as the price is right. RTZ buys back into the original, iniquitous Rio Tinto mine in 1980, and presses on with business dealings nearer home, too. Though no longer prospecting for uranium in Donegal after united local pressure against it, on-shore oil licences are obtained in Dorset and South Yorkshire, and a hold on the (revived) Cornish tin industry. *Hamersley Holdings Ltd.* built on iron ore in the Aboriginal Pilbara region of Western Australia, barely weathers successive strikes to conclude a historic accord with the Peoples' Republic of China.

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*"Here in Namibia they would be frightful fools to throw us out."*  
 R.S. Walker MBE, Chair of Rössing Uranium, quoted in THE OBSERVER (London) 20/11/82

The company goes through a stormy three years, coincidental with the appointment of Anthony ("RTZ acts more like a bank than a mining company") Tuke and a disastrous fall in many metal prices, which puts other, less diversified, adept and unscrupulous mining outfits in the red.

Tuke retires with those rumours of a 1981 boardroom 'rift' not entirely set to rest. Alistair Frame, architect of the dawn raid on *Thomas Ward* and the pirating of *Enterprise Oil*, advocate for the world's biggest (and most disastrous) nuclear constructors, Bechtel, buddy of Ian MacGregor, protégée of Margaret Thatcher, arch-foe of the NUM and environmentalists everywhere, takes to the green baize. For years he has been calling the shots. Now, with a new, slim chief executive's committee, he can step back into slippers which Val Duncan never really vacated, and continue potting the blacks and the reds.

#### More about RTZ

##### Books

- Paul R. Wilson: BLACK DEATH, WHITE HANDS, Sydney 1982 (Allen & Unwin)  
L. Gil Varon: A MIGRATION MODEL FOR RIO TINTO: 1877-1887, Cordoba 1981  
Jan Roberts: MASSACRES TO MINING: THE COLONISATION OF ABORIGINAL AUSTRALIA, Blackburn 1981 (Dove Communications)  
Jan Roberts & D. McLean: THE MAPOON BOOKS, 3 vols., Melbourne 1974-76 (International Development Action)  
Alun Roberts: THE ROSSING FILE, London 1979 (Canuc)  
THE STORY OF COMALCO IN NEW ZEALAND, Wellington 1977 (CAFCINZ)  
Diane Hooper: RTZ: PORTRAIT OF A MULTINATIONAL, Oslo 1978 (Oslo Peace Research Institute)  
Richard West: RIVER OF TEARS, London 1972 (Friends of the Earth)  
Robert Carty: RTZ COMES TO PANAMA, Toronto 1982 (LAWG, mimeographed)  
Mary Elliott (ed): GROUND FOR CONCERN, Ringwood 1977 (Friends of the Earth/Penguin)  
Charles E. Harvey & Alison Hodge: THE RIO TINTO ZINC COMPANY 1873-1954, Cornwall 1982  
Peter Pringle & James Spigelman: THE NUCLEAR BARONS: THE INSIDE STORY OF HOW THEY CREATED OUR NUCLEAR NIGHTMARE, London 1982 (Michael Joseph)  
EVIDENCE ON A URANIUM CARTEL, PRESENTED TO THE TRIBUNAL ON THE RIO TINTO ZINC CORPORATION, May 9-10 1981, London 1981 (PARTIZANS)  
RANGER URANIUM ENVIRONMENTAL INQUIRY: SECOND REPORT, Canberra 1977 (AGPS)  
HEARINGS ON NAMIBIAN URANIUM, New York 1981 (United Nations)  
Barbra Rogers & Zdenek Cervenka: THE NUCLEAR AXIS, London 1978 (Julian Friedman)

##### Booklets and magazines

- RTZ BENEFITS THE COMMUNITY, London 1981 (PARTIZANS)  
THE CASE FOR DISINVESTMENT, London 1981 (PARTIZANS)  
THE ALTERNATIVE RTZ REPORT 1983, London 1984 (PARTIZANS)  
BACKGROUND TO THE WEEK OF ACTION ON RTZ, London 1981 (PARTIZANS)  
RTZ: CAUSE FOR CONCERN?, London 1982 (PARTIZANS)  
PARTING COMPANY, London 1982-1984 six times per year (PARTIZANS)  
KEEP IT IN THE GROUND, Amsterdam 1980-1983 bimonthly (WISE)  
RAW MATERIALS REPORT, Stockholm 1981- quarterly  
NATIVE PEOPLES' NEWS, London 1979- irregularly (CIMRA)

##### Other media

###### Film

- A PLAIN AND SACRED RIGHT, BBC TV Everyman Production, 1983  
STRANGERS IN OUR OWN LAND, Granada TV World in Action, 1979  
FOLLOW THE YELLOWCAKE ROAD, Granada TV 1980  
(all three available from: Concord Films, 201 Felixstowe Rd, IPSWICH, Suffolk, IP3 9BJ)

###### Video

- THE RTZ TRIBUNAL, PARTIZANS Production, 1981  
UN CONFERENCE ON THE ENVIRONMENT: Speech by Lim Teck Ghee, savaging multinationals and RTZ in particular, BBC2 TV, 1982  
(both available from PARTIZANS, London)

###### Tape

- ROUGHRIDE AT RIO, London Open Radio documentary on RTZ with extracts from the 1981 and 1982 RTZ AGMs

###### Record

- RIO DISCO STINKS!, contained on WHERE'S THE PLEASURE, LP, Xcentric Records, London 1982

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*"Your Honour... on Thursday evening, we were shown on the ABC [TV, Australia] a film called PLAIN AND SACRED RIGHT. ...it showed scenes which depicted the directors of RTZ ... with what can only be called Hitlerian visages, apparently immune or insensitive to the pleas of people purporting to be Aborigines, pleading for land rights or a fair go ... we are looking closely as to whether it amounts to contempt of court."*

Mr Bennet, QC, for COMALCO in the Australian High Court on August 29, 1983  
(during the court case which the company won February 1985)

## Killings on the home front

Under new chair Alistair Frame RTZ is likely to remain with traditional metals, but expand 'downstream' even further than before. This means finding new processing facilities in safe regions, enlarging the company's highly promising manufacturing base, consolidating its hold on British oil and gas, and widening its profitable chemicals, engineering and construction activities (47% of the corporation's pre-tax profit in 1984).

Undoubtedly RTZ will be on the lookout for relatively cheap new acquisitions. Its legendary "agglomeration" strategy has reaped high dividends of late: notably through CRA's takeover of Martin Marietta (aluminium) in the USA and its link-up with Krupp Stahl and Kloeckner-Werke in West Germany. This particular merger - which will cost 3000 jobs - has been condemned as a 'scandal' by West German Greens and Social Democrats.

Just how far will RTZ diversify from metals, and how far will it go against the stream, by developing huge, low-cost deposits which come onto the market at bargain prices?

It is clear from 1984's developments that RTZ has no intention of succumbing to cyclical depression. Hamersley Iron has become the first company to gain entrée into China. RTZ recently bought a 49% stake in Portugal's largest mine, Neves Corvo. Palabora, Bougainville and Weipa continue doing better than expected.

But the company is relying less on uranium. And it is an open question whether it will risk further huge outlays on Quartz Hill in Alaska or Cerro Colorado in Panama, despite improvements in molybdenum and copper prices.

In the near future, the most damaging and controversial results of its tighter management policy are likely to be felt nearer home. As it closes down old plants and 'uneconomic' pits (drastic lay-offs at Avonmouth and wiping the Wheal Concord mine off the Cornish map), so it is penetrating new areas with its legendary aggression. Its attempt to control Enterprise Oil through a 'dawn raid' made it a temporary British political pariah. Few

observers realise that its 'rescue' of Cornish tinmines has been extremely profitable, mainly because it has resisted attempts by the ITC to re-designate Britain a tin producing, rather than consuming, country. And a good deal of its domestic expansion has to do with finding British companies whose earnings can provide a tax cover against the large taxation (ACT) on its foreign earnings.



© Greenpeace Ltd.

One consequence of RTZ's revival of British tin has been a better supply of ore to its smelter at Capper Pass on Humberside.

As Capper Pass has grown, so has its pollution. An analysis of water samples from the tailings dump at Capper, made for Greenpeace Ltd on July 3rd, 1984 revealed high toxic amounts of arsenic and antimony in sludge which is regularly the playground of local children. The figures are published here for the first time:

We hereby certify that we have examined the samples with the following results expressed as mg per litre:-

Antimony as Sb	63.3
Arsenic as As	63.3
Bismuth as Bi	less than 0.5
Cadmium as Cd	2.7
Copper as Cu	0.72

DR. W.J.M. THOMAS,  
for: BOSTOCK HILL AND RIGBY LIMITED  
CONSULTING SCIENTISTS AND ANALYSTS



# Still #1 Nuclear Merchant

## Uranium

Rössing's production is no longer published (see p. 8) but can be guessed at around 8,200,000 lbs.

