

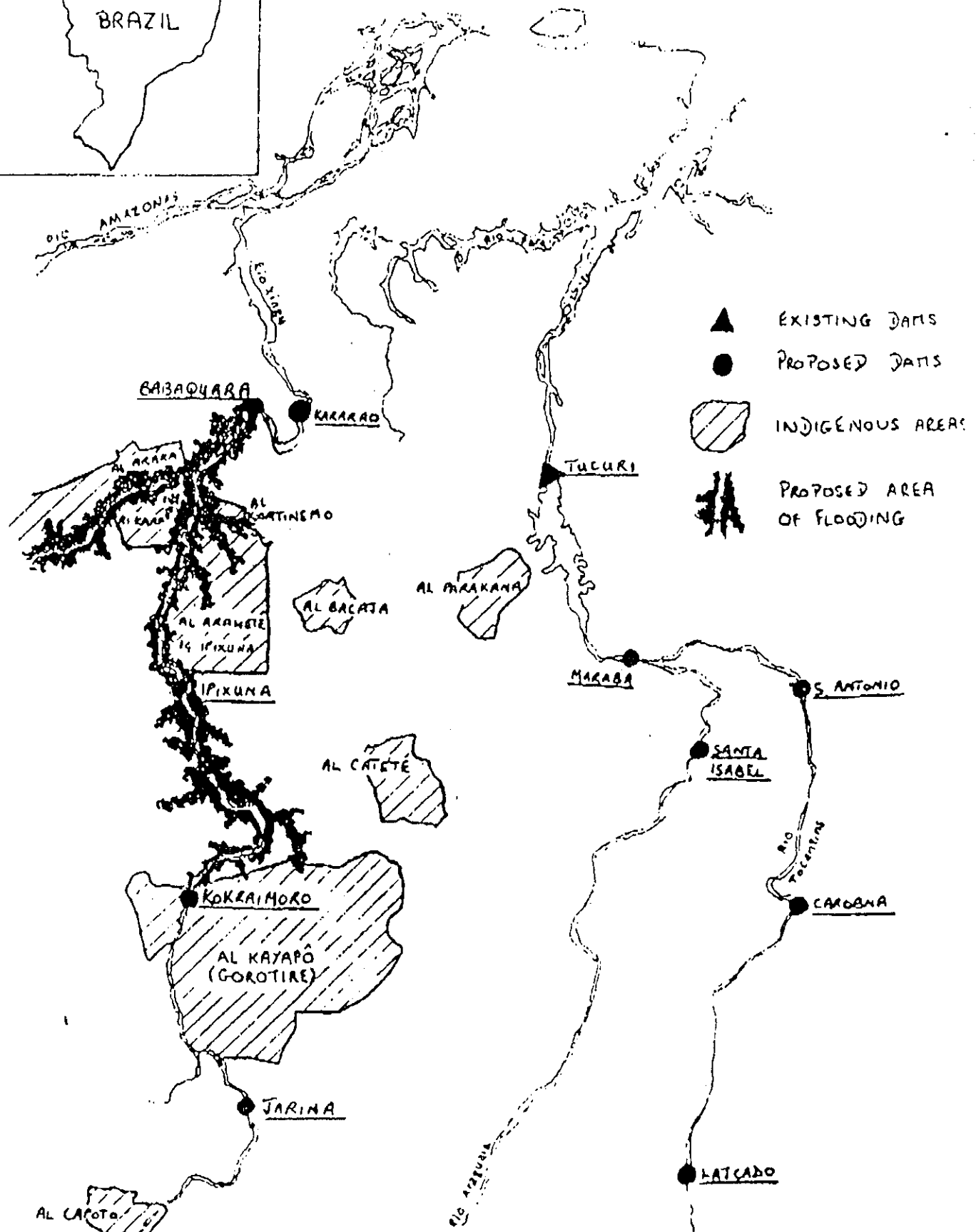
# HYDROELECTRIC DAMS & RAINFOREST DESTRUCTION IN THE AMAZON BASIN

## KAYAPO INDIANS' APPEAL MISSION TO EUROPE & NORTH AMERICA, NOV. 1988

### BRIEFING PAPER



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## MULTILATERALLY FUNDED HYDROELECTRIC PROJECTS IN THE AMAZON BASIN INDIGENOUS PEOPLE FIGHT BACK

### Background - the Second Loan to the Electric Power Sector of Brazil

In recent years an increasing proportion of World Bank funds have gone to massive accelerated lending programs targeted at whole sectors of the economy such as agriculture or energy, instead of discrete, identifiable projects.

Brazil's Power Sector has received more than \$2 billion in loans from the World Bank and the Inter American Development Bank since 1980, but instead of promoting economic recovery and policy reform, the Power Sector has become a by-word for inefficiency, staggering environmental destruction and systematic failure to address the interests of indigenous peoples.

Ambitious hydroelectric projects are central to Brazil's energy plans, and the awesome potential of the Amazon and its tributaries is the raw energy with which to fulfill them. Under the Power Sector's 2010 Plan, some 136 new hydroelectric dams, many of them in the Amazon, will inundate tens of thousands of square kilometers of pristine, uninventoried, but inhabited tropical rainforest. The dams will forcibly displace over 500,000 people.

The first Brazilian power sector loan was disbursed in two tranches totalling \$500 million within a period of six months. Not surprisingly, the destruction of 1600 square kilometers of tropical rainforests, the draconian displacement of thousands of people, and the promotion of an unsound, inequitable and inefficient pricing policy through massive subsidies to industrial users, met with immediate and fierce international criticism. Furthermore, the loan bailed out a number of notorious projects, some of which had been previously rejected on economic, social and environmental grounds.

Foremost among those refused funding by the Bank in the late 70s was the ill-conceived and mis-managed Tucuruí Dam. The Parakana Indians suffered the immediate effects of the flooding of nearly 2500 square kilometers of virgin rainforest, and the increased risk of debilitating waterborne diseases among their community. Having previously endured 10 relocations, the Parakana were never consulted over their fate, and no amount of compensation is adequate to redress

the destruction of their livelihood and the disintegration of their community.

History looks set to repeat itself with the second Brazil Power Sector Loan of \$500 million. This loan was originally scheduled for approval by the Bank's Board of Directors in mid 1987, but has been delayed twice, in part because of non-compliance with environmental and social components on the first loan, and also for continued failings in economic efficiency. However, the World Bank is now under pressure from a consortium of powerful commercial banks to approve the loan.

As with the first loan, the Bank's funds are not earmarked to particular projects, but it is certain that the Brazilian government will use them to complete or begin the construction of more hydroelectric dams.

Resettlement conditions required for the Itaparica dam set a precedent in showing that approval of sector loans can be made conditional on the resolution of identified problems in particular projects. By the Bank's own standards and policy laid out in the Operational Manual Statements on Tribal People, (for details, see Appendix 1) Resettlement, Cultural Property, Environment and Wetlands, funding for the Power Sector II loan should be withheld. Just one example of where the funds will be going, the Altamira complex on the great bend of the torrential Xingu river, makes this abundantly clear.

