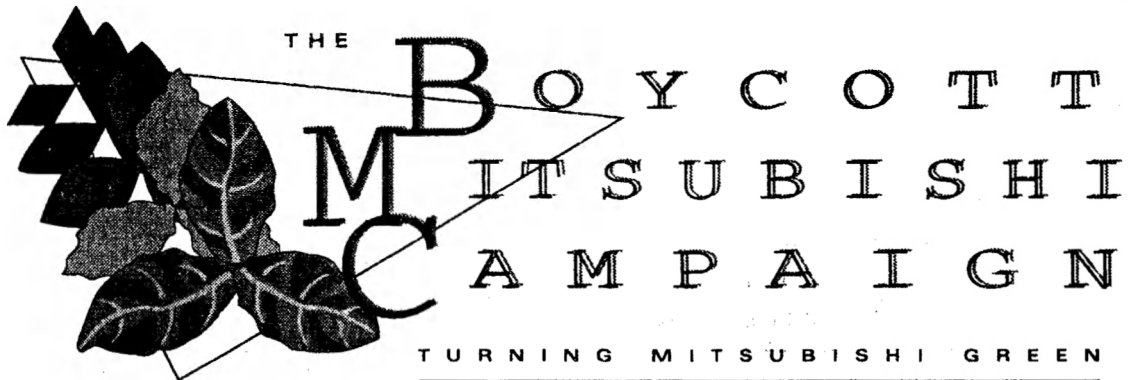


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**DEAR CAMPAIGNERS**

Howdy! As the Interim Campaign Coordinator, the new year has brought many challenges for me. It has also brought opportunities to expand the boycott and take it in new directions.

First of all, I would like to thank all of you for your hard work. Because of that work, last year the Boycott Mitsubishi Campaign was truly successful. Forty-seven businesses signed-on to the Corporate Responsibility Campaign which is working to stop the ecological and culturally destructive practices of Mitsubishi, MacMillan Bloedel and Georgia-Pacific. Fourteen more colleges and universities passed resolutions banning Mitsubishi products and recruiters from their campuses until Mitsubishi changes its forestry practices. This brings the total number of campuses boycotting Mitsubishi to thirty-two. The campaign also saw two international days of action that brought the message of Mitsubishi's corporate forest destruction to folks from Portland, Oregon to Newcastle, Australia.

During the last year, Mitsubishi continued it's trend of selling off destructive operations in response to extreme public pressure. In 1995, we saw Mitsubishi sell it's 40% share of the notorious Daiya Malaysia. This operation is known for its twenty-four hour logging of Sarawak's rainforests and the endangering of native communities. In 1996, Mitsubishi announced it will withdraw from the Canadian Chopstick Manu-

facturing Company in British Columbia. CCMC is not only the world's largest disposable wooden chopstick manufacturing plant, but it also wastes up to 85% of the wood that it cuts because it is not white enough.

Your constant and heartfelt work has pushed Mitsubishi to divest from these ecological nightmares. Your continued pressure will bring about the fundamental changes in Mitsubishi that will stop future projects like these from becoming realities.

In 1997, much of our work will focus on expanding the public awareness of the Mitsubishi boycott. The Fourth Annual Haiku Project will once again enlist thousands of children and adults around the world to flood Mitsubishi Corporation's president Makihara's desk with poems and artwork celebrating rainforests. The Campus Campaign will continue to spread the Mitsubishi boycott at colleges and universities with our second annual road show. We hope to see the road show produce resolutions from universities at the Regent and Trustee level. The Corporate Responsibility Campaign will continue its ground-breaking work in organizing the progressive business community to bring Mitsubishi to task for its destructive practices. Of course, we will continue to do hard-hitting direct actions. One of our main targets will be a \$137 million "people mover" project by Mitsubishi for the city of San Francisco's SFO airport. This contract

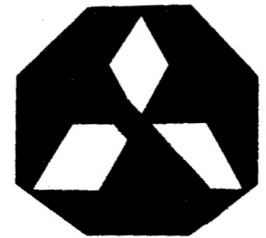
was awarded to Mitsubishi Heavy Industries despite San Francisco's Burma Ordinance and objections by the city's Human Rights Commission. Despite a court ruling that overturned Mitsubishi's bid, the project is still not settled. We will continue to pressure San Francisco to deny this contract throughout the appeal process. Our direct actions bring Mitsubishi's forest destruction and human rights abuses to the light of public scrutiny and Mitsubishi executives to the table.

Again, I would like to thank all of the grassroots activists who have brought this movement so far. We couldn't do it without your constant hard work and dedication to protect the forests of the world and their inhabitants. You rock!

For the Forests, J.C.

**THE BOYCOTT IS ON!**

Do not be confused - Jesse Jackson has called off the Rainbow Coalition's boycott of Mitsubishi because he is satisfied with Mitsubishi's improvements regarding sexual harassment. The global environmental community, however, has not seen the improvements we demand. Mitsubishi Corporation is still one of the world's worst corporate destroyers of rainforests. It still props up the illegitimate Burmese military regime, the SLORC. It still participates in cultural genocide the world over. The boycott is on! Full force ahead!



**RAINFOREST HAIKU**

*Trees are treasured friends  
Why do you cut the trees down?  
You have no friends left!*

-Kota Mio (Age 7, Kyoto, Japan)

*Mitsubishi sucks  
Digging up the earth with trucks  
Just to make big bucks*

-Maura Hurley, Kyoto

Please write Haiku for our 4th annual Haiku and art project. Last year over 10,000 haiku were sent to the president of Mitsubishi urging him to work towards a more sustainable future. We would especially like to invite students, teachers, and professors to get involved in the project. All you need is a pen and paper, (recycled or tree-free please) and your creativity.

A Haiku poem consists of one 5 syllable line, one 7 syllable line, and ending in another 5 syllable line. We are also asking people to make origami cranes or any other artistic creation to get our message across. You can use the enclosed postcard or send your Haiku by March 1 to:

Mr. Minoru Makihara  
Mitsubishi Corporation  
6-3, Marunouchi 2-Chome  
Chiyoda-Ku, Tokyo 100 Japan  
(\$.60)

or

Mitsubishi International  
520 Madison Avenue  
New York, NY 10022  
(\$.32)



Please send or fax all other artwork and copies of your Haiku to the Rainforest Action Network office. Please call Joshua at 415-398-4404 with any questions.



## MITSUBISHI/BURMA CONNECTION

Despite the fact that San Francisco, like eight other cities, one county and one state, has passed an ordinance which prevents the city from contracting with corporations that do business in Burma because of their human rights abuses, the San Francisco Airport Commission voted to accept Mitsubishi Heavy Industries' low-ball bid to build a people-mover at the airport. Mitsubishi does business in Burma in many different capacities including buying teak taken from Burma's rainforests and supplying the pipeline that is being built using forced labor. Airport commission members voted to award the contract in a 3-2 vote (interestingly, the three men who supported it had little interest in the evidence presented as to Mitsubishi's social practices).

We were ready to release this story to you and ask you to send a postcard to San Francisco's mayor Willie Brown urging him to respect that democracy and human rights are at stake in this decision. After our first round of printing the postcards we had to rewrite the story because of a court decision to reject the bid. The airport commission and the city attorney decided to ignore the city's Human Rights Commission (HRC) recommendation to reject Mitsubishi because of specific problems meeting affirmative action goals and also the broader question of its involvement in Burma because of legal loopholes in the wording of the ordinance. The deal was thrown out, however, because of Mitsubishi's inability to comply in minority hiring practices (and possibly because it attempted to deceive the city about its minority contracts), which violates San Francisco's charter to promote minority- and women-owned businesses. **So bad was Mitsubishi's attempt to falsify compliance with the hiring requirements that the *San Francisco Chronicle* reports that when an HRC representative went to check up on one minority subcontractor which was "slated to do \$4.2 million in**

concrete work and discovered only an empty office with two desks in a warehouse occupied by an ice cream company."

This is a victory for human rights and the environment. Decisions like this show Mitsubishi that it will be held responsible for its actions. Please send in the enclosed postcard telling Willie Brown that you support taking a tough stance with companies doing business in Burma and the agreement San Francisco has made to stop supporting a tyrannical military regime. You can also email him at [DaMayor@ci.sf.ca.us](mailto:DaMayor@ci.sf.ca.us).

The following localities have passed selective purchasing laws regarding Burma: Massachusetts; Alameda County, CA; Berkeley, CA; Madison, WI; Santa Monica, CA; Ann Arbor, MI; San Francisco, CA; Oakland, CA; Carrboro, NC; Takoma Park, MD; Boulder, CO. New York City is currently pending a decision on this.

The following companies have withdrawn from Burma due to consumer and shareholder pressure: Pepsi, Levi Strauss, PetroCanada, Amoco, Liz Claiborne, Eddie Bauer, Macy's (Macy's stopped direct sourcing from Burma, but its store still stock apparel made in Burma), Columbia Sportswear, Oshkosh B'Gosh, Heineken, Carlsberg, London Fog/Pacific Trails, Apple Computer, Interbrew (Labatt's), Wente Vineyards, Motorola, Philips Electronics, Hewlett-Packard, and Eastman Kodak. Let's get Mitsubishi added to this list!

Aung San  
Suu Kyi,  
Burma's  
democracy  
leader &  
Nobel Peace  
Prize winner,  
calls for  
the  
withdrawal  
of foreign  
investment  
from Burma



## SUPER RUBIN 7

Many of you have been keeping up on the Super Rubin 7 — a group of seven activists in Longview, WA who climbed and locked down to the Super Rubin ship last October to protest the export of whole logs and jobs from the Pacific Northwest by Mitsubishi. The activists are facing two felony charges and fines of up to \$20,000 and legal fees. Please help these activists by doing either or both of the following: 1) Send a check to the Super Rubin 7 legal defense fund (make checks payable to Rainforest Action Network - sorry, this donation is not tax-deductible); and 2) sign and send the post card enclosed to the prosecuting attorney.

## Pancake Palooza

Who would have thought that so many people would get up for a 9:00 Sunday morning pancake/performance art extravaganza to raise money for the Super Rubin 7 legal defense fund?!? On January 12 in San Francisco we did just that - with great results.

Highlights included an easy listening banjo version of AC/DC's You Shook Me All Night Long by Charles Herman Wurmfeld, classical music by the San Francisco Simphony string quartet, spoken word "Nature Makes me Itchy" by Justin Chin, and a song written for the SR7 about rolling around naked in the woods (with lyrics too graphic for print) performed by Minnie Pearl Necklace. We raised almost \$1,300 to for the activists and served over 25 pounds of pancakes.

## AUTO SHOWS

Tis the season to storm the auto shows. That's right, they are starting up the '97 season and it's time to get active on it. For those of you who have been with the campaign for a while, you know that this has been one of our strongest areas of pressuring Mitsubishi through protests and civil disobedience. And, as many of you know, this pressure has brought Mitsubishi Motors and Mitsubishi Electric to the negotiating table with RAN. As a result, Mitsubishi Motors and Electric kicked in \$200,000 to

form the Systems Group, which researches systemic solutions to the global forestry crisis. In return, RAN has agreed to stop promoting civil disobedience focusing on Mitsubishi Motors or Electronics. The protests, however, continue on.

In Los Angeles activists kicked off the year by entering the auto show with Boycott Mitsubishi t-shirts. They were allowed to walk around for about 15 minutes, and were then forced to leave. This is a victory

over last year's auto show in Los Angeles where activists were forcibly evicted from the auto show because they were wearing the t-shirts. They have taken up a court case for this as a violation of their freedom of expression, and believe that the auto show's response this year should help their pending court case.



Leanne - Rockin' the Boat!

## PORTLAND 6

On October 16th, 1996, Portland activists took part in World Rainforest Week by organizing an action and demonstration at the Key Bank Building, which houses Mitsubishi's regional offices and the offices of Mitsubishi-owned Union Bank of California. This direct action resulted in the arrests of the five activists committing civil disobedience and one demonstrator who was providing support. The six arrestees are now facing \$1,800 in restitution fines for the police's overreaction (see December 1996 Update article "Cops First!").

To help offset these fines, in December the activists held a fundraiser at the local musicians hall in Portland. Members of the Portland RAG and Earth First! were on hand to inform folks about local issues and show new videos on the struggle to protect the forests of the Northwest. Village Spirit Marimba Band played two sets of music that kept the mood festive and everyone dancing. After expenses, the group netted \$410!

If you would like to help these dedicated forest defenders, please send a check to the Portland 6 legal defense fund (make checks payable to Rainforest Action Network - sorry, this donation is not tax deductible).

## RESEARCH

### Alberta-Pacific

According to Alberta-Pacific, the largest bleach-kraft pulp mill in the world (wholly Mitsubishi owned) the Thilmany Mill in Kaukauna, WI is Al-Pac's second largest customer in the US. From 1995 to 1996 its purchases from Al-Pac have more than tripled, going from 300 tons per month to 1000 tons per month. The Thilmany mill is an International Paper company, and as a result of their positive relationship Al-Pac has obtained a market share in two other International Paper companies, Nicolet &

Corinth. Pulp bought from Al-Pac by Thilmany is used to make chewing gum wrappers, frozen juice cans, and lightweight pouches to contain dry instant food products.

### Corporate Empires

According to the December 1996 issue of Multinational Monitor, there are some disturbing statistics on the world's biggest economies, as follows:

1. Of the 100 largest economies in the world, 51 are corporations, only 49 are countries.
2. The combined sales of the world's Top 200 corporations are far greater than a quarter of the world's economic activity.
3. The Top 200 corporations' combined sales are bigger than the combined economies of all countries minus the biggest 9; that is they surpass the combined economies of 182 countries.
4. The Top 200 corporations have almost twice the economic clout of the poorest four-fifths of humanity.
5. The Top 200 corporations have been net job destroyers in recent years. Their combined global employment is only 18.8 million, which is less than a third of 1 percent of the world's people.

### And where does Mitsubishi fit into all this?

They are the largest corporate economy in the world, and the 22nd largest economy in the world. In other words, Mitsubishi has a larger economy than the fourth most populous nation on earth: Indonesia.

## AWARDS CIRCLE

### Corporate Watch

Corporate Watch is a new website that was launched to help people fight the corporate powers. Rainforest Action Network, along with Adbusters and McSpotlight were awarded their first three Corporation Buster awards for doing the finest job of using the Internet to confront corporate globalization and the work for more socially just and ecologically sustainable world. RAN was



one of the three award recipients because of the coverage the site gives to the global deforestation perpetrated by Mitsubishi Corporation. Check their site out at : [www.corpwatch.org/home.html](http://www.corpwatch.org/home.html).

**Multinational Monitor**

Kudos to Mitsubishi! You have to hand it to the folks - they are very good at everything they do - ecological destruction, cultural genocide, sexual harassment, price fixing, transfer pricing, etc, etc. So good, in fact, that in a recent issue of the Multinational Monitor Mitsubishi Corporation was awarded with being in the top-ten worst corporations in the world for their environmental practices and their history of sexual harassment. Check out the most recent issue for more details.

**CAMPUS CAMPAIGN**

**Job Announcement**

With colleges back in session and plenty of opportunities to kick Mitsubishi off your campus, we need to get organizing! As we have done in the past, we will be sending

organizers out in the field to help campus groups get the Mitsubishi resolution passed. The position is a two month assignment (March and April), and will pay a stipend and expenses (don't worry if you don't have a car). Organizing experience and familiarity with the Mitsubishi campaign is a plus, but everyone is welcome to apply. Please send in your resume and cover letter as soon as possible to RAN or call JC or Heather for more details.

**Wesleyan University joins the Campus Campaign**

Add Wesleyan University, in Wesleyan, CT to the list of schools whose Student Associations have passed the resolution to buy no Mitsubishi products on their campaign. This brings the list up to 32 schools across the country that have signed a resolution to keep Mitsubishi off their campus.

**COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES ENDORSING THE MITSUBISHI BOYCOTT**

Barnard College  
 Boston College  
 California State University - Stanislaus  
 Clemson University  
 Colgate University  
 College of the Canyons  
 Colorado College  
 Carleton College (Northfield Minnesota)  
 Harvard  
 Iowa State University  
 Monterey Institute of International Studies  
 New College (San Francisco, CA)  
 Raritan Valley Community College  
 San Francisco State University  
 Seattle Central College  
 Stanford

Tufts  
 University of California, Berkeley  
 University of California, Santa Cruz  
 University of Colorado, Colorado Springs  
 University of Colorado, Boulder  
 University of Iowa  
 University of Kansas  
 University of Minnesota  
 University of North Carolina  
 University of Northern Iowa  
 University of Richmond  
 University of Vermont  
 University of Washington  
 Wesleyan University  
 Whittman University  
 Yale

**THE CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY CAMPAIGN SIGNATORIES**

American Consumer Insurance  
 Annie's Inc.  
 Aurora Press Inc.  
 Ben & Jerry's  
 Bill Graham Presents  
 Brat Pak Productions  
 The Body Shop  
 Club Dead  
 Computer Publishing Group  
 Crystal Visions  
 Dancing Tree  
 Earth Friendly Products  
 Earth Trade  
 EcoPrint  
 EcoTimber  
 Esprit de Corp  
 Executive Citizen  
 Falcon Trading / Sunridge Farms  
 Fetzer Vineyards  
 Forest Essentials  
 Global Environmental Technologies  
 Graham Contracting Inc.  
 Heartland Institute  
 Just Desserts  
 Jim Morris Environmental T-Shirts

Maggie's Organic Products  
 Mother Jones  
 Odwalla  
 Oneness Productions  
 Paper House Products  
 Paul Hawkin  
 Progressive Asset Management  
 Real Goods  
 Recycled Paper Company  
 REMedia  
 The Stride Rite Foundation  
 Seeds of Change  
 Seventh Generation  
 Smith & Hawkin  
 Stonyfield Farms  
 Tamalpais Timber Works  
 Tree-Free Eco Paper  
 Two Way TV  
 Western Canadian Wilderness Committee  
 Wireless Plus Inc.  
 Working Assets  
 World Paper  
 World Stewardship Institute  
 Zoolook



The Canadian Chopstick Manufacturing Company – incentive for the Mitsubishi Boycott