Rio Algom's uranium was, in 1984, again that company's "mainstay of earnings"<sup>1</sup>, bringing in nearly \$90,000,000 profit, with a production of 7,600,000 lbs. Its miners at last won a ten year battle to obtain the legal right to refuse work they consider unsafe, without recriminations.<sup>2</sup> The company also reopened Mi Vida, one of the major mines of the 1950's uranium boom.<sup>3</sup> This helped keep production at the Lisbon uranium mine in Utah, U.S.A., to 622,000 lbs.

Palabora also produced 320,000 lbs.

Mary Kathleen Uranium Ltd (MKU) ceased uranium production in 1982<sup>4</sup> and made its final delivery in early 1985.<sup>5</sup> Around 193 tonnes were delivered from its stockpile in 1984, i.e. about 425,500 lbs.

RTZ's grand total last year was, therefore, some 17,167,500 lbs U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>.

Estimated world production for 1984 was 99,000,000 lbs<sup>6</sup>, thus making RTZ's share between 15 and 18 per cent (depending on Rössing's production). So, once again, RTZ is unquestionably the world's biggest single producer of uranium.

## Laundry

RTZ's worldwide uranium contracts are handled by one of its most shadowy subsidiaries, the 100%-owned Minserve (RTZ Mineral Services) based in the tiny town of Zug, Switzerland. Though successive chairs of RTZ have consistently refused to divulge any information on this company, Minserve has almost certainly laundered the Rössing contracts (especially to Japan) and is the principal sales agent to Urenco<sup>7</sup>.

Nukem - one of the world's principal uranium (and plutonium) brokers, with fingers in virtually every nuclear pie - is also share-owned (18%) by RTZ. In early 1984, Nukem was trying to dump European nuclear waste in the Gobi desert.<sup>8</sup>



Part of the huge tailings dam at Elliot Lake: this waste contains up to 90% of the radioactivity of the original uranium

# Rössing: a dead issue?

Rössing: a dead issue?

Forty-six and a half per cent owner of the world's largest uranium mine at a time when the market is described as a "disaster"<sup>1</sup> by Colin Macaulay, managing director of Rössing, RTZ can draw little comfort from the misplaced optimism expressed by last year's Chairman.

Contrast the lengthy statement in last year's Annual Report<sup>2</sup> with the absence, this year, of any reference to Namibia's political problems. This reflects more than the difference of style between Frame and Tuke. The assessment made by Anthony Tuke in 1984 that Namibia would be independent "in maybe a year's time" was based largely on the hope that US-led negotiations with South Africa and Angola would produce an internationally recognised government under UN Security Council Resolution 435. His words: "We think, and I expect you think too, that we really are at last in sight of a settlement with Namibia..."<sup>3</sup>

Anthony Tuke was proved entirely wrong by the South African government's announcement in April of its support of an interim government made up by the Multi-Party Conference. This has the support of (at most) 80,000 people out of a population of 1.4 million, and no participation by SWAPO, whose support is acknowledged, even by Pretoria, as sufficient to win any free election convincingly.<sup>4</sup>

"Rössing's proclaimed non-racial policy and the saying that they are only discriminating between the different grades is a sweet, convenient lie." Rössing worker, in letter to the WINDHOEK OBSERVER 7/1/84

The interim government has not received any international recognition - rather the opposite with the United States describing the proposals as "null and void"<sup>5</sup>. South Africa's position on Namibian independence has moved further away from, not closer to, that of Britain and the US. It is not difficult, therefore, to see why the 1984 Annual Report draws a discreet veil on these events.

## Rössing: present ownership<sup>9</sup>

RTZ Group	51.5%*
Rio Algom	5.0%**
Minatome (subsidiary of CFP/Total, France)	10.0%
Urangesellschaft (FRG)	5.0%
IDC (South Africa)	10.0%
South African colonial administration	3.5%***
Gencor (South Africa)	2.3%

remainder undisclosed

\* quoted as 46.5% in RTZ Annual Report for 1984

\*\* a further 5% apparently included in RTZ Group stake as above

\*\*\* transferred from IDC 1/4/85

One immediate consequence for Rössing of 'creeping UDI' is the share transfer from the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), a South African parastatal, to the colonial administration in Windhoek in readiness for the interim government which is expected to take power in June.

Rössing's financial director, George Stobart, has disclosed that the 50.04% block of 'A' shares transferred by the IDC carries with it a majority vote at shareholders' meetings, though the beneficial interest is a modest 3.5%. In effect, through the IDC, the South African regime has always had the veto denied by Sir Mark Turner at the 1977 AGM, and which it will continue to have through its surrogate administration, bolstered by the 10% or more beneficial interest it has decided to retain. Appointments to Rössing's board are determined by beneficial interest: RTZ is entitled to nominate 10 of the 19 members and has management control.

*Falling profits, postponed deliveries*  
But will RTZ want to stay in Namibia much longer? Glossed over though it is by the Annual Report, RTZ's net attributable profit from Rössing has fallen, like a stone, from £14.6 million in 1983 to £7.3 million last year. This is less than a quarter of 1982 profits and so it is small wonder that Macaulay talks of "disaster".

But nearly £8 million is still a large sum of money; - fortunately,

since (as Tuke acknowledged last year) "we are responsible for making a provision in the accounts for likely law suits," although he added that RTZ saw no need to make a reserve in the accounts for compensation arising out of legal action taken by the future government of an independent Namibia. (This, of course, would be for uranium illegally extracted and exported by RTZ in violation of UN Council for Namibia Decree One.)

One vital question is whether RTZ will review this in light of a May 1985 announcement that the UN will begin legal proceedings against URENCO in the Netherlands because of the Anglo-Dutch-German consortium's processing of Namibian uranium.

As RTZ shareholders will know, the company has been criticised, at home and abroad, over many years for supplying the British CEGB with 7,500 tonnes of Rössing uranium.

During the course of 1984, it became extremely difficult to get a definite date on which this original contract would end. At last year's AGM Alistair Frame volunteered nothing more than "September or October". Later, in a letter dated 18th July, Anthony Tuke slightly expanded:

"The date on which the CEGB contract with Rössing Uranium will terminate depends upon all the formalities of that contract being satisfied, and the CEGB will decide that. I cannot give you a specific date for this, but as stated at the Annual General Meeting we anticipate that these will be finalised in September or October this year."

This uncertainty was consistent with speculation that the Rössing mine had experienced production delays early in 1984 and deliveries were running late.

#### *Weapons connection*

In November, a Foreign Office official surprised everyone by saying that the contract would end "early in 1985." Certainly one fairly large (50,000 kg plus) consignment, of what was reliably estimated to be Rössing uranium, entered Britain just before Christmas 1984. Destined for processing by British Nuclear Fuels Ltd (BNFL) at their Springfields plant, it is not known whether this work

was being undertaken for the CEGB or some other customer.

Neither BNFL nor the Foreign Office deny that Britain continues to import uranium from Rössing for customers other than the CEGB; nor does Rössing's chair, R.S.Walker.

Assuming that the contract with the CEGB has, in fact, now terminated, burning questions still surround the future use of Rössing uranium stockpiled in Britain (where supplies have reached an untenable high of between 6,000 and 10,000 tonnes). How much of this inventory will go to future weapons use, specifically the Trident missile programme? In 1975, what seems to have been an addition to the original Rössing contracts was signed, for delivery of 1,100 tonnes uranium. Comments Tony Benn, Secretary of State for Energy at the time: "It must have been for the weapons programme."<sup>6</sup> And how much of the inventory - indeed of future Rössing production - will contribute to other nations' weapons development? In late 1982, for example, RTZ contracted to supply Taiwan with 4,000 tons of uranium over fifteen years from 1990. There has been speculation that much of this is earmarked to come from Namibia.<sup>7</sup> The Taiwanese regime has long had intentions to manufacture nuclear weapons.<sup>8</sup>

"...one battalion of paratroopers is worth countless numbers of United Nations resolutions."

Anthony Tuke, Chair of RTZ at the 1982 AGM

"Rössing is a powerful and wonderful company when seen from the outside, but from my point of view I do not see it that way... we are now being prompted to fight on the border under the joint venture between Rössing and the South West Africa Territory Forces. The reason being that Rössing wishes to stagger the call-up system, therefore making life easier for them. I therefore make an appeal for help to all right-thinking people, churches and political organisations &c ... to convince ... Rössing that we don't wish to be called up, for the simple reason that we have nothing to fight for or defend."

