

# Army advances on Mohawk barricades

**From Associated Press reports**  
**MONTREAL**—The army moved to within 650 feet of blockaded Mercier Bridge Wednesday as negotiators tried to reach an agreement to bring down Mohawk barricades and end a seven-week-old confrontation. Four six-wheeled trucks, two front-end loaders on flatbed trucks, and two armored personnel carriers moved closer to the Mohawk barricades. Reports circulated that the government had issued an ultimatum to Indian negotiators to settle or face army guns.

Army spokesmen would not confirm an ultimatum was issued. Soldiers near the village of St. Isidore close to the Kahnawake reservation set up six 105 mm howitzers in a cornfield, aimed at the reservation and the blocked Mercier Bridge. The crisis began July 11 when Quebec police raided Mohawk barricades set up at Oka, 18 miles from Montreal, to block expansion of a local golf course onto what the Mohawks said was ancestral land. A gun battle broke out between Mohawks and police, and an officer was killed. Responsibility for that death has not been established. Other Indian barricades were erected in sympathy with Mohawks at Oka, including blocking the Mercier Bridge to Montreal. That blockade has infuriated commuters and local businesses. About 500 people stoned Mohawk families leaving the adjacent Kahnawake reservation on Tuesday. About 100 men of the 2nd Battalion set up positions near Mercier Bridge on Wednesday and prepared for the remaining 575 men of the battalion to

move in from Farnham 30 miles away. Kahdnet Horn, a Mohawk spokesman in Oka, read a statement from Indian negotiator Joe Deom at a news conference in Oka Wednesday. It quoted army spokesmen as telling negotiators at Dorval they were giving the Mohawks a 2 p.m. deadline. If no agreement was reached by then, the army would move on the barricades at the Mercier Bridge, the statement said. However, that deadline passed without any such movement reported.

# Suit charges NEA grant violated Constitution

**From Associated Press reports**  
**WASHINGTON**—A lawyer sued the National Endowment for the Arts on Wednesday, alleging that its \$15,000 grant for an artist's controversial exhibition displayed "open and notorious hostility toward religion" and violated the Constitution.

The lawsuit was filed against the NEA and its chairman, John Frohnmayer, in U.S. District Court by the Rutherford Institute, a non-profit legal services organization, on behalf of David Fordyce.

Fordyce, a lawyer, was described as a "devout Christian" from Los Angeles. The suit cited the NEA's grant last year for "Tongues of Flame," an exhibit of works by David Wojnarowicz of New York that was organized by University Galleries at Illinois State University.

The Fordyce suit alleged that the NEA-supported catalog for the Wojnarowicz show included an image depicting Jesus Christ as an intravenous drug user. It said the catalog also refers to Roman Catholic Cardinal John O'Connor of New York as a "fat cannibal" and "the world's most active liar about condoms and safer sex."

Fordyce said NEA support for the catalog conveys "a message of hate and animosity toward institutionalized religion" sponsored by the federal government in violation of the First Amendment's provision for separation of church and state.

He asked the court for a permanent injunction prohibiting the arts endow-

ment from "funding, sponsoring and endorsing works which promote blasphemous and sacrilegious hate material."

The endowment, an independent, \$171 million federal agency that underwrites a wide variety of artists and arts organizations, had no immediate comment on the lawsuit.

The NEA is embroiled in a controversy over art, obscenity and freedom of expression stemming from allegations by religious fundamentalists and conservative lawmakers led by Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., that it has subsidized obscene and sacrilegious works.

The endowment already is the target of two other federal lawsuits in New York and Los Angeles challenging Frohnmayer's requirement that grant recipients sign a pledge of compliance with a congressional ban on using federal funds for works that may be deemed obscene.

Wojnarowicz could not be reached by telephone for comment. But Barry Blinderman, director of the Illinois gallery, accused the lawsuit's sponsors of "hypocrisy" and angrily defended the artist's work against charges of sacrilege.

"Before these people condemn the NEA, they should remember that it was the so-called holy men who didn't accept Christ and turned him in," Blinderman said. "Jesus said 'judge not,' and I recommend that these people follow the precepts