#### The Altamira Complex - Flooding the Xingu Valley

The World Bank is expected to finally decide whether or not to proceed with the \$500 million loan to Brazil's Electric Power Sector in December this year. The loan will help finance the construction of the Babaquara and Kararao dams on the Xingu river. These dams are part of the Altamira Hydroelectric Project, which in turn is part of the immense Xingu River Basin Hydroelectric project. The Altamira dams, if allowed to proceed, will flood an estimated 7200 square km. of rainforest, including the lands of 70,000 people. The five planned Xingu dams would flood a monumental total of 18,000 square km and disrupt the lives of at least 4,000 Indians. A dam on the river Iriri, a tributary of the Xingu is also under consideration. The Altamira complex will be comprised of two dams, Babaquara and Kararao, which are expected to flood 5,600 and 1,225 square kilometers of primary rainforest respectively. Babaquara will be the world's largest artificial lake, completely destroying a huge area of the planet's most valuable ecosystem. The unique and fragile forest due to be flooded by the dams will almost certainly qualify for designation as a Wildlands of Special Concern in line with the Bank's Operational Manual Statements. Indeed, the Bank has designated certain of the threatened areas as 'First Priority' for 'Wildlands management'. These are the 'Pleistocene Refugia', centers of high species concentration and endemism. Unique species are to be found in these areas and nowhere else in the world.

### Commercial Banks weigh-in on Power Sector Loan

In September of this year, a consortium of commercial banks, headed-up by Citibank and including European banks such as the Midland, agreed a package of measures to re-schedule \$5.2 billion of Brazil's debt. Through this package, commercial banks have now become directly involved with Brazil's Electric Power Sector. \$750 million of private money will go to the sector, in "co-financing with the World Bank".

Whilst such packages have in the past often been related to International Monetary Fund (IMF) 'structural re-adjustment' measures, this debt package was unique in that it was the first time the commercial banks had tied such an arrangement to a World Bank loan - in this case the Power Sector loan. This condition was not specifically mentioned in commercial bank's summary of the deal, it was confirmed by officials involved in the negotiation. This puts the World Bank under additional pressure to approve the loan, for reasons which have nothing to do with the likely economic, social or environmental consequences of further funding for hydroelectric developments in the Amazon.

Some observers believe that the condition may make the Brazilian government more willing to adopt strict environmental conditions for the Power Sector Loan. However, it is exceedingly doubtful, under present circumstances, whether the government of Brazil is even able to adopt such conditions. It has so far failed to produce a complete Environmental Master Plan for the Power Sector, and certainly lacks the institutional requirements for implementing it. Judging by the actions taken against Darrell Posey, Paiakan and Kube-I, it is clear that the Brazilian government is attempting to smooth through the loan by suppressing protests by affected communities and independent scientific research.

#### Brazil's new debt package

What Brazil gets:

\$5.2 billion from the commercial banks, comprised of:

- \* \$750 million in co-financing with the World Bank. This means the banks will be partners with the World Bank in loans mainly dedicated to electric power development and trade;
- \* \$2.85 billion in parallel financing with the World Bank;
- \* \$1 billion in new bonds;
- \* \$600 million in new medium-term credit facility;
- \* Extension of \$15 billion in short-term trade and interbank lines for 30 months.

(Reproduced from Joint Annual Meeting News, Berlin '88)

The Altamira Project will cost an estimated \$10.6 billion, one tenth

of Brazil's foreign debt, and is expected to add further to the burden through high transmission and maintenance costs, or heavily subsidized energy prices to industries in Greater Carajas. According to Eletrobras- whose subsidiary Eletronorte is responsible for the project - the Xingu complex will generate 17,000 megawatts (MW) of electricity. This will be transported by long-distance transmission lines to the southeast and northeast parts of Brazil. Only one-third of the electricity is to be distributed in the Amazon region.

Eletrobras claims that the southeast and northeast will, by the year 2000, be in need of 12,000 MW, and that the only source is the Xingu river.

According to the World Bank, Babaquara has now been cancelled. Brazilian NGO's are doubtful, since the Kararao dam is not viable without Babaquara.

There is no evidence that alternatives to this project have been considered, nor that the environmental and social effects of the project have been given any serious consideration. Consultation and discussion with affected communities and citizen's groups is made deliberately difficult, and the project proceeded to construction without both the legally required environmental impact study (RIMA), and the evaluation and authorization of the state environmental agency of Para. Under intense pressure from environmental and human rights groups, a hurriedly prepared RIMA has been rushed through.

A condition of the First Power Sector Loan was that the Brazilian government would prepare an Environmental Master Plan before disbursement of the second tranche of the loan. The plan would be designed to avoid future negative environmental and social impacts arising from the sector's operations.

## Drowning cultures - the Kayapo Indians

Amongst the people whose homelands will be destroyed or affected are the Kayapo tribes, whose lands have already been invaded by farmers, loggers and illegal gold prospectors. In February of this year, two representatives of the Kayapo, Paulinho Paiakan and Kube-i (see box), along with American ethnobotanist Darrell Posey, visited Washington and met with officials and Executive Directors of the World Bank, as well as staff and members of the US Congress, Treasury and State Departments.

Their purpose was to speak about the devastating environmental and social consequences of large dams in Amazonia.

Nothing came of the meetings in Washington, but on their return to Brazil, Posey and the two Indians were interrogated by police and later charged under the so-called "Foreigners Law", which forbids foreigners from 'interfering' in internal Brazilian policy. If found guilty, they could face 2-3 years in gaol and/or expulsion from the country. In August, all of the ethnobiologists and anthropologists working on projects related to Dr Posey were expelled from Indian areas where they were carrying out scientific research, and the first court hearing of Posey's case took place.

On 14th October, the second hearing of the case occurred. 500 Indians demonstrated outside the courthouse. The presiding judge refused to hear Kube-i, apparently because he was 'improperly dressed'. The Indians then left the court, and the hearing was abandoned. For details of the case see Appendix 2.

### Xingu dams and Indian Reserves

The Xingu complex will flood or otherwise affect the reserves of 12 tribal groups, as well as destroying parts of the towns of Altamira and Sao Felix do Xingu, and part of the Trans-Amazon highway.

The reserves to be flooded are:

Kararao dam: Juruna reserve of Pakisamba tribe.  
 Babaquara dam: Arara Indian reserve, Kararao (Kayapo Indians), Assuruni do Katinemo, Arauete and Parakana do Apitereua.  
 Ipixuna dam: Apitereua.  
 Kokraimoro: Kokraimoro Reserve (Kayapo Indians).  
 Jarina dam: Three Indian groups in the Xingu Reserve.  
 Iriri dam: Curua Xupaia and Curuaia reserves.  
 (For details of Gorotire Reserve, see Appendix 3)



## The Indian's representatives

### Paulinho Paiakan

Paiakan is one of the future leaders of the Auku settlement. For the past six years, he has been emerging as an important leader among various Kayapo groups and other tribal peoples. He has the ability to combine the Indian warrior traditions of the Kayapo and the knowledge he has acquired from the exchanges he has had with Brazilian society.

The first successful initiative Paiakan organized and led was an attack against 4000 gold prospectors that had, since 1982, invaded an area near Gorotire settlement, called Maria Bonita. The attack took place in July 1985, after waiting for three years in vain for help from the government. Paiakan gathered warriors from four Indian settlements, who seized miners for 10 days. Paiakan went to Brasilia to negotiate with the government, demanding two things on the Indian's behalf; the total demarcation of their reserve and that the prospectors pay the Indian communities a 5% commission. The money generated by the commission enabled the Indians to buy an aeroplane and a truck.

Paiakan was the first Indian in Brazil to realize that the use of video could be of great importance in defending their land and registering their culture and traditions. As he puts it, 'video is image with words, in action'. He aims now to have a video in each tribal settlement, to help with publicizing invasion of their territories, illegal logging etc.

He has organized the defence of the Xingu river, uniting various tribal groups to fight against the destruction of the forest.

### Kube-I

Has also been involved in organizing the defence of the Xingu river and will be one of the leaders of the Gorotire settlement.