"Anti-Border Duty, Swakopmund", letter in the WINDHOEK OBSERVER 17/12/83

# Apartheid's pickings

The cry to 'disinvest' in apartheid has been heard down the years, since the massacre at Sharpeville in March 1960. Twenty-five years later, as the South African police and military once again openly murder unarmed Africans - from the townships, the trade unions, and especially the mines - the demand is raised more stridently than ever. Of course, there has for some time been intense debate over the effects of disinvestment: investors, like RTZ (whose chair, Alistair Frame participated in a 'close door' meeting on this very issue, earlier in 1985<sup>1</sup>) claim it will 'hurt' South Africa's black majority. Black freedom organisations, including members of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), state that it will hasten the collapse of an iniquitous system.

It is beyond dispute that British investment in South Africa is more important than that from any other single source, and is a vital supplier not merely of foreign exchange, but moral credibility to the pillars of government. Those pillars include the 'verligte' supporters of apartheid like the Anglo-American Corporation which has moved in recent months to crush black trade unionism at its own mines, with unprecedented savagery.<sup>2</sup>

RTZ's share of British investment in South Africa makes it one of the more important financial props of the regime. Palabora Mining's investment alone is nearly 4,000,000,000 Rand (of which RTZ's beneficial interest is 38,9%<sup>3</sup>). Moreover, the RTZ group can boast another two dozen subsidiaries, including at least three in Namibia.

Equally important are the Joint Ventures in which RTZ participates with South African capital. Apart from Rössing, and the company's intimate linkage with the South African regime itself (see Table p. 8) RTZ clasps hands with the huge Afrikaner mining company Gencor in Geevor tin mines of Cornwall (Gencor: 19,01% and RTZ: 19,55% as of mid-1984<sup>4</sup>). Until 1984, Charter Consolidated - Anglo-American's British arm - also held 60% of

another Cornish tin mine, Wheal Crofty Holdings Ltd: this was bought out by RTZ nearly two years after Charter Consolidated itself sold its holdings in Rio Tinto.<sup>5,6</sup>

Nearly the entire output of the Argyle diamond mines in Australia (CRA's beneficial interest: 56,8%) is contracted to the De Beers CSO (Central Selling Organisation)<sup>7</sup>, a penetration of Australian natural resources by apartheid's biggest company which provoked considerable anger in Australia three years ago. Although the full Oppenheimer share interest in RTZ has never been revealed, it is undoubtedly still considerable.<sup>8</sup>

Rio Tinto's activities in South Africa extend far beyond a mere safeguarding of their original investment. In late 1983, Rio Tinto South Africa Ltd, its major, wholly-owned subsidiary, was granted a 2,300 ha lease of diamondiferous gravel in the Bophutatswana bantustan. At the same time, G.A. Macmillan, head of the company, was actively canvassing for voters in the counterfeit 'electoral reforms' of 1983.<sup>9</sup> A little before, Macmillan (currently an overseas director of RTZ) had been appointed to the new South Africa Atomic Energy Corporation. Rio Tinto is the only corporate body represented on the AEC.<sup>10</sup> And, across the border in Namibia, the Managing Director of Rössing Uranium was soon to become the President of the country's Chamber of Mines.<sup>11</sup>

## Palabora

One of the more spectacular mining successes in the world, Palabora has long benefited from extremely cheap labour and other costs<sup>12</sup>, secure markets, and access to open-pit mining technology in which its parent, RTZ, leads the world.

In 1984 it chalked up its highest ever profits (nearly 57 million Rand net<sup>13</sup>) - helped, undoubtedly, by the weak Rand<sup>14</sup>. Although primarily a copper producer, Palabora also delivers important supplies of magnetite and vermiculite, marketed through Mandoval, and uranium. Palabora yellowcake (like that from Rössing) is the only uranium coming out of southern Africa not marketed through South Africa's NUFCCR agency.<sup>15</sup> In 1982, 1983 and 1984<sup>15,16,17</sup> the mine met significant contracts for uranium

(production in 1984 was 160 tons compared with 219 in 1983). No public details have emerged about these contracts and it is possible Palabora fuels South Africa's civil/military nuclear programme.

A major expansion of the mine started in 1983 and it may now produce well beyond the turn of the century. By then it will have spewed forth 2,000 million tons of waste and ore, from what is already the world's second largest open-pit.<sup>18</sup>

Between 1966 and 1971 Palabora made pre-tax profits of nearly £140 million. Over the same period its black workforce was paid a pittance of £4.6 million.<sup>19</sup> During these years, RTZ was heavily criticised for the low wages and adverse health conditions of black workers at Palabora.<sup>20</sup>

The company still sets black trade unions at an arm's length; "although emergent. Black trade unions were active in Namgkale during the latter

"RTZ fails to mention Palabora Mining Company in its interim report. This is strange in that it is 30% owned by RTZ and continued to show that it is one of the industry's showpieces by increasing its half year profits to R15 million, a 69% improvement on the same period of 1981."

MINING JOURNAL (London) 24/9/82

part of the year, no formal recognition agreements were under negotiation with any of the unions by the year's end," Palabora's 1984 annual report laconically puts it. As for a home ownership scheme: that has gone ahead with some success for the company's white employees living in Phalaborwa. But "home ownership for Black employees is more complicated, and under study" - a euphemism for the fact that, under the apartheid system, such 'equality' is unthinkable.

## From the mountains to the jungles

### South America

Rio Tinto Zinc has many South American subsidiaries (24 in Brazil alone<sup>1</sup>) about which very little is widely known. In Chile it has been considering, in recent years, opening a large copper deposit at Cerro Colorado (not to be confused with the mine of the same name in Panama), and only this year it announced an interest - along with Mitsubishi - in buying half of the promising Escondida copper/molybdenum project in the northern part of the country.<sup>2</sup> A new mining code, introduced by the Pinochet regime, enables foreign companies to remit half their income, and protects them against nationalisation.<sup>3</sup>

While RTZ appears to have dropped its interest in the Paragominas bauxite deposit in Brazil<sup>4</sup>, it is going for gold on a major scale in Mato Grosso and Goias<sup>5</sup>. Mato Grosso has more areas designated for Indian control than any other Brazilian state: a fact which, historically, has never bothered the corporation.

Meanwhile, RIOFINEX, the company's 100%-owned exploration subsidiary, has obtained concessions in the Madre de Dios region of Peru - where

it is also hunting for gold. The major Peruvian Indian organisation AIDSEP has unequivocally condemned the leasing of its natural resources to foreign exploiters and specifically named RTZ.<sup>6</sup>

### Central America

RTZ took over the contract for the Cerro Colorado mine (in Panama) in



A Guaymí family at Cerro Colorado

© BRISIDA

1980. Though it has been waiting for the price of copper to increase before going ahead with mining operations, a recent upswing in copper's fortunes - and guarded statements by Alistair Frame<sup>7</sup> - suggest a revival of the project might be closer than considered a year ago.

In 1984 the mine was under a 'care and maintenance' clause of the original contract which is fairly unspecified. It seems to cover a 'social development programme' (actually financed by the government but controlled and run by the company) and supposed maintenance of a road, machinery and various equipment - which was actually left rusting at the mine site. There were supposed to be fourteen employees at the site - but a recent visit found only six. None of them seemed to know what they were doing but, as one remarked, "it is better to be paid for not knowing than not to be paid at all."

In spite of a statement by RTZ in Panama that "there's been no damage done to the mountain. We could leave now and you would never know we'd been there," the reality is hard to ignore, as the mountain itself, hacked and cut on one whole side, towers over the whole area. The devastating soil erosion caused by the building of the road and the blasting of the sacred mountain both maintains and exacerbates a legacy left the Guaymí by the ladino plantation owners who stole the land at an earlier date. Alistair Frame was right in one respect only when, in a 1984 statement (otherwise outstanding for its ignorance and arrogance) he said:

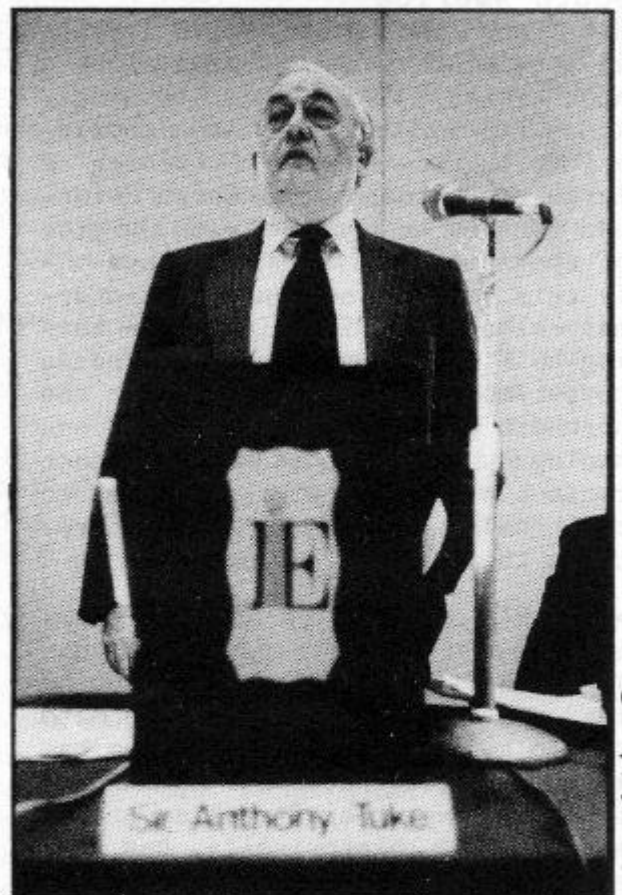
"Their present circumstances offer the Guaymí a future of bleak prospects." This future has now been completely tainted by current operations at the mine site. The road that RTZ has built - 25 km from the nearest town up into the mountains - forces the Guaymí into an almost impossible situation. On the one hand, it has exacerbated the terrible soil erosion and squeezed the land-base even further. On the other hand, it has created a dependency among the local people. The government has opened a meagre health centre and school. However if, as seems likely, the present road is dynamited to make way for an even bigger one, the loc-

al communities will be left without the medical facilities to which they are now accustomed.

These problems are made worse by the paternalistic and patronising (and indeed racist) attitudes of RTZ and its staff. And if, as seems likely, CODEMIN (the government partner in the project) relinquishes a large part of their 51% equity to RTZ, the company will have achieved unacceptable political and economic control over the area.

In spite of what Alistair Frame would have us believe, the Guaymí are not waiting with open arms for the mine to open - although they are being seduced into the wage economy, as fewer and fewer of their own resources remain. Ironically, Frame's statement that the project will "offer the best chance of achieving improvement in local conditions"<sup>7</sup> may prove a savage self-fulfilling prophecy. For the mine may come to offer the only chance of survival in an environment which it has done its best to distort and destroy.

This report was written by a nurse who recently visited Cerro Colorado



"We hear what you say...  
...we'll write to you about it."  
Ex-chair Anthony Tuke  
fencing questions at the 1984 AGM

In 1984, CRA's proportion of net earnings from COMALCO (CRA: 67%) was \$13.7 million. Though world aluminium markets suffered because of excess primary production, Weipa bauxite shipments rose, due to higher sales to Queensland Alumina (COMALCO: 30.3%) and customers in Japan, Europe and the USA.

By 1980, COMALCO had earned more than \$340 million (net profit) and built Weipa into the biggest bauxite exporter in the world. But Weipa is completely on Aboriginal land (with a total estimated \$60 billion worth of bauxite). The Aboriginal community still feels it has got nothing from COMALCO.

After consistently refusing to pay compensation for the theft of the land (see p. ), COMALCO settled £150,000 in the 1960s, with which to build houses. None of this money went, however, directly to the Aboriginal community, the company colluding with the Church Mission and the Queensland government to maintain control over the Aborigines. COMALCO considered that the gesture relieved them of any further responsibility.

The COMALCO grant was pitifully inadequate and, as the Church authorities themselves acknowledged in 1966: "All pensioners amenities funds and child endowment funds have been used in the construction of the new village as the COMALCO grant was inadequate."

In 1975, the Queensland government gave money for a sewage system to be plumbed into these houses. COMALCO had originally spent £14,000 on white workers' homes, but only £2,300 on houses for blacks. So much for equal rights and 'assimilation'!

Three years later, in 1978, Mick Miller, Jacob Wolmby and Joyce Hall (herself from Weipa) came to London to meet with RTZ. However, they got little satisfaction. Earlier, RTZ's vice chair, Lord Shackleton had visited, allegedly to inspect conditions, but stayed a grand total of twenty minutes in the community itself.

In 1981, Joyce Hall returned to Eng-



Shackleton

land causing RTZ some embarrassment when, at that year's company AGM, she demanded: "How much longer must we wait for the company to do something... another twenty years? Aborigines have no rights. You should be ashamed of yourselves. My land is ripped and nothing is given because of your greed. You take the riches from the land which is like our own mother... This company has got wool pulled over its eyes and over its ears!"

Four years later, in 1985, ABC Television of Australia was ordered to pay \$295,000 to COMALCO (believed to be the highest-ever defamation award given a company in Australia's history) after showing the Granada TV documentary STRANGERS IN THEIR OWN LAND. This film was an attempt to portray the devastation caused by COMALCO's mining operations at Napoon and Weipa, and included interviews with Joyce Hall and other Aborigines.

In no sense does the ABC judgment vindicate COMALCO. The fact is that Weipa's devastation - despite belated pay-offs to the community and much-vaunted revegetation of stripped land - was one of the greatest human outrages in recent Australian history. A small, but crucial, insight into that outrage was gained from the recent court case when Joyce Hall explained - for the first time publicly in twenty years - why she and other Aborigines suffered so painfully on the destruction of their original trees.

It was in these branches that they used to place their dead.

# Diamonds are not an Aborigine's best friend

Diamonds are not an Aborigine's best friend

In 1976, RTZ's largest subsidiary, CRA (RTZ: 52.9%) began exploring for diamonds in the Kimberley region of Western Australia. Two years later, the Western Australia state government ensured that Aborigines could not exclude mining companies from their land, by altering the Aboriginal Affairs Planning Authority Act.

By mid-1979, CRA has built a 60 tonnes/hour pilot diamond processing plant. The Ashton Joint Venture (now Argyle Joint Venture, with CRA holding 56.8%) processed some 2,963 carats. Promised CRA: "[The company's] exploration ... often involves entering land in which Aborigines have an interest. Aboriginal land holders are consulted before exploration is commenced on their land and care is taken to safeguard sacred sites. The assistance of the relevant museum authorities is also sought in order to avoid unwitting disturbance of sacred sites."

The reality was very different. A sacred site called Devil Devil Springs was desecrated by the company. The Aborigines, through the Kimberley Land Council (KLC) protested to the Western Australia Museum's anthropologists. A museum report, listing 58 Aboriginal sites of significance - three within the main CRA working area, including the sacred women's dreaming at Barramundi Gap - was sent to CRA. A recommendation that CRA report to the Minister if they want to continue drilling went unheeded.

The following year, CRA reported the discovery of kimberlite pipes containing potentially rich diamonds. The KLC wrote urgently to the company; two months later it "noted" their concerns. In April CRA appointed a research officer, Mr Bell. On meeting the Warmun aboriginal community he was told in no uncertain fashion not to allow his company to infringe the Aboriginal Heritage Act (WA) under which sacred sites are supposedly protected. The Aborigines asked that no work be carried out within two miles of the crest of Barramundi Gap. Within six months, CRA had excavated a trench on the very spot, and built a road to the crest of the Gap.

Said Mr Bell: "People in business

like to have documents signed by persons with letters after their names." The Warmun community then appointed its own anthropologist and delivered a report to CRA. It was largely ignored "because [it] was apparently deliberately leaked to the press without any attempt by the KLC to discuss it with CRA" (Mr Bell). At Bell's suggestion, CRA then built a helipad just 50 m from the centre of the Barramundi dreaming. It separated off three members of one family from a community of some 35 Aboriginetraditional owners, flew them to Perth and inveigled them into signing an agreement.

The Argyle 'agreement' was immediately condemned by the KLC and aboriginal groups throughout the region. The West Australia Minister for Cultural Affairs, ostensibly responsible for protecting sacred sites, announced CRA has been given approval to work on its mining leases in the area.

In November 1980, a document was leaked from the Ashton Joint Venture, showing graphically what CRA's attitude is to Aboriginal land claims and spiritual values. Released by Les Russell at the 1981 RTZ AGM, it includes the following recommendations by a public relations company employed (and approved) by CRA:



Les Russell  
speaking at Cambridge University



# I am the Land

*Like the spear sinks deep within my heart  
the drill turns deep within the earth.  
Like the Yulo makes the soul depart  
the company kills with greedy mirth.*

*Like with a shield to parry blows  
I now use words and demonstrate  
against all wrong that I know,  
I will not assimilate.*

*I am this Land and it is mine  
I cannot change and to it be true,  
I cannot let the company mine  
I cannot give this Land to you.*

*When you can learn to respect the Land,  
when you can live within her,  
when you can, with pride, stand  
and say you understand her,*

*I'll still not give, it's not my right  
what man can give his Mother,  
but I'll proudly share with all my might  
and call you my own brother.*

*Boolidt Boolidtba*

"The public relations programme for 1981 will be concerned primarily with the following issues: ... Sustaining the Argyle Agreement with the Glen Hill community and isolating this agreement from the general debate on Aboriginal land rights while encouraging community acceptance of the company's policy towards its Aboriginal neighbours... The AJV should undertake a vigorous lobbying programme in State and Federal circles...to ensure our position regarding the Aboriginal issue... is fully appreciated among key decision-makers ...If [CRA] ...can resist moves to meet Aboriginal compensation/royalty claims... its savings will be substantially greater than the proposed expenditure on the company's public relations programme next year."

In 1981 CRA's public relations budget for Argyle was nearly \$300,000, of which \$15,000 for "government relations" and no less than \$50,000 to take journalists to the mine.

At the next RTZ AGM Jimmy Biendurri and Shorty O'Neill, representing the Aboriginal people of the Kimberleys and the National Federation of Land Councils, attempted to tell shareholders about further desecration of sacred sites - despite chair Tuke's 'guarantee' in 1981 that they would cease. As Jimmy Biendurri rose to speak, Tuke precipitately closed the meeting. In the uproar which ensued Shorty O'Neill managed to climb on the platform. Before being hauled away by police, he announced that CRA had destroyed some 300 sacred sites alone the previous year.



© Phil Wolmuth

"CRA has desecrated three hundred sacred sites in the past year!" Shorty O'Neill (despite some interference) addresses the 1982 RTZ AGM



© Phil Wolnath

Hitlerian visages - or bored to tears?  
Roderick Carnegie of CRA (far left) and other directors at the 1982 RTZ AGM

Judy Monk of the Aboriginal Mining Information Centre attended the next AGM, and in 1984 Barbara Flick represented the National Federation of Aboriginal Land Councils. She demanded to know "how you evaluate, compensate for, the loss of a person's culture, desecration of religious sites, particularly the Barramundi Gap that you people have no respect for. You don't seem to have much respect for humans anyway. How do you intend to compensate for the destruction and fragmentation of Aboriginal society?" She also pointed out that, even at this late stage, only 16 Aborigines had negotiated with CRA.

"Disturbing sacred sites and land is agony for our people. Land and mountains and spring water - the heart of the sacred sites - is really our body.

Grader bulldozers are pressing down on our body, liver and kidneys bleeding. The spirit of the landowners is sickened. Graders are scraping the skin off our flesh - a sore that will not heal up; in my language, wilu, killing us." David Mowalharlai, recorded at Lake Argyle, May 1980

Roderick Carnegie, chair of CRA, responded: "The issue of land is a very emotive one...discussions were made with the government about the ways in which the least impact could be made on people that live in the area ... within about 700 kms. there are approximately 500 people of Aboriginal descent who claim some affinity with the land ... the difficulty of the relationship with the land is one which I agree is difficult."

Flick: "Too difficult for you to understand?"

Carnegie: "It is difficult."

Flick: "Do you want to understand it?"

Tuke (intervening): "Well, if he's incapable of answering, maybe we're all incapable of answering."

Carnegie: "We have paid \$6,000 per head so far, and agreed ... a series of improvement grants for the people that live in that location."

Flick: "About as much as the company spends for one night on the town!"

## Still #1 Nuclear Merchant

- 1 Rio Algom Annual Report 1984
- 2 NUCLEAR FREE PRESS (Peterborough, OPIRG) fall 1984
- 3 ENGINEERING AND MINING JOURNAL (New York) Oct. 83
- 4 *ibid.* March 85
- 5 FINANCIAL TIMES (London) 13/10/82
- 6 *ibid.* 29/1/85
- 7 INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT DECREE NO.1: ACTION BY TRADE UNIONS: TWGU paper A/AC.131/GSY/CRP.6 for UN Symposium on Namibia 27/7/84, Geneva 1984 (UN)
- 8 THE GUARDIAN (London) 14/2/84

## Rössing: a dead issue?

- 1 WINDHOEK ADVERTISER 30/4/85
- 2 RTZ Annual Report 1983 p.7
- 3 RTZ AGM 24/5/84, London (private transcript)
- 4 AFRICA CONFIDENTIAL (London) 27/3/85
- 5 TIMES (London) 20/4/85
- 6 letter by Tony Benn to CANUC, London, 26/3/85; THE GUARDIAN (London) 5/2/83
- 7 THE GUARDIAN (London) 15/12/82
- 8 Thijs De La Cort, Deborah Pick & Daniel Nordquist: THE NUCLEAR FIX, Amsterdam 1982 (WISE)
- 9 WINDHOEK ADVERTISER 30/4/85 & MINES AND INDEPENDENCE, London 1983 (CIIR)
- 10 URANIUM: RESOURCES, PRODUCTION AND DEMAND, Paris 1982 (OECD/IAEA)
- 11 NUKEM MARKET REPORT quoted in: JOHANNESBURG STAR 30/7/84

## Apartheid's pickings

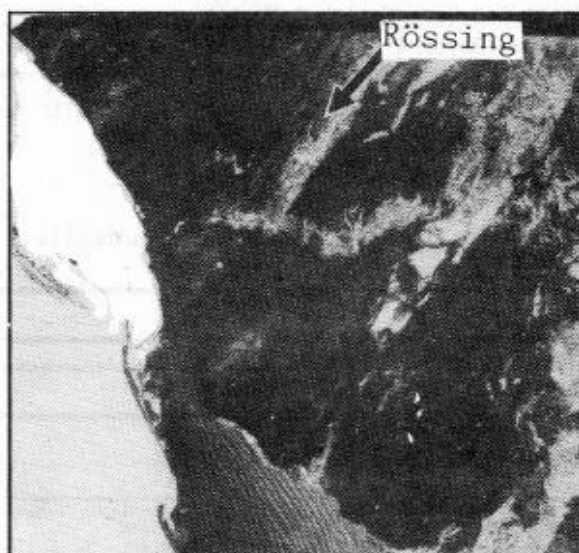
- 1 FINANCIAL TIMES (London) 6/3/85
- 2 e.g. FINANCIAL TIMES (London) 25/4/85 & 5/5/85
- 3 Palabora Mining Co. Ltd Annual Report 1984
- 4 FINANCIAL TIMES (London) 28/6/84
- 5 *ibid.* 19/4/83
- 6 ENGINEERING AND MINING JOURNAL (New York) March 85
- 7 AUSTRALIAN FINANCIAL REVIEW (Sidney) 26/4 26/4/83
- 8 Robert Carty: RTZ COMES TO PANAMA, Toronto 1982 (LAWG)
- 9 FINANCIAL TIMES (London) 5/10/83
- 10 BRISTOL COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY INTO RTZ IN NAMIBIA REPORT, Bristol 1983
- 11 WINDHOEK ADVERTISER 2/4/84
- 12 MINING JOURNAL (London) 27/5/83
- 13 Palabora Mining Co. Ltd Annual Report 1984
- 14 FINANCIAL TIMES (London) 2/4/85
- 15 Michael C. Lynch & Thomas L. Neff: THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF AFRICAN URANIUM AND ITS ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL MARKETS, Boston 1982 (MIT)
- 16 FINANCIAL TIMES (London) 7/8/82
- 17 *ibid.* 14/4/83
- 18 MINING JOURNAL (London) 28/10/83
- 19 G. Lanning & M. Mueller: AFRICA UNDERMINED, Harmondsworth 1979 (Penguin)
- 20 ANTI-REPORT ON THE RIO TINTO ZINC CORPORATION, London 1971 (CIS) & MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY AND AFRICAN EMPLOYMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA, Johannesburg 1973 (Raban)

## From the mountains to the jungles

- 1 WHO OWNS WHOM, London 1984 (Dun & Bradstreet)
- 2 MINING JOURNAL (London) 10/5/85
- 3 *ibid.* 30/9/83
- 4 statement by Alistair Frame at 1983 RTZ AGM
- 5 FINANCIAL TIMES (London) 19/1/84
- 6 statement by AIDSEP (Asociacion Inter-etnica de Desarrollo de la Selva Peruana) Lima July 1984
- 7 letter to Survival International, London, quoted in THE ALTERNATIVE REPORT 1983, London 1984 (PARTIZANS)

RTZ's 1984 annual report is, to say the least, self-effacing when it assesses the importance of its Rössing mine in Namibia. No production figures, no information on profits paid to the South African regime, no reference to contracts or contract labour. The report does boast, however, of the mine's "five star" safety rating, and its "high environmental standards....continued monitoring has shown no deterioration of the environment."

In 1982 the mine was draining 23,000 m<sup>3</sup> of fresh water daily from the Swakop and Kuiseb rivers<sup>1</sup> threatening total dehydration in the next ten or more years<sup>2</sup>. RTZ now claims to be advanced in water recycling, reducing fresh water consumption to "little more than half 1982's level"<sup>3</sup>. But the landsat picture, taken in 1982, shows what one geological scientist insists is a very alarming situation of pollution affecting a large area around the Rössing mine.<sup>2</sup>



- 1 NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE (Washington) June 1982
- 2 WINDHOEK OBSERVER 16/10/82
- 3 RTZ Annual Report 1984

# PARTIZANS: a balance sheet

The following 'balance sheets' comprise one of the few ways in which PARTIZANS can assess the results of its activities. Here you will find lists of many (not all) of the major shareholders in RTZ who, in our opinion, should demonstrate their 'social responsibility' either by disinvesting their shares in the company, using them to support shareholders' resolutions on the more culpable of RTZ's exploits, or - at the very least - by employing their mandate to attend RTZ's Annual General Meetings and question the company's activities.

The names which follow are drawn from the latest RTZ shareholders' register which is available for public scrutiny at Companies' House in London. The PARTIZANS disinvestment group tooth-combed more than 90,000 shareholders, 42 microfish and 8736 pages, then sent information on Rio Tinto to all major local authorities, Nuclear Free Zone (NFZ) Councils, health authorities, universities and selected charitable foundations. These bodies were invited to question RTZ on its practices and - depending on the company's responses - to disinvest their holdings.

As can be judged, a number of these bodies have disinvested their shares. The rate of disengagement seems directly related to the growth of opposition to RTZ, but only a few shareholders are ready to admit the fact. One of these is the Greater London Council, whose rationale for supporting PARTIZANS (and financing this alternative Report) is summarised below. In late April 1985, the GLC finally decided to shed its 'evil' holding in RTZ following legal advice that there were justifiable financial, as well as moral, reasons for so doing.

## RTZ shareholders

County Councils & Health Authorities	shares held 1980/81	1982/83	1983/84
<b>London</b>			
Barking and Dagenham Borough Council		45,000	58,333
Barnet (Mayor & Burghers)	58,000	110,000	206,000
Bexley Health Authority		800	800
City of Westminster Borough Council	97,000	145,000	169,100
Croydon Borough Council		87,000	10,150
Enfield Borough Council	33,000	40,000	46,666
NFZ Greenwich Area Health Authority		2,500	2,916
Harrow (Mayor & Burghers)		17,300	52,500
NFZ Hounslow (Mayor & Burghers)		40,000	52,499
Kensington & Chelsea and Westminster Health Authority		1,175	2,350
NFZ Lewisham Borough Council	99,200	10,000	10,000
Merton Borough Council	2,300	25,147	40,722
NFZ Newham Health Authority		262	262
North West Thames Regional Health Authority		2,660	3,103
Redbridge Borough Council (Essex)		53,500	62,416
<b>Northern England</b>			
NFZ Cumbria County Council	100,000	112,500	131,250
NFZ Durham County Council	220,000	278,000	324,333
NFZ East Cumbria Health Authority			600
NFZ Humberside County Council	117,000	232,000	280,666
NFZ Leicester Area Health Authority	122,000	5,000	4,000
NFZ Leicestershire County Council		185,276	201,389
NFZ Lincolnshire County Council	105,000	100,000	116,666
NFZ Liverpool Area Health Authority	16,875	sold	20,687
NFZ Liverpool Council Social Services	2,760	2,760	3,220
Northampton Borough Council	3,600	3,600	4,200
NFZ Northumberland County Council	8,912	80,000	93,333
NFZ North Manchester Health Authority		1,385	1,615
NFZ Staffordshire County Council	166,000	151,000	176,166

	shares held 1980/81	1982/83	1983/84
Stockport Area Health Authority	?	750	375
NFZ South Manchester Health Authority		8,979	6,000
Warwickshire County Council	40,000	70,000	120,000
NFZ West Midlands County Council	680,000	815,000	815,000
NFZ West Midlands Regional Health Authority	1,956	1,082	1,262
Yorkshire Regional Health Authority			2,566
<b>Southern England</b>			
Bedfordshire County Council	195,000	180,000	260,000
Berkshire County Council	195,000	277,000	323,166
Borders Regional Council		2,500	40,832
Cambridge County Council	50,000	49,875	83,187
NFZ Cleveland County Council	57,500	197,010	233,999
Cornwall County Council		87,000	83,333
Devon County Council	196,000	210,000	311,166
Dorset County Council	162,000	194,500	270,000
Essex County Council	268,725	268,725	413,512
East Sussex County Council	160,000	185,000	239,332
Gloucester County Council	90,000	117,333	156,880
Hampshire County Council	265,000	279,693	233,719
NFZ Hereford and Worcester County Council	106,875	116,875	125,000
Isle of Man Government Board	65,000	sold	75,883
Isle of Wight Council		20,000	23,333
Kent County Council	240,000	280,000	321,933
Oxford County Council	38,350	40,000	86,666
Plymouth Health Authority			1,440
Shropshire County Council	40,000	60,000	85,000
Somerset County Council	100,000	60,000	70,000
Suffolk County Council	75,800	119,800	184,000
Surrey County Council	55,000	10,000	99,999
West Sussex County Council	65,000	95,000	111,416
<b>Scotland</b>			
Argyll and Bute District Council		1,040	1,040
Dumfries and Galloway Health Board		800	933
Dumfries and Galloway Regional Council	30,000	30,000	40,333
Grampian Health Board		3,650	6,451
Grampian Regional Council	930,001	150,000	17,500
Orkney Islands Council		6,800	7,933
NFZ Stirling Central Regional Council	70,427	70,427	82,217
Tayside Regional Council	100,000	115,000	134,166
<b>Wales</b>			
NFZ Clwyd County Council		100,000	126,666
NFZ Dyfed County Council	115,000	135,000	157,500
NFZ Gwent County Council (Cwmbran)	109,000	109,000	127,165
NFZ Gwynedd County Council	96,250	76,250	98,958
NFZ Mid Glamorgan County Council		75,015	87,517
NFZ Powys County Council	36,000	41,000	47,833
NFZ South Glamorgan County Council	27,000	90,000	125,000
NFZ South Glamorgan Health Authority		1,601	1,867
NFZ West Glamorgan County Council	105,307	159,000	197,166
<b>Universities</b>			
Oxford University		.	89,833
Dean and Chapter of Christchurch		99,000	25,666
College for Holy Trinity undivided		5,700	6,650
St Hilda's College		8,000	8,333
Brasenose College		511	611
Hertford College		14,000	16,332
St Catherine's College		6,000	12,000
Cambridge University		.	204,166
Queens College			9,187
St Mary Magdalene		2,070	2,415

	shares held 1980/81	1982/83	1983/84
Clare College		39.700	36.316
Christ College		8.000	9.333
Corpus Christi		7.000	8.166
Downing College		5.000	5.833
St John the Evangelist		40.000	46.666
Lady Francis Sidney			10.000
Emmanuel			1.666
Wolfson			6.500
<b>Other Universities</b>			
Bristol University		20.000	23.333
University College London Hospitals Special Trustee		7.500	5.000
University of Liverpool Pension Fund		14.000	16.333
University of York Pension Fund		2.500	2.916
University of York		-	2.916
Nottingham University		20.000	23.333
University of Durham		18.000	14.000
London University		22.875	26.249
Kings College London			3.908
<b>Hospitals</b>			
Blue Cross Animal Hospital		5.144	6.001
Moorfields Eye Hospital		4.000	4.666
National Heart and Chest Hospital		8.500	3.750
Guys Hospital		7.500	7.650
St Bartholomew's Hospital Nominees		6.500	4.083
St George's Hospital (Grosvenor Wing)		10.000	11.666
St Thomas Hospital		22.200	25.900
<b>Other bodies</b>			
Accountant General of Supreme Courts		57.780	59.755
Babcocks Staff Pension Trust		100.000	100.000
Associated Cement Pension Trustees		33.000	35.000
Bank of England		6,625.000	4,216.666
Belfast Harbour Pension		11.405	11.405
Barclays Bank			huge holdings
Birmingham Post and Mail Staff Pension Fund		20.000	28.333
BP Oil and BP Pension Trustees		105.660	115.000
Bristol United Press		14.625	17.062
Consolidated Gold		125.000	100.833
Co-operative Insurance Society Manchester		2,616.743	3,097.700
Esso Pension Trust		242.618	363.177
Cancer Research		13.876	16.713
Incorporate Society Rescue Homes for Catholic Children		22.000	2.366
Inverness Harbour Trust		1.100	1.283
Iraq Petroleum Pension Funds		100.000	200.000
King Harry Steam Ferry Co. (Falmouth)		1.550	1.808
Kuwait Oil Co. Trustees		20.000	23.333
The Leprosy Mission Corporation		4.700	5.483
Liverpool Daily Post and Echo Staff Pensions		13.350	15.574
Lucas Staff/Work Pension Trust		14,770.664	1,789.241
National Coal Board Pension Fund		2,553.311	3,028.862
National Farmers Union (Mutual Insurance)		314.066	344.060
Official Custodian for Charities		445.817	533.482
Official Solicitor to Supreme Court		4.224	3.777
Church of England Children's Soc.		8.000	9.333
Cleaning Tokens Ltd		100.000	100.000
PDSA Dorking		102.000	13.066
Port Employers and Registered Dock Workers Pension Fund Trustees		86.500	281.000
Railway Pension Investment Ltd		1,155.000	1,155.000
Rowland and Marwood Steamship plc (Whitby)		13.500	13.500
Rountree and Mackintosh Pension		80.000	100.000
Soc. Interprofessionnelle pour la Compensation des Valeurs Mobilières		9,796.390	10,144.377
The Sports Council		900	1.050

	shares held 1980/81	1982/83	1983/84
Water Companies Pension Trust		130.000	160.000
Thorn EMI Pension Trust		225.000	150.000
BNF Fund Trustees			7.000
BP Trust Ltd			2,712.900
BSC Pension Fund			4,625.000
Dr Barnardo's			855
Gestetner Pensions			75.833
Grove Charity Trust			6.000
The Law Society			99.166
Marie Curie Memorial Fund			7.869
Mason Trust Co.			12.000
Secretary of State for Defence			17.733
Zoological Society of London			5.250
Glaxo Trustees			14.000
Littlewoods			164.000

## RTZ disinvestors

County Councils & Health Authorities shares held 1980/81				1982/83	1983/84
London					
	Bexley Borough Council	45.000	55.000		sold
	Bexley (Mayor & Burghers)		7.000		sold
	Bromley Borough Council	71.000	sold		-
	City and Hackney Health Authority	1.452	sold		-
NFZ	Greater London Council	375.000	630.000		to be sold
	Greenwich and Bexleyheath Health Authority	3.300	sold		-
NFZ	Greenwich Borough Council	60.000	90.000		sold
	Harrow Borough Council	30.000	27.700		sold
	Havering Borough Council (Romford)	2.000	sold		-
	Hendon Borough Council	58.000	sold		-
	Hillingdon Borough Council	25.000	sold		-
	Kensington & Chelsea Borough Council	10.000	sold		-
	Newham Borough Council	23.500	sold		-
	Southmead Health Authority	1.560	sold		-
NFZ	Tower Hamlets Borough Council	50.000	sold		-
	Wandsworth Borough Council	90.000	sold		-
Northern England					
	Birmingham Area Health Authority	2.500	sold		-
	Central Manchester Health Authority	3.877	sold		-
NFZ	Doncaster Area Health Authority	675	sold		-
NFZ	Humberside Area Health Authority	3000	sold		-
NFZ	Manchester Area Health Authority	13.846	sold		-
	Newcastle City Council	71.000	sold		-
	Northampton County Council	100.000	sold		-
NFZ	Northumberland Area Health Authority	750	sold		-
	North Yorkshire County Council	66.950	80.950		sold
NFZ	Nottinghamshire County Council	60.000	sold		-
NFZ	Sheffield Area Health Authority	2.000	sold		-
NFZ	Tyne and Wear County Council	318.000	195.000		sold
	West Yorkshire Metropolitan Council	592.388	sold		-
	West Yorkshire Metropolitan Council 2nd account	30.037	sold		-
Southern England					
NFZ	Avon County Council (Bristol)	160.000	sold		-
	Buckinghamshire County Council	68.000	sold		-
	Frenchay Health Authority (Bristol)	1.560	sold		-
	Salop County Council		52.112		sold
	Southend Borough Council	4.500	sold		-

	shares held 1980/81	1982/83	1983/84
<b>Scotland</b>			
Edinburgh District Council	3,400	sold	-
NFZ Fife Regional Council	70,000	sold	-
Greater Glasgow Health Board	2,000	sold	-
Highland Health Board (Inverness)	2,898	2,898	sold
<b>Wales</b>			
NFZ Clwyd Health Authority		4,300	sold
NFZ Glamorgan County Council	80,000	sold	-
<b>Universities</b>			
Oxford University			
Wadham College		5,305	sold
Cambridge University			
Fitzwilliam College	4,200	sold	-
<b>Other Universities</b>			
St Mary Magdalene	200	sold	-
Lady Margaret		8,666	sold
Glasgow University	?	sold	-
Clifton College Bristol Nominees		1,800	sold
<b>Hospitals</b>			
Great Ormond Street Hospital	4,215	sold	-
<b>Other bodies</b>			
Co-operative Insurance Society London		271,250	sold
Imperial Cancer Research Fund		44,990	sold
Guildmaster Pilot and Seamen (Humberside)		6,000	sold
London Transport Trustees		150,000	sold
Penguin Pension Trustees		5,000	sold
Trident Television Group Pension		35,500	sold
Tilbury Container Services		5,600	sold
The Methodist Church			sold
National Children's Home			sold
Bahais Faith			sold
Salvation Army			sold
National Anti-Vivisection			sold
Soc. for the Prevention of Cruelty against Children			sold
Spastics Society			sold
YMCA / Young Men's Christian Association			sold
National Trust Scotland			sold
Church of England Church Commissioners			sold

*"The Diocese does indeed hold shares in RTZ. It has been decided that in due course these should be disposed as representing a company in whose profits we do not wish to participate."*

D.M.T. Ambrose,  
Financial Secretary to the Archdiocese of Westminster, London  
4/9/81

*"The Church Commissioners have no shareholding in RTZ. Their decision to sell their holding was taken, after intensive consideration, in June and was completed last month... [The Commissioners] recognize their share of responsibility for the general health of society and the environment and seek to discharge this responsibility by all appropriate means."*

M.J. Symon,  
on behalf of the Church Commissioners, London  
20/4/82



# Why the GLC is funding PARTIZANS

Earlier this year, the Director General of the Greater London Council (GLC) presented a report on PARTIZANS to the Finance and General Purposes Committee, recommending funding. The report was accepted. Here are some of the reasons why:

Officers consider that a number of the aspects of the work of the group are of relevance to London and warrant funding by the Council. These are detailed in the Matter for Decision, paragraph one above. Officers also consider that, due to their past experience in this area and their wide range of contacts, PARTIZANS are well qualified to undertake this monitoring and research and to present information on these matters to the public. Officers are also of the opinion that there is a continuing need for a number of the policies and activities of RTZ to be monitored and researched, that there is a need for the information obtained to be made available to public authorities and investment institutions, investment advisers, and the public in Greater London, and would be of benefit to London and Londoners for the reasons given in the following paragraphs.

## Implications of investment

London is one of the leading commercial and financial centres of the world, with the City of London, in particular, a large business community. London has the largest number of investment advisers in the country - the City represents the largest collection of financial institutions and investment funds in the country, and is the commercial centre of the country. Some of these funds represent the savings or the pension funds of very large numbers of Londoners. The persons who advise upon investments made by these London-based financial institutions and funds are often Londoners. The decisions taken by these financial institutions and funds can affect the lives of many Londoners who are subscribers to or beneficiaries of these funds. The decisions taken by investors need to be taken having regard to all the implications of any proposed investment. Decisions taken only having regard to financial considerations and decisions taken only having regard to the policies and practices of an organisation obtaining in this country can often disregard implications of a proposed investment which affect and impinge upon London and Londoners. These can arise in a large number of ways and could include effects upon Londoners arising out of:

1 Its role as a major employer.

2 The policies and practices as an employer, including its practices in relation to black and ethnic minority employees both in this country and elsewhere. For example, the practices in relation to the training of employees who might be responsible at one time for the supervision of members of the black or ethnic minority communities of an overseas country and become responsible for the supervision of Londoners, including members of London's black and ethnic minority communities.

3 Its role as a major supplier to industry and as a major commercial concern.

4 Its attitude to the principles of the rule of law, including International Law.

5 Its attitude to the principles of human rights, equality between races and morality.

6 Its relationships (if any) with any organisations or governments whose policies or practices have directly or indirectly adverse effects upon London or Londoners.

Any decision on investment must be taken in the light of the nature of the policies, practices and operations of the organisation concerned in order to weigh the advantages and disadvantages of providing financial support in respect of those matters.

## Contrary to International Law

The activities of a large multi-national mining company such as RTZ are of considerable concern to many companies and businesses in London because RTZ is a major or the sole supplier of a number of minerals which are used in many industries in Britain, including London. Accordingly, many jobs, including many jobs in London are directly or indirectly liable to be affected by any changes to the nature or extent of the company's operations in this country. The conduct of its affairs is also of concern to Londoners for other reasons. If it conducts its affairs in a way which is deemed commercially successful, then that is to the benefit of a large number of London investors, be they private individuals, companies or a local authority. On the other hand, it has been submitted by PARTIZANS and others that RTZ's policies and practices are, in the long term, detrimental in a manner which may have adverse effects for London and Londoners because:

1 They are contrary to International Law. For instance, the RTZ's mining activities in Namibia constitute a flagrant breach of the United Nations ban on mining in that country (United Nations Security Council resolution 283 paras.6/7 refers (20.7.70)). Also it is maintained that some of the profit derived from activities in Namibia go by way of taxes to the South African government which is considered by the International Court of Justice to be illegally occupying Namibia. Further, Members have expressed concern about the health and living conditions and low wages of the company's workers in the Third World (Answers to Council Questions 12 and 13 of 8 June 1982 and FGP 424 refers).

2 It has been argued by concerned organisations (eg. the British Council of Churches) and individuals that the practices and policies of RTZ are exploitative in the sense, that there appears to have been forcible possession of lands, ill-treatment of workers and environmental pollution by RTZ in pursuit of its mining activities. It has been further argued that they are detrimental to the mining market, partly because a change in government in some of the countries in which RTZ operates might force them to leave, and also because of the detrimental moral effects on the investors and others concerned by the practices referred to.

*"PARTIZANS has been of enormous help to people like ourselves and other indigenous groups around the world.*

*Without groups like PARTIZANS, greed would run riot."*

Boolidt Boolidtba,  
Chair of the ABORIGINAL MINING INFORMATION CENTRE (Melbourne), 1982

Apart from the interests of Londoners who are affected by investment policies there is also the wider question of the detrimental effect that RTZ's activities can have on race relations in London. Considerable concern has been expressed about RTZ's treatment of indigenous minorities particularly in Australia and the Third World. It has been stated by PARTIZANS that natives in Australia and New Guinea have been forcibly evicted off their land in order that the company can extract minerals. The Principal Race Relations Adviser to the Council has in the past (EM 462) advised Members that the dissemination of information on the treatment of ethnic minorities in other parts of the world can often have a positive effect on race relations in Greater London. Officers consider that this could be the case here, and the information gained by PARTIZANS would be of particular relevance to this council and other local authorities which are already committed to fighting for racial justice and ensuring equality of opportunities for all, regardless of race, class, gender or disability. Because of this commitment and because the Council is expected to represent all Londoners, it is important that it is fully aware of the impact that the policies of companies such as RTZ can have on native peoples.

#### Forcible eviction

PARTIZANS state that in order to undertake its mining activities RTZ has forcibly evicted natives from their lands, particularly in Australia and Papua New Guinea. It is further alleged that the methods RTZ use to extract minerals will lead to environmental pollution, particularly in Canada. It was also stated that RTZ's activities are in breach of International Law. Officers are unable to comment on whether or not RTZ is undertaking its mining activities in a way that is harmful to Londoners, but are nevertheless satisfied that they are of concern to Londoners because:

1 The minerals extracted by RTZ have a significant impact on the world economy which is of relevance to London as a leading financial centre. If RTZ is carrying out its activities in a manner which could leave it open to challenge in the Courts of Law, then it is appropriate for Londoners to be aware of this fact. Londoners who invest in RTZ (whether they are private individuals or companies) may wish to bring pressure on RTZ to modify its practices in order to avoid risk to their investments. In addition, many jobs in the capital are dependent upon RTZ continuing its activities and if action described above was taken then many jobs and businesses could be put at risk.

2 It is a matter of general concern to individuals, both in London and elsewhere, that the world mineral resources are extracted in a manner which doesn't pollute the environment. This would include the possible element of risk with the transportation of nuclear fuel through the metropolis.

In the past the Council has received representations from members of the public, charities and the churches over its investment in RTZ, and as a result, in May 1982 the Council held a public meeting to discuss with and inform Londoners on its investment policy. It may be that the Council will wish to hold a similar meeting in the future. If it were to do so, it would be of value to the Council to have access to the type of information PARTIZANS is researching.

In order to enable the maximum number of public authorities, organisations and individuals to participate in the discussions on

RTZ's methods of operation in a constructive manner, detailed information on precisely what those methods are is required. Officers therefore accept the group's claim that such information is necessary for as many people as possible, including local authorities, Londoners and companies with investment interests to be made more aware of RTZ's activities and policies and that RTZ and similar organisations should be continuously reminded of the physical effects their policies have on indigenous minorities and the possible social, racial or financial implications of those policies. This information will continue to enable all current and potential investors to come to an informed decision on investment, and will also provide important information on the extraction of nuclear fuel which will, in turn assist them in the debate on the nuclear fuel issue.

The concern of the public is also highlighted by, for example, the 'Stop the City' demonstrations in recent years, which resulted in severe disruption to traffic and business, necessitating increased policing costs. This underlines the concern of the public over the activities of some city-based companies and multi-nationals.

Director General, GLC

18 April 1985

"The Weipa operations have caused alarm in every Aboriginal community throughout the north of Australia." David Broadbent, correspondent to THE AGE (Melbourne) 5/10/76

## "I COULDN'T MANAGE WITHOUT IT"

Jan Munk, Data Processing Manager, The Observer

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THE OBSERVER (London) 31/3/85

Well, OXFAM did! In 1982, after moral pressure by staff, OXFAM refused any longer to accept £20,000 worth of free computer services provided by an RTZ subsidiary.

"What really broke the class barriers with me was when I found that headhunters in Borneo were human, and from that I deduced that the English working class were human." Lord Shackleton, RTZ vice-Chair at the time, quoted in DAILY MIRROR (London) 25/6/81

*"...some people hold deep and strong beliefs  
that our activities are in themselves damaging."  
Alistair Frame, 1985*

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*Some people...*

Aboriginal Mining Information Centre (Melbourne)	Labrador Resources Advisory Council
All African Conference of Churches	Labrador Institute For Northern Studies
Anglican Diocese of Namibia	Lampeter Anti-Nuclear Alliance
Australian Association Of Applied Anthropology	Latin American Support Group
THE BEAST	Leeds Anti-Apartheid
Bremen B.B.A. (German Federal Republic)	Leeds University Students Union
Brighton Anti-Nuclear Group	Lutheran Church Of America
British Council of Churches	Lutheran World Foundation
B.S.S.R.S. Politics Of Energy Group	Manchester Anti-Nuclear Group
Campaign Against Namibian Uranium Contracts	Namibia Support Committee
Campaign Against Foreign Control In New Zealand	Naskapi Montagnais Association
Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND)	National Peace Council
Capenhurst Women	National Union Of Namibian Workers
Catalan Anti-Nuclear Group	National Federation Of Australian Land Councils
City Of London Anti-Apartheid	Netherlands Reformed Church
Colonialism And Indigenous Minorities Research / Action (CIMRA)	Northants Peace Action
Council of Churches in Namibia	Northants Friends Of The Earth
Derry Anti-Nuclear Group	North Queensland Land Council
Donegal Uranium Committee	Onaway Trust
Dublin Anti-Uranium Group	One Sky (Canada)
East Anglian Alliance Against Nuclear Power	PEACE NEWS
Ecology Party	Peace Pledge Union
End Loans To Southern Africa	Peoples Survival Project
Federacao De Amigos Da Terra (Portugal)	Preston Trades Council
Federacion De Amigos De La Tierra (Spain)	Priests Council Of The Diocese Of David (Panama)
Forest And Bird Society (New Zealand)	Protection And Conservation Of Animals And Plant Life
Friends Of The Earth (Australia)	Reformed Church of Switzerland
Friends Of The Earth (London)	Scottish Campaign To Resist The Atomic Menace
Greenpeace (London)	Scottish Human Rights Group
Greenham Women	Shanti (Manchester)
Groundwater Protection Society (Mt Mitchell, Australia)	Sheffield Anti-Nuclear Group
Guaymi Congress (Panama)	South London Anti-Nuclear Group
Guaymi Support Group	Streatham CND
Hackney Anti-Nuclear Group	Students Against Nuclear Energy
Highland Anti-Nuclear Group	Survival International
Hull Students Union	Third World First
Institute Of Education Students Union (London)	UNDERCURRENTS
International Youth Environment And Conservation Federation	United Evangelical Church of Germany
International Workgroup On Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA) (Copenhagen)	War On Want Campaigns
Irish Anti-Apartheid	Welsh Anti-Nuclear Group
Just Books (Dublin)	West German Anti-Apartheid
Kimberley Land Council	Women Oppose The Nuclear Threat (Birmingham)
Labour Party National Executive Committee	World Information Service On Energy (WISE)
Labrador Inuit Association	World Council Of Churches
	York Safe Energy Group
	Yorkshire Peace Action

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THIS REPORT WAS SPONSORED BY THE GREATER LONDON COUNCIL  
PARTIZANS supports GLC policy on equal opportunities employment  
and its opposition to racism and sexism

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**Police break up protes**

**RTZ involved in uranium scandal**

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**Students halt RTZ interviews**

Shareholders challenge RTZ