

**By Tim Rourke**  
Newspapers are fairly disgusting at their best. *The Toronto Star*, alias 'The Scar', is better than most. It loves everything to do with the developer racket and the Liberal party, and hates local, democratic government.

# A Petition Worthy of Donkeys

the home addresses of this

The Scar promotes high rise residential buildings, which very few people really want to live in and which make no planning or engineering sense. They are dangerous; things fall off balconies and you do not want to be on the upper floors of these places when they catch fire. They do not 'densify' anything unless you are building them too close together, creating dangerous wind tunnel effects. In cities in which the public has real influence on their government, and it is not run by the developers, they just do not build high rises.

I do not think the Scar will ever live down its cheer leading of the 1997 amalgamation and its catastrophic effects on the city. It still sets itself against any attempts to decentralise power in Toronto, such as the division of the school board into manageable units. You name it, whatever function properly belongs with city government, the Scar wants the province to do it; transit, social services, education, etc.

### the littlest commuters

Lately the Scar has propagandised for the closing of schools in Toronto. Many neighbourhood schools are only half full. Enrolments are declining all over the city because of a temporary demographic effect, and because many people are moving their kids to private schools.

This trend will not continue; in a decade many of these schools will be crammed again. And if the schools have been closed, the pressure is on to sell the property off. Many cities have been dummed into this trap, and had to build new schools at great expense.

These buildings would sit empty while school children living down the block from it have to endure daily bussing and all this

entails; especially, loss of after school activities. School boards have somewhat higher per student costs when the number of students in a school is lower. The parents have higher costs when their kids are bussed and for poor parents, the costs are unmanageable.

If the lowest cost per student is the only factor to consider, we could set up one mega elementary school in each area of the city and bus 100 000 kids there every day. banning the already banned

Some of the Scar's columnists are not bad. One in particular usually has something sensible to say. So it was disappointing to read him cheer leading Mayor Miller's petition to ban handguns; a "petition worthy of our signatures" in the April 8 Star.

It was disappointing enough that mayor Miller disgraced himself to pander to this mentality, but by now we should be almost completely disillusioned with 'Mighty Mayor'. It shows there is no real difference between the nominal 'left' and 'right' even in city government in Canada. It is all about playing to media manipulated mob impulse intended to misdirect from real problems.

The Scar and its columnists are part of the media, and part of the misdirection propaganda machine, or they would not be on their jobs. The problem the handgun 'ban' is intended to distract from is what most of this handgun shooting is the result of. Calling it 'gangs' and 'gang warfare' is foolish; these illegal drugs groups are becoming militia-like in their organisation.

Never mind handguns, these people can easily obtain body armour, automatic weapons, rocket launchers, and sophisticated explosives and detonators. They know how to use them. These and handguns are already banned in this country to anyone who has no reason to own them, but lets ban them again every few years

when politicians need to look like they are doing something.

### banning the unbannable

Prissy prohibitionists back to Jane Adams have thought the solution to the violence inevitably arising from their original prohibition is to prohibit the weapons used; just disarm the boot leggers. But it is equally prissy to say that society has not learned from the experience of the nineteen twenties; that prohibition never works. Prohibiting what people are going to get anyway works very well for the people making money from it.

It is fossilised news that American intelligence agencies control much of the world's narcotics trade; it is the only way they can finance their operations. That is a very hard thing for average shmoes to wrap their heads around, which makes even better for the government agencies and for the international banks, who take a cut of the trade by laundering the cash. Ordinary citizens could not open a bank account with small bills, yet the drug dealers are able to deposit the profits from street drugs and move them all over the world.

There is not the slightest hope that policing or public education approaches will ever stop or even slow down the drug trade. Police can keep their arrest statistics up by moving low level employees of the drug industry through the courts. We rarely hear of charges against high or even middle level traffickers, and half the time it is the police themselves being charged.

Toronto cops, like cops everywhere between here and Columbia, know that if they ever seriously get in the way of the drug business, they are going to die. A few years ago some cops started assassinating middle level drug dealers; "oh, my gun went off accidentally". Some news did not make The Scar, though everyone in Regent Park knew it; is that this stopped abruptly when

group of rogue cops were spray painted in prominent places in Regent.

The only thing that will ever eliminate the international drug trade is what eliminated it in much of the world in the first place. Of course you do not legalise the traffic in drugs, but you remove the market by decriminalising consumption. You treat the addiction as a health problem and prescribe the drug.

The reason why people get hooked on the drugs is no mystery. A large part of the American army returned home from the Vietnam war addicted to heroin. The Americans did not have an army of junkies in the street; the addictions in the vast majority of cases disappeared as soon as they were out of the situation they had been in.

Many species of monkeys are socially highly stratified, like humans. The dominant monkeys treat the subordinate monkeys brutally. Experimenters gave captive populations of monkeys a way to consume cocaine. The subordinated monkeys became heavily addicted; the dominant monkeys did not need the drug as much, in order to ease the pain of their captive existences.

### ban nonsense

Despite the internet, it is still very hard to get good local news. It has been noted by observers of the net that even most news still originates from newspapers. It will be awhile before we have real alternatives to The Scar, or The Globe and Mail, or even to NOW. Raccoon will never compete by himself. There is not even a Toronto 'Indymedia'.

What is needed is an independent portal where good local writers can get their stuff read. This would be more helpful than a handgun against the boob-baiters of The Scar.

## IOF artillery shells Palestinian hospital & Palestinian Information Center

GAZA, -- Two IOF artillery shells slammed into the Wafa'a hospital east of Gaza city at dawn Wednesday severely damaging the ground floor, X-

ray department and the laboratory, the hospital administration said in a press release.