## Problems with the Environmental Master Plan

The Environmental Master Plan was originally prepared in three volumes. Only the first volume has been made available to non-governmental organizations. The second volume of the Plan has still not been made available to donor governments or the Bank's executive directors, although plans are being made to make the document public in early 1989. The third volume is to be scrapped. NGO's including Survival International & Friends of the Earth have prepared a detailed criticism of the first volume of the Plan which they have submitted to the UK Overseas Development Administration. As yet, they have not received a reply, although a meeting is planned for late November. Unless the complete Plan is made available for independent evaluation, Executive Directors of the World Bank will be voting "blind" on the loan.

Meetings between non-governmental organizations and Bank staff from both the Bank's new environment department and the Latin American environment unit have made clear that the Bank itself sees serious shortcomings in the Master Plan as it stands. It is clear that the Bank considers:

1. that the resettlement and regional planning guidelines are deficient and are in need of updating.
2. that the guidelines on the Indian components in the sector are not yet ready, neither are they specific enough in their present form.
3. that the guidelines on water quality, coal fired plants, flora and fauna are also not ready.
4. that there is a need to improve the plans on institution building.
5. that the improvement of the guidelines must also include further measures for the structured improvement of representation by the local populations.

These deficiencies will not be resolved by the time the loan comes up for vote in December.

There remain serious doubts amid logging and mining scandals in Indian reserves involving Brazil's Indian Agency FUNAI, and inherent and proven institutional weaknesses of both FUNAI and IBDF the forestry agency, that the Environmental Master Plan can be effectively implemented by these, Eletrobras or any other regional agencies. For this reason alone, funds for the Power Sector II loan should be withheld (until the Bank ensures that the Master Plan adequately addresses the environmental and indigenous peoples issues, and that the implementation of the Master Plan can be assured through effective enforcement mechanisms). This in turn cannot be assured until the conditions and responsibilities of previous loans, most notably the Carajas Iron Ore Project, are complied with.

## APPENDIX 1

### World Bank and Tribal Peoples Policy.

The World Bank has very clear standards on tribal peoples which are set out in its internal Operational Manual Statement 2.34 titled "Tribal Peoples in Bank Finance Project". Among the provisions of OMS 2.34 are the following:

"The Bank will not assist development projects that knowingly involve encroachment on traditional territories being used or occupied by tribal peoples, unless adequate safeguards are provided."

"The Bank will assist projects only when satisfied that the borrower or relevant government agency supports and can implement measures that will effectively safeguard the integrity and well being of the tribal people."

"...Development projects having tribal peoples in their zone of influence must provide time and conditions for acculturation. Such projects will require a tribal component or a tribal programme which includes a) the recognition, demarcation and protection of tribal areas containing those resources required to sustain the tribal peoples traditional means of livelihood; b) appropriate social services, including, especially, protection against diseases and the maintenance of health; c) the maintenance, to the extent desired by the tribe, of its cultural integrity and embodiments thereof; d) a forum for the participation of tribal people in decisions affecting them, providing for adjudication and redress of grievances."

## APPENDIX 2

### DETAILS OF PROCEEDINGS AGAINST ETHNO-BOTANIST DR DARELL POSEY AND THE TWO KAYAPO INDIAN LEADERS, PAULINHO PAIAKAN AND KUBE-I

#### Invitation to Florida and Washington DC.

In January 1988 the two Kayapo Indian leaders, accompanied by Dr Darell Posey, were invited to a conference "Tropical Rainforests: Strategies for Wise Management in Latin America and the Caribbean". The conference was held at the campus of Florida International University in Miami. The Kayapo live in the northern region of the Xingu national park in Amazonia and were invited to speak for the tribal groups of their region. Dr Posey is a senior researcher at the Goeldi Museum in Belem, Brazil, and as well as giving a paper on the results of his scientific research, he translated for Paiakan and Kube-i.

At the Florida rainforest conference, Paiakan and Kube-i gave a talk, about the plight of the Indians in the Amazon region, the invasions of their lands by gold miners and loggers, the values of the rainforests to the Indians, and the destruction of the forest by big hydroelectric projects and cattle ranches. Many distinguished international speakers were also present at the conference which was attended by over 400 people.

The Indians noted particularly that they were rarely informed or consulted by government officials about impending projects in their area; moreover, two large dams planned for the Xingu river near which they lived seemed to be already under construction. (It is probable however that the digging and earthmoving work of the dam sites is related to geologic and other feasibility testing, not actual construction. But it is symptomatic of the lack of communication about such projects in Brazil that no one who lived in the region was informed about the tests.) The Indians further stated that they had been unable to get any information from Brazilian officials about the proposed projects. Since the World Bank is financing Brazil's power sector, of which the hydroelectric dams are an important component, the National Wildlife Federation in the United States invited the Indian leaders to Washington DC to meet World Bank staff and US government officials to ask questions about the projects and seek assistance to protect their lands.

Between February the 2nd and February the 9th, meetings were arranged for staff and members of the US Congress, Treasury and State Departments, and staff and executive directors of the World Bank. Dr Posey was present and had been asked to accompany the Indians to translate.

The World Bank has always emphasized the importance of consulting directly with affected communities and the meeting arranged with the

Kayapo Indian leaders afforded a rare opportunity to put this into action. No immediate actions arose from the meetings in Washington, but the meetings were seen as an important part of a long term education process.

#### Charges brought against Darell Posey, Paiakan and Kube-i.

Upon their return to Brazil, Dr Posey, Paiakan and Kube-i were interrogated several times by the Brazilian federal police. This led to the Ministry of Justice initiating a criminal prosecution against Dr Posey. He is accused of violating Brazilian law (ART.107 and ART.125, XI, of law number 6.815/80) forbidding foreigners from interfering in internal Brazilian policy. In effect, he was being charged for damaging Brazil's interests abroad. The statute carries a penalty of one to three years in prison and/or expulsion from the country. The two Indian leaders are also being investigated by the State Attorney General's office for violations of the same statute under which Posey is being charged. This is an evident absurdity, since the Indians can in no sense be considered foreigners. In fact, the Brazilian Law Society even threatened to expel any judge who took party in the trial.

In a defence document, Dr Posey's lawyer contends that the prosecution is intended to stifle public debate on the fate of the Amazon region and to hinder scientific work in the area. From the point of view of the charges against the Indians, the intent is clearly meant to intimidate the Indian leaders and stifle Indian participation in discussions in development directly relevant to Indian interests. This is in total contradiction to the Bank's stated policy on tribal peoples (see Appendix 1).

On August 11, 1988 all of the ethnobiologists and anthropologists working on projects related to Dr Posey were expelled from the Indian areas where they were carrying out scientific research. It is being made more and more difficult for scientists, anthropologists and indigenous peoples rights advocates to enter Indian areas in the Amazon and report freely on the impact of loggers, gold miners and large scale development projects on Indian lands.

#### Hearings in Brazil

On the 26th of August 1988 a hearing took place before a federal judge in the state of Para. However, Kube-i refused to attend so a 90 day delay was established during which time Kube-i was expected to appear voluntarily. The judge heard Darell Posey's and Paulinho's statements but did not make any ruling on the validity of the charges. A large number of press attended the hearing and an informal press conference afterwards.

Each defendant has been allowed eight witnesses to testify on their behalf. Posey and Paulinho are now in the process of designating their witnesses, several of whom are in the US and will be questioned by

Brazilian authorities in the US.

The second hearing took place on the 14th of October 1988 in Belem, Brazil. At 9 AM on the day of the hearings, Kube-i appeared in court accompanied by other Kayapos dressed in ceremonial attire for, as they said, "This is the way we dress for great solemnities." The judge refused to allow Kube-i into the courtroom until the Kayapo leader dressed in "shirt and pants", for he considered the leader's attire "a sign of disrespect" of the court. The judge also criticized the presence of 400 Kayapo warriors in front of the courthouse as being an

obstruction of the judicial proceedings. That the 400 Kayapos had travelled from their homelands demonstrated the importance with which they view the hearings.

Kube-i refused to comply with the judge's orders, and his lawyer Jose Castro defended the Indian's right to dress as he wished. The lawyer Castro requested the transferal of the hearing to Kube-i's village in the Xingu. However, the request was denied and Kube-i's testimony was suspended with this phase of the hearings closed. Nevertheless, the judge upheld the suggestion to submit the two Kayapo leaders to psychological, anthropological, and psychiatric tests "to determine their level of acculturation and whether they were aware they were committing a crime against Brazil." Kube-i's lawyer, for his part, declared that the Indians would certainly not submit to such tests and that he intended to request a writ of habeas corpus in the federal court of Brasilia to have the case thrown out on the grounds that the Indians could not be included in the foreigners law.

Besides defending their right to ethnic identity before the law, as guaranteed by the Brazilian constitution, the Kayapo used the occasion to reaffirm their position against the proposed hydroelectric programmes on the Xingu. Kube-i declared that had the hearings taken place, he would have denied that he did anything wrong, for he went to the World Bank to request clarification on the project's finance by the Bank in indigenous areas, - information that the Brazilian government had refused to give to the Indians directly. In their demonstration in Belem, the Kayapo declared unequivocally their position against the building of the Kararao and Babaquara dams, which they will resolutely oppose.

Statement from Paulinho Paiakan on October 24th 1988.

"Our objective in travelling to the US was to participate in the symposium at the University of Florida. We spoke about the construction of the Xingu dams, which are a threat to Indians here. Various anthropologists and environmentalists arranged a meeting in Washington DC to speak with directors of the World Bank. We went in order to defend the rainforests and the people who live here, and we went to defend the environment. The Brazilian government felt that we were speaking badly of the government. We asked the president of the World Bank that he suspend this loan until the Brazilian government

presents a proposal that takes Indian people into consideration, but nothing was done. Instead, we have been threatened under the foreigners law, threatened with jail. We are purer Brazilians than they are. They are descendants of Portuguese, Germans, Italians, French - of other countries. We aren't. We are descendants of pure natives of this country. Now, besides being prosecuted, we are being followed by agents of the federal police in stores, bars, and buses. They listen to our phone conversations. When I speak with my people in Kayapo, and they don't understand, they interfere with the phone transmission."

### APPENDIX 3

#### Other threats to the Kayapo (Gorotire Reserve)

##### The Kayapo Gorotire Reserve

Located in the southwest of Para State, eastern Amazonia, covering an area of 3,300,000 hectares (see map). The reserve is demarcated and recognised in law. There are four settlements in the reserve:

Settlement	Population
Gorotire	920
Aukre	250
Kikritun	320
Kubenkrankein	350

Other Kayapo Reserves, as yet un-demarcated, that border on the Gorotire settlement to the west are:

Kubenkokre	392
Pukanu	73
Bau	67
Kokraimoro	191
Kararao	39
Bacaja	187

1. Logging. Since 1981, there has been logging for mahogany at the edge of the reserve, close to the Gorotire settlement. The company responsible for the logging - which has now been expelled by the Indians - has never paid them properly. Apart from a logging road and some brick houses built at Gorotire settlement, they left very little for the Indians.

Logging has also taken place at Kubenkrankein and Kikritun.

2. Gold mining. The Maria Bonita mining activities near the Gorotire reserve produce an estimated 210 kg of gold per week. Approximately 4000 miners. Invasion by miners took place in 1982.

Rio Branco - near Kikritum reserve. Approximately 3000 miners. No recent production figures available. Invasion by miners occurred in 1983.

These mining sites are partially mechanized, using pumps to separate the gravel, and there is no control over the use of mercury. No studies have been conducted to study the level of mercury in the rivers (Igarape do Ponte, Rio Frusco and Rio Branco), although all are known to be heavily polluted.

The Indians have warriors at mining sites to control gold production, but despite this, smuggling is very widespread and reported to be at chronic levels.



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Help support Kayapó Indian leaders  
Paulinho Paiakan, Kube-i Kaiapo  
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all of whom face criminal charges  
under Brazil's Foreign Sedition Act  
for having argued against the  
construction of dams on  
the Xingu River

Join in supporting the 1989 Native Peoples Congress  
and the construction of Brazil's first Amerindian Protest  
Village on the banks of the Xingu, a village to be  
flooded if the proposed dam construction continues.

**Darrell Posey-Kayapó Defense Fund**

# **Darrell Posey-Kayapó Defense Fund**

**2220 Piedmont Avenue, Univ. California, Berkeley, CA 94720**

**To: Contributors to the Fund**

**From: Brent Berlin, Fund Coordinator**

**9 November 1988**

Kube-i, one of the Kayapó chiefs who had refused to attend one of the earlier hearings with his co-defendants Darrell Posey and Payakan, responded to a court order to appear in the city of Belém on 14 October, 1988. He arrived with a contingent of 400 Kayapó Indians. Kube-i, as well as his Kayapó companions, were dressed in traditional Kayapó attire. The presiding Brazilian judge, Sr. Iran Velasco Nascimento, refused to see the defendant on the grounds that his traditional clothing was an insult to the Brazilian ministry of justice. Reliable reports indicate that the judge stated that "Indians need to become acculturated". The judge's actions have led the defendants' attorney, Sr. José Carlos Castro, a human rights lawyer in Belém, to file a suit barring the judge from hearing the case because of blatant ethnic prejudice. A new trial date has been set for early next year.

Meanwhile, the international attention drawn to the unusual case has led to two developments that may have long-term implications for the Indian human rights movement in Brazil. First, both Payakan and Kube-i have been invited by the Friends of the Earth to participate in a speaking tour of more than six European countries, as well as Canada and the US, during the months of November and early December. The trip will provide them with the opportunity to outline their unique situation to a wide audience. Although it might seem unlikely that the Brazilian government would allow the two Indians to leave the country for such a tour, all current information available indicates that they will be unhindered in their movements. Secondly, a grass-roots Native Peoples Conference is planned for five days in late January, 1989, near Alta Mira, a city near the site of the proposed Xingu dam. The conference will be attended by some 3000 Indians, organized by the Kayapó but including a number of other Brazilian Indian groups, as well. The conference will be held in an encampment to be constructed by the Indians themselves on the banks of the Xingu some distance above the proposed site of the hydroelectric dam on the lower Xingu River gorge, a dam that will ultimately flood thousands of hectares of Kayapó land if finished. The purpose of the conference is two-fold: First, to develop strategies for carrying on the protest against Brazilian development policies as they directly relate to individual tribal situations, and secondly, to build what might be called a protest village which would be occupied semi-permanently by some 100 Brazilian Indians. Should the planned work on the dam continue, the village would ultimately be flooded and attract even more international attention to the already difficult situation. The conference and the proposed village could represent a major turning point in the efforts of Brazilian Indians, and by implication, by native Americans elsewhere, to actively develop measures that lead to national and international recognition of their basic human and cultural rights.

Funds for the Native Peoples conference and village construction are sorely needed to allow the momentum already built to continue. Any monies collected would be used to cover the over-all costs of the conference, including food, gasoline, tools, medical supplies, domestic airfares for Indians who would not be able to come by river or overland, and communications equipment. Your support in the earlier stages of this effort is much appreciated. If you know of others who could contribute any amount, however small, please let them know about this case. Of course, an additional contribution of your own would be welcomed. Every effort will be made to keep you informed of recent developments. Current information on the situation will also be available at a special table in the exhibits section of the annual convention of the American Anthropological Association in Phoenix, Arizona, from the 16th through the 21st of November, 1988. Thank you again for your help.

# Editorial: Indians in Brazil

During the past year Brazil has been in the throes of writing a new constitution—a process that has permitted, if not encouraged, more massive violations of Indian rights than have been seen in the country for decades.

The shaping of the new constitution raises basic questions about the rights and guarantees for Brazil's 200-plus indigenous groups. The prolonged constitutional debate created a political vacuum, paving the way for a number of special interest groups' attempts to second guess the necessary Indian rights by creating de facto situations that would be accepted as faits accomplis under the new laws. During this period, powerful groups tried to seize control of Indian lands and resources by pushing Indians off their lands, burning their homes and killing or torturing dozens.

• 28 March 1988. Fourteen Ticuna Indians were killed and 23 were wounded in the state of Amazonas along the Brazil-Peru border. One of the survivors said that a group of about 120 Ticuna men, women and children was awaiting news of an official inquiry into the case of a lumberman accused of killing a Ticuna-owned cow when about 20 white lumbermen attacked them with automatic weapons.

The survivors believe that the attack was ordered by Oscar Castelo, a timber merchant and brother of the local chief of police. Despite eyewitness testimony, eight suspects were later released.

The massacre erupted in a climate of tension in the region that had begun with the demarcation of four Ticuna areas in April 1986. The Ticuna have had to protect their land from invasion and exploitation by lumber companies and their representatives since that time.

• 31 March 1988. Some 300 Pataxó Haha-hai Indians buried 22-year-old Djalma Lima Pataxó. His fingernails and body hair had been torn out and his genitals cut off. He had been missing since 21 March, when a conflict had erupted between the Pataxó, squatters and neighboring ranchers in which 36 people were wounded. Djalma's father has accused a neighboring ranch owner. To date, seven Pataxó have been killed.

Conflict in the area intensified six years ago when a Brazilian court awarded the Pataxó 1,300 ha of some 36,000 set aside in 1926. The Pataxó originally lost the land when white settlers forced them out generations earlier. Some 1,300 people live on the land, which has no fresh water. Ranchers are keeping the Pataxó as virtual prisoners on the land, preventing them from traveling to nearby towns where they can purchase much-needed basic necessities.

• 19 April 1988. Ranchers set fire to a cattle shed and an assembly hall built by Macuxi Indians in Caraturu in the state of Roraima. Arguing that the Macuxi were invading their lands, they then obtained arrest warrants. Police arrested 66 Indians. Fifty-five were released, but 11 were iden-

tified as leaders and held incommunicado in a penitentiary. Lawyers' efforts to visit the prisoners were thwarted. They were later released on 17 May.

On 6 May, 120 Macuxi who came to the same site to rebuild the assembly hall were arrested and held by the military police.

• 27 April 1988. Twenty Yanomami Indians were shot and killed by miners in the Papiu region of the state of Roraima when they came to the miners' camp to ask for food. A number of others were wounded; some are still missing.

In the last four months, 20,000 illegal gold prospectors have invaded Yanomami lands; they are now arriving at a rate of more than 100 per day. Some observers expect an additional 50,000 miners in the next few months. More than 120 small planes bring them and supplies into the area. The region now has four airstrips and 50 helicopter landing sites.

The Brazilian government has claimed that the miners are illegal squatters and will be evicted. Conversely, however, government agencies have helped the miners improve their landing strips.

More than 50 Indians have died from the influenza virus transmitted by miners, and in some Yanomami areas more than 75 percent of the inhabitants are thought to have contracted the disease. Hepatitis and malaria are also rampant in the miner camps; if they have not already presented a threat to Yanomami settlements, they soon will.

• 28 April 1988. At a meeting in Brasília, 31 Indian groups from the state of Acre were told that their land rights would be recognized and registered as "indigenous colonies." The first such colony was created for the Tukano last year. This form of land rights permits a drastic reduction and fragmentation of the indigenous areas, ultimately surrounding and permeating them with colonization and development projects. The Brazilian government claims it has adopted this "solution" in particular for areas where it considers the indigenous population to be acculturated. Little evidence exists to support this claim, however.

• 1988. Two Indians in Brazil are confirmed to be carrying the AIDS virus.

• 1986-1988. Researchers have recently discovered that mercury used extensively in numerous gold-mining activities in Brazil's greater Amazonia region is contaminating many Amazon rivers, putting the area's complex ecology and its populations at great risk. Most of the contamination measured thus far occurs along the Madeira River in western Rondônia between the towns of Porto Velho and Guajará-Mirim. Between 1979 and 1985 an estimated 87 tons of mercury was released in the area, with 45 percent remaining in the river and the rest going into the atmosphere. Levels of contamination in sediments and rivers range from 50 ppb (parts per billion) to 1,675. Research findings indicate that some

parts of the Amazon ecosystem as well as a number of food fishes have been contaminated. Many of the contaminated food items are well above the safety limit established by the World Health Organization.

The sections of the constitution that pertain to Indian rights have now been drafted and approved. They are more or less equal to those from the previous constitution. The military can still control Indian areas by declaring them national security zones. The only significant changes in the constitution actually work in favor of Brazil's Indians. The constitution previously stated that Indians had rights to land that they permanently inhabited. This will allow for a much broader interpretation of land rights. Also, the Brazilian congress must now approve any changes in Indian reserves.

The new constitution means that the same battles will need to be fought. Half of the next issue of CSQ will present a more in-depth analysis of the situation of Indians in Brazil. □

Jason W. Clay

## Natives of Sarawak Survival in Borneo's Vanishing Forests by Evelyn Hong

*Natives of Sarawak* is an in-depth analysis of the problems faced by the native peoples of Sarawak, most of whom live in longhouse communities in Borneo's tropical forests. It describes the traditional social and economic system of swidden agriculture, and how the people's forest resources and way of life are increasingly threatened by the forces of "modernization."

Sarawak people's customary lands are being invaded by the timber industry and such development projects as the construction of large dams. This book includes oral testimonies from several native communities about their plight. It analyzes the social and environmental impact of logging, and provides suggestions for resolving Sarawak's problems. It is essential reading for those interested in the peoples of Sarawak, the fate of tropical forests and the rights of indigenous peoples.

Paperback 6"x9 1/4". 278 pages. \$12 (add \$1.50 for postage and handling). Published by Institut Masyarakat in Malaysia. Available from Cultural Survival, 11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge, MA 02138.

## Resolution Presented to the AAA Regarding the Calha Norte Project in Brazil

In mid-1985, an interministerial working group of the Brazilian government began developing an ambitious project that they called Calha Norte (PCN). Calha Norte refers to the watershed north of the Solimoes and Amazon Rivers on Brazil's frontier with Peru, Colombia, Venezuela, Guiana, Surinam and French Guiana. This area comprises 1.3 million square kilometers or 14 percent of Brazil's territory, along a 6,500 km corridor stretching from Tabatinga, Amazonas state, to Oiapoque, Amapa.

Project planning by the National Security Council and the Ministries of Foreign Relations, Planning and Interior took place in secret until a report was leaked to the Brazilian press at the end of October 1986. By this time PCN had become a fait accompli, authorized by Brazil's president, although the national Congress had neither considered the plan nor, apparently, known of its existence. Nevertheless, the government appropriated money to begin implementation of the three-year project in early 1987.

The declared intentions of PCN are: to open up Brazil's northern frontier to "rational" economic development; to prevent drug traffickers from other countries from using the area as a conduit; to keep "Marxist subversion" from spreading into Brazil from Surinam and Guiana; to "Brazilianize" this isolated and sparsely populated region; and to introduce the benefits and infrastructure of the national society into the area. Already living in the region are approximately 50,000 of Brazil's 220,000 Indians, from more than 40 groups in more than 60 distinct areas. Only 16 of these areas have been officially demarcated by the Brazilian government, and the government has not consulted the Indians about PCN.

The project involves setting up small military posts of 30 to 40 soldiers each in about a dozen border locations. In addition, the Ministry of Foreign Relations will establish consulates along the border, and the Ministry of the Interior will set up food warehouses and other infrastructure. FUNAI (National Foundation of the Indian, a government agency) will establish additional posts as well. "Agricultural colonies" will be established and the federal police will keep the area free of drug trafficking. Mining companies may be allowed to exploit the area as well.

The military posts are planned for areas where rich deposits of strategic minerals, such as gold, diamonds, tungsten, cassiterite and uranium, have been found. In northern Roraima, for example, a gold rush has been going on for a year, and the federal government claims that it has tried to keep prospectors from entering the area and expel miners already working there, apparently with little success.

Unfortunately for the indigenous groups in the PCN corridor, in recent years not only prospectors but lumbermen, ranchers, land speculators and others who want to exploit the environment have illegally entered their territories. Indiscriminate contacts and violent conflicts have led to epidemics, murders and massacres of indigenous groups. The environment has been damaged or destroyed by outsiders' exploitative activities. Among the most threatened indigenous groups in the PCN region are the Ticuna and the Yanomami. Although their lands have supposedly been demarcated (not to their satisfaction), both groups have been victims of massacres by invading miners and lumbermen during the past year.



Anthropologists and NGOs that support Indian interests, as well as some Indian groups, asked the military to patrol the area in the mid-1980s. However, the PCN far exceeds these requests for protection and actually creates a bridgehead for the invasion of the area by outside groups and economic interests. Small military posts spread across the long PCN corridor do not seem sufficient to prevent such incursions.

Indian rights to their territories have been guaranteed by Brazilian constitutions since 1934, and the Indian Statute of 1973 mandated complete demarcation of Indian lands by the end of 1978. By mid-1988, however, only a small proportion of these lands have been demarcated, and they were often under threat of invasion, exploitation and control by outsiders. Even FUNAI has recently authorized such exploitation. In June 1987, the president of FUNAI allowed mining companies to operate in indigenous areas, but the Minister of Mines and Energy blocked this action pending the Constitutional Assembly's consideration of the issue. In some cases, the IBDF, which is charged with protecting Brazil's forests, has authorized lumber companies to deforest indigenous areas, with or without the Indians' permission.

In February 1987, the secretary of the National Security Council, General Bayma Denys, stated categorically in a public meeting that the federal government would no longer demarcate Indian lands within the PCN corridor. Instead, the government will establish "indigenous colonies" in the area. Denys admitted that these measures are illegal and unconstitutional. Since that time, the government has gone ahead with its plans to replace demarcation with "indigenous colonies," which would establish enclaves too small for Indians to pursue their traditional ways of life. The Yanomami will receive only 30 percent of their territory, divided into 19 discontinuous areas (the areas have been delimited on maps but still not yet demarcated on the ground). They and other indigenous groups have protested this change in policy.

Nevertheless, last year President Sarney signed a decree-law (without congressional approval) creating two categories of Indians, acculturated and unacculturated, and establishing the "indigenous colony" as the main form of indigenous settlement in frontier areas. Brazil's new constitution, which will go into effect in October, does not include these categories or the concept of "indigenous colonies." It remains to be seen if the Congress will change the Indian statute, pass new laws on frontier settlement or reaffirm the President's 1987 decree-law. According to the new constitution, only Congress can decide whether to bestow or deny mineral-exploration rights in indigenous areas. Given the Congress' past record, however, such law-making promises to take years. Meanwhile, outsiders will probably continue to invade Indian lands, inside or outside the PCN corridor, despite the presence of the military.

Although the PCN budget was cut in half during the Cruzado Plan (a 1986 price and wage control policy), between 1987 and 1988, PCN funding tripled; recent estimates of present funding range between 45 and 450 million dollars. It is difficult to know how much money is being poured into PCN because funds are being placed in the budgets of various government agencies and departments, or in unspecified "special project" line items of the National Security Council budget. Construction of military posts and airstrips is proceeding on schedule. Until the Yanomami demarcation in late August, no Indian lands in the PCN corridor had been demarcated since 1986.

In addition, a disturbing new trend has emerged since PCN's implementation. Anthropologists, missionaries and documentary filmmakers now find it almost impossible to gain authorization to enter indigenous areas, not only in the PCN area but elsewhere in Brazil. No anthropologists have been allowed to enter the PCN corridor since 1986. Researchers already working and living there (and in other indigenous areas) are being expelled in increasing numbers.

In July 1988, FUNAI issued a strict new policy regarding entry and residence and research in indigenous areas, specially aimed at the three groups mentioned above. The procedure for gaining authorization to enter indigenous areas is now so complicated and time-consuming that it will probably discourage many researchers from conducting fieldwork among indigenous groups. Entry of miners, lumbermen and other would-be exploiters of the PCN requires no such burdensome work.

According to some anthropologists who have already worked in indigenous areas, officially sanctioned entry has been difficult for some years, with the result that some researchers have gone into these areas without permission. At this time, both they and researchers with permission are being expelled. Brazilian anthropologists who study indigenous people regard this state of affairs as an unwarranted, arbitrary limitation on their academic freedom, reminiscent of the military dictatorship that formally gave up power in 1985. Some regard the repression they now experience as more subtle but in some ways more intense than what they suffered during the 1960s and 1970s.

In recent months, the Federal Police have prosecuted or investigated several anthropologists, both inside and outside academia, apparently for being too outspoken in their criticisms of government policies related to indigenous people and exploitation of natural resources. Such legal actions may create a suffocating climate that could inhibit both freedom of expression and scholarly research by Brazilian and foreign scientists. Some anthropologists active in NGOs supporting Indian rights have reported that their telephones are tapped and their mail opened or never delivered.

In one case, an anthropologist who was doing research in an indigenous area outside the PCN corridor was the victim of a defamatory attack in a national newspaper. Accused of using money, alcohol, marijuana and sex to isolate and manipulate an Indian group, he was expelled by heavily armed federal police from the area. He and the NGO he works for are now suing the president of FUNAI for harassment and defamation.

In another case, an anthropologist who was one of the first people to report a massacre of 14 Tikuna Indians to the outside world has been banned from all indigenous areas in Brazil and his research institute has been closed. FUNAI has accused him of inciting Indians to violence.

In a third case, a Brazilian graduate student working under the supervision of an American anthropologist was recently expelled from the indigenous area where he was carrying out doctoral research.

In a fourth case, an American anthropologist long resident in Brazil has been indicted for publicly criticizing (while in the US) proposed hydroelectric projects that would drive a large Indian group from its demarcated territory.



As a result of all these facts, a group of concerned Brazilian and North American anthropologists recommends that the following resolution be adopted by the members of the American Anthropological Association:

WHEREAS

the Brazilian government's Calha Norte Project has failed to prevent contact and conflict between indigenous groups and outsiders illegally invading their lands; and

WHEREAS

the implementation of PCN may lead to increasing depredation of Indian lands, breakup of indigenous cultures, violation of Indians' human rights, and deaths of indigenous people through disease, uncontrolled contact and violence; and

WHEREAS

PCN may lead to the loss of Indian lands due to the government's failure or refusal to demarcate their territories as provided for by Brazilian law; and

WHEREAS

freedom of scientific investigation and speech is threatened by recent Brazilian government actions such as legal proceedings against anthropologists, other researchers and Indian advocates on dubious grounds, as well as severe limitations on entry into indigenous areas by accredited researchers and their expulsion from these areas:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

That the American Anthropological Association express these reservations and objections about the Calha Norte Project to the government of Brazil.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED

that these reservations and objections be published in appropriate form in Anthropology News and communicated with appropriate supporting materials to the following groups and institutions.

- Anthropological journals and publications,
- the national and international press,
- the Brazilian ambassador in Washington, DC, for transmission to the Brazilian Minister of Justice, Minister of the Interior, FUNAI, Joint Chiefs of Staff, National Security Council and any other relevant government agencies,
- American Association for the Advancement of Science, Fulbright Commission and other US bodies supporting scientific research in Brazil.
- the US House and Senate sub-committees on human rights, banking and Latin America, and
- the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank

Cost of the resolution to the AAA would be an estimated \$750.

Proposed by: Jason W. Clay, Director of Research, Cultural Survival

Endorsed by: Paul Aspelin, Cleveland State University  
 Jean Jackson, Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
 Kenneth M. Kensinger, Bennington College  
 Maxine Margolis, University of Florida  
 David Maybury-Lewis, Harvard University and Cultural Survival  
 Katy Moran, Legislative Assistant for Congressman John Porter  
 Steve Schwartzman, Environmental Defense Fund  
 Terrance Turner, University of Chicago  
 Greg Urban, University of Texas--Austin

# AMAZONIAN INDIANS ORGANIZE TO RESIST RAINFOREST DESTRUCTION



**THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT'S ALTAMIRA HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT:** A plan to build a complex of 5 hydroelectric dams on the Xingú River and its tributaries has been proposed. This "development" effort (dependent upon World Bank loans) would flood 18,000 sq. kilometers of rainforest, affecting the lands of 12 indigenous groups and displace 75,000 people.

**THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' ALTAMIRA PROTEST VILLAGE:** From February 21-26, 1989, more than 28 indigenous nations will come together to celebrate the construction of a large inter-tribal protest village on the site of the proposed Altamira hydroelectric dams. A small permanent population will then remain at the site to oppose any dam construction.

**PAULINHO PAIAKAN AND KUBEN'I:** Two leaders of the Kayapó people traveled to Washington D.C. in February of 1988 to speak to officials of the World Bank, the U.S. State Department, and the U.S. Congress about the disastrous consequences of the dams. The World Bank subsequently deferred action on the loans, and upon their return to Brazil these two men, along with their translator (American anthropologist Darrell Posey) were indicted under a Brazilian law regulating political activity by foreigners (!) In December of 1988, the Kayapó Support Group hosted and organized the Chicago visit of Paikan, who was then completing a tour of Europe and North America to draw attention to the current plight of native peoples in Brazil and destruction of their forest lands. During his tour, Paikan also publicly announced plans for the Altamira protest village.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE:

**Kayapó Support Group**  
c/o Environmental Concerns Organization  
Ida Noyes Hall  
The University of Chicago  
1212 East 59th Street  
Chicago, IL 60637

*Attn: Catherine V. Howard  
Terence S. Turner*

or call: (312)947-8018 or  
(312)324-5130

**OVER**

**THE KAYAPO SUPPORT GROUP** is a coalition of people brought together by recent events in the Amazon, specifically, the actions undertaken by the Kayapó and other indigenous peoples of the region in opposition to the Brazilian government's plan to build huge hydroelectric dams on the Xingú River. The recent alliance of more than 28 Amazonian Indian nations in an effort to resist this destruction inspires us to effect our own alliance of activists concerned with issues of human rights, environmental concerns, and the cultural rights of indigenous peoples. Our goal is to amplify the concern being expressed by the Kayapó by increasing the level of awareness in the United States of the situation in Brazil. Much of Brazilian "development" policy is tied to World Bank funding, and as citizens of a nation closely connected to World Bank policy, we are unable to distance ourselves from the responsibility for the cultural and ecological destruction certain to ensue from the Altamira hydroelectric project. It is also clear to us that no one on this planet is immune from the impact of the continuing destruction of the earth's rainforests, which are "disappeared" for the sake of progress at a staggering rate. When we allow the forests to be destroyed, we lose forever innumerable species of plants, insects, and animals, and as the Kayapó case makes terrifyingly clear, we are simultaneously sanctioning the destruction of the homelands and the lifeways of other human beings, more often than not, indigenous peoples.

During his December visit to Chicago, Paulinho Paiakan publicly announced the next action to be undertaken by Amazonian Indians to resist the destruction of their forest habitat and native lands. Under the leadership of the Kayapó, some 28 indigenous nations of the central Amazonian region are banding together to construct an inter-tribal village of 3,000 people on the site of the proposed hydroelectric dam. This unprecedented political alliance of Amazonian Indians will be marked by a great council to be held at the newly constructed village from February 21-26, 1989. A small permanent population of 100 will then remain at the site to oppose any dam construction. In addition to world press and media representatives, the Indians have invited the President of Brazil as well as spokespersons for the World Bank and various Brazilian governmental agencies. The Kayapó and their neighbors are resorting to bold action to make their voices heard, but they may not get a second chance. The Kayapó Support Group along with other organizations such as Friends of the Earth, the World Wildlife Federation, the Rainforest Action Network, the Rain Forest Alliance, Survival International, and Cultural Survival will be vigilantly monitoring events at Altamira.

\*\*\*\*\*

## WHAT YOU CAN DO:

---**Write a letter.** Express your concern about this threat to the indigenous peoples and the environment of the Amazon Basin to:

Exmo. Presidente de Republica  
Federativa do Brasil  
Sr. José Sarney  
Palacio do Planalto  
70.150 Brasilia, D.F.  
BRAZIL

Mr. Barber Conable  
President  
World Bank  
1818 H Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20433

---**Write a check.** Make your tax-deductible contribution to help defray the expenses of the Altamira protest village payable to:

The Kayapó Defense Fund/Cultural Survival  
c/o Cultural Survival  
11 Divinity Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
(tax ID#: 23-718-2593)

These contributions will go directly to the Kayapó people. Contributions in support of the work of the Kayapó Support Group (as of yet not tax-deductible) will also be warmly received at the address given on the front of this flyer.

---**Stay in touch.** For more information about the situation, or about the Kayapó Support Group, contact us at the address and phone numbers on the front of this flyer.

# Action Alert For the Kaiapo People of Brazil



## Background

All over the World Indigenous peoples face cultural extinction as "civilization" encroaches on their lands. Invariably these people are displaced and dispossessed because we covet their lands for luxuries. The rights of these people are abused as we pursue even greater economic wealth.

Historically the Amazon Basin had 7 million people in over 230 tribes. Today there are only 200,000 people, and over a 100 tribes are already extinct. The culture, rights, and lives of these people continue to be threatened.

In the Amazon the mineral rights to 34% of Indigenous lands have already been sold, without the knowledge or consent of the owners. A typical land dispute in March of 1988 left 13 Ticuna Indians killed and 23 wounded, including women and children. Our policy towards Indigenous peoples has been thinly veiled as "progress" and "development", but it is still genocide.

## Hydroelectric Projects and Development

In an effort to raise the hard currency necessary to pay for their huge debts many Developing Nations are industrializing as quickly as possible. To provide the energy for this industrialization they are building massive hydroelectric projects. Brazil is planning 136 new dams under the Plano 2010 Power Sector Plan alone. Most of these projects are so poorly conceived that they are environmental disasters, completely degrading the forests, fields, and fisheries of the watershed. The poor who were supposed to benefit from this "development" suffer the most. The Altamira Complex is a typical example of a disaster in the making.

## The Altamira Complex

The Complex involves 5 dams on the Xingu River and its tributaries. This would flood 18,000 sq km of rainforest, an area half the size of Nova Scotia. This project will affect the lands of 12 tribes and displace 75,000 people. This region also has an unusually high concentration of rare and endangered species.

## The World Bank

Pressure from many organizations concerned with the environment, human rights, development, and social justice has resulted in changes at the World Bank. In an effort to avoid criticism and responsibility the World Bank no longer funds specific projects. Funding is provided for whole economic sectors, and it is left to the borrower to decide which projects to fund.

Naturally the World Bank knows precisely what the borrower intends to do with the money, and often actively participates in the planning. The World Bank knows that Brazilian economic planning is geared towards development of hydro-power in the Amazon Basin, and that funds from the Plano 2010 loan will be used to help finance it. Despite this the Bank still claims that "the World Bank has not financed and does not intend to finance hydro-power projects in the Amazon."

The World Bank requires that the borrower country prepare an Environmental Master Plan, and one has been prepared for the Altamira complex. Even the World Bank considers the Environmental Master Plan to be inadequate. The Bank is critical of the Master Plan because:

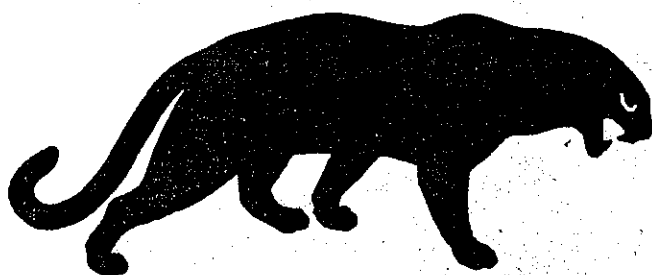
- 1) the resettlement and regional planning guidelines are deficient.
- 2) the guidelines on Indigenous peoples are neither specific nor complete.
- 3) guidelines on pollution and threatened wildlife are not ready.
- 4) there has not been adequate local representation.

Despite these reservations the World Bank intends to pursue the Plano 2010 Power Sector Loan.



## Canada's Role

All Developed countries contribute to rainforest destruction by creating and maintaining the socio-economic forces that cause it, but Canada's involvement in the destruction of the Kaiapo lands is even more direct. Canada contributes hundreds of millions of dollars to the World Bank, funding huge destructive projects like the Altamira complex on the Xingu River. In December the World Bank will be voting on the Plano 2010 Power Sector loan which will help finance the Altamira Complex. It is a virtual certainty that Canada will vote for the loan, despite the impact it will have on the environment and the Indigenous peoples.



### Paulinho Paiakan and Kube-i

In February of 1988 Paiakan and Kube-i travelled to Washington to meet with representatives of the World Bank, the US Congress, and the Treasury and State Departments. Upon returning to Brazil they were arrested for interfering with Brazilian policy. They still face charges for telling the truth.

### The Fight for Survival

Funds are being raised for a permanent settlement on the Site of the largest of the dams, to be occupied by 3,500 warriors from 28 Indigenous Nations. Money is needed to provide the logistic and legal support necessary for these people. With your help they can win.



## What You Can Do

By attending this event you have already contributed to the fight to stop the dams and we thank you for your support, but more needs to be done. It is very important that letters be written protesting the Plano 2010 Power Sector Loan and Canada's role in the oppression of the Kaiapo people.

It is a myth that letters of protest are ignored. Letters are taken very seriously by all governments, and letter writing campaigns have stopped similar projects such as the Nam Choan Dam in Thailand. Please write to at least one of the addresses below. If possible send additional letters or copies to the other addresses.

### Write to: In Canada

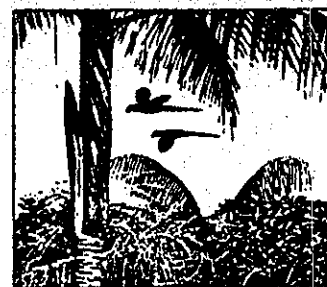
Prime Minister, Brian Mulroney  
Minister of Finance and Governor of the  
World Bank, Michael Wilson  
Minister for External Affairs, Joe Clark  
Minister for External Relations, Monique Landry  
and Your MP

Address all letters -  
c/o House of Commons  
Parliament Bldgs  
Ottawa, ONT  
K1A 0A6  
(no postage required)

### In the USA

Mr Barber Conable  
President, World Bank  
1818 H Street NW  
Washington, DC  
USA 20433

Mr Frank Potter  
Executive Director for Canada,  
World Bank  
1818 H Street NW  
Washington, DC  
USA 20433



### In Brazil

Exmo Sr Jose Sarney  
Presidencia Republica  
Palacio do Planalto  
CEP 70.160  
Brasilia, DF  
BRAZIL

Please copy and distribute this Action Alert after you have written your letter(s). Encourage your friends and family to voice their concern for the Kaiapo people and the rainforest.

Friends of the Rainforest wishes to thank P. Halward of Probe International, S. Counsell of Friends of the Earth UK, Mark Colchester of Survival International UK, and the Rainforest Action Network for the information used to compile this report.

Produced and distributed by Friends of the Rainforest (FoR)  
Box 4612, Station "E", Ottawa, Ont, K1S 5H8 (613) 236-5751





## Algonquins of Barriere Lake

RAPID LAKE INDIAN RESERVE, QUEBEC J0W 2C0

Tel: 0-(819) 824-1734

November 29th, 1988

Chief Palino Paiakan, Dr David Suzuki, and Gordon Lightfoot  
Delivered by Hand

Dear Friends,

The Algonquins of Barriere Lake support you in your efforts to prevent the destruction of the tropical forest environment of the Amazon Basin. Your collaboration reflects a potent convergence between indigenous peoples and other caretakers of the natural world. This growing unity is built on a practical understanding of the essential importance of healthy, diverse environments, a respect for the rights and cultures of the original human inhabitants of these environments, and a sense of reverence for life in all its diversity.

We well know that the struggles of the Kayapo Nation and other indigenous peoples of the Amazon are prompted by a very real and immediate threat to their survival. Though the threats to our land and culture are perhaps not as dramatic, their ultimate conclusion, in the absence of support for our efforts, will be the same: A degraded, impoverished environment, and our annihilation as a people. The resource demands of an ever-expanding industrial economy are causing great environmental degradation world-wide. But the voices of those who wish to live less greedily with earth are being heard.

Like the Kayapo, our land-based economy is now being pushed to the brink of collapse. Our lands are subjected to extensive clear-cut logging. Hydro activities destabilize and degrade wildlife habitat. The wildlife and fish are also being subjected to increased pressure from recreational hunting and fishing, as well as poaching. All this within the boundaries of what the Quebec government calls a wildlife reserve.

We believe there is much that can be shared between us. In the hopes that you may be interested in learning more about our concerns and efforts, we enclose two information kits. We also extend a sincere invitation to you to visit our community, either individually or as a group. We are located in the La Verendrye Wildlife Reserve, about a three and one half hour drive north of Ottawa. You could make arrangements through David Nahwegahbow or Russell Diabo in Ottawa at (613) 238-5424.

Wishing you great success in your work,

Chief Maurice Matchewan

BARRIERE LAKE INDIAN GOVERNMENT