The shelling also severed electricity, water and telephone lines, it said, strongly denouncing the act especially when the hospital serves hundreds of aged persons, wounded and handicapped.

It noted that the eastern fence of the

hospital was destroyed in the bombing, and underlined that the hospital is specialized in extending rehabilitation services and specialized surgeries.

The hospital appealed to international institutions, legal groups and WHO to immediately intervene to save the health sector in Palestine, which is experiencing difficulties due to the siege and closure of crossings and now shell-

ing.



## Location of Mass Graves of Residential School Children Revealed for the First Time; Independent Tribunal Established Squamish Nation Territory ("Vancouver, Canada") Thursday, April 10,

At a public ceremony and press conference held today outside the colonial "Indian Affairs" building in downtown Vancouver, the Friends and Relatives of the Disappeared (FRD) released a list of twenty eight mass graves across Canada holding the remains of untold numbers of aboriginal children who died in Indian Residential Schools. The list was distributed today to the world media and to United Nations agencies, as the first act of the newly-formed International Human Rights Tribunal into Genocide in Canada (IHRTGC), a non-governmental body established by indigenous elders. In a statement read by FRD spokesperson Eagle Strong Voice, it was declared that the IHRTGC would commence its investigations on April 15, 2008, the fourth Annual Aboriginal Holocaust Memorial Day. This inquiry will involve international human rights observers from Guatemala and Cyprus, and will convene aboriginal courts of justice where those persons and institutions responsible for the death and suffering of residential school children will be tried and sentenced.

(The complete Statement and List of Mass Graves is reproduced below).

Eagle Strong Voice and IHRTGC elders will present the Mass Graves List at the United Nations on April 19, and will ask United Nations agencies to protect and monitor the mass graves as part of a genuine inquiry and judicial prosecution of those responsible for this Canadian Genocide.

Eyewitness Sylvester Greene spoke to the media at today's event, and described how he helped bury a young Inuit boy at the United Church's Edmonton residential school in 1953.

"We were told never to tell anyone by Jim Ludford, the Principal, who got me and three other boys to bury him. But a lot more kids got buried all the time in that big grave next to the school."

**For more information: www.hiddenfromhistory.org, or write to the IHRTGC at: genocidetribeunal@yahoo.ca** Issued on Squamish Territory, 10 April, 2008, under the authority of Hereditary Chief Kiapilano.

**Press Statement: April 10, 2008**  
**Mass Graves of Residential School Children Identified - Independent Inquiry Launched**

We are gathered today to publicly disclose the location of twenty eight mass graves of children who died in Indian Residential Schools across Canada, and to announce the formation of an independent, non-governmental inquiry into the death and disappearance of children in these schools. We estimate that there are hundreds, and possibly thousands, of children buried in these grave sites alone.

The Catholic, Anglican and United

Church, and the government of Canada, operated the schools and hospitals where these mass graves are located. We therefore hold these institutions and their officers legally responsible and liable for the deaths of these children

"We have no confidence that the very institutions of church and state that are responsible for these deaths can conduct any kind of impartial or real inquiry into them. Accordingly, as of April 15, 2008, we are establishing an independent, non governmental inquiry into the death and disappearance of Indian residential school children across Canada.

This inquiry shall be known as The International Human Rights Tribunal into Genocide in Canada (IHRTGC), and is established under the authority of the following hereditary chiefs, who shall serve as presiding judges of the Tribunal: Hereditary Chief Kiapilano of the Squamish Nation Chief Louis Daniels (Whispers Wind), Anishinabe Nation Chief Svnoyi Wohali (Night Eagle), Cherokee Nation Lillian Shirt, Clan Mother, Cree Nation Elder Ernie Sandy, Anishinabe (Ojibway) Nation Hereditary Chief Steve Sampson, Chemainus Nation Ambassador Chief Red Jacket of Turtle Island

Today, we are releasing to this Tribunal and to the people of the world the enclosed information on the location of mass graves connected to Indian residential schools and hospitals in order to prevent the destruction of this crucial evidence by the Canadian government, the RCMP and the Anglican, Catholic and United Church of Canada. We call upon indigenous people on the land where these graves are located to monitor and protect these sites vigilantly, and prevent their destruction by occupational forces such as the RCMP and other government agencies.

Our Tribunal will commence on April 15 by gathering all of the evidence, including forensic remains, that is necessary to charge and indict those responsible for the deaths of the children buried therein. Once these persons have been identified and detained, they will be tried and sentenced in indigenous courts of justice established by our Tribunal and under the authority of hereditary chiefs.

As a first step in this process, the IHRTGC will present this list of mass graves along with a statement to the United Nations in New York City on April 19, 2008. The IHRTGC will be asking the United Nations to declare these mass graves to be protected heritage sites, and will invite international human rights observers to monitor and assist its work.

Issued by the Elders and Judges of the IHRTGC Interim Spokesperson: Eagle Strong Voice Email: genocidetribeunal@yahoo.ca pager: 1-888-265-1007

**IHRTGC Sponsors include The Friends and Relatives of the Disappeared, The Truth Commission into Genocide in Canada, the Defensoria Indigenia of Guatemala, Canadians for the Separation of Church and State, and a confederation of indigenous elders across Canada and Turtle Island.**

**Mass Graves at former Indian Residential Schools and Hospitals across Canada**

**A. B r i t i s h C o l u m b i a**  
**1. Port Alberni:** Presbyterian- United Church school (1895-1973), now occupied by the Nuu-Chah-Nulth Tribal Council (NTC) office, Kitskuksis Road. Grave site is a series of sinkhole rows in hills 100 metres due west of the NTC building, in thick foliage, past an unused water pipeline. **More on the net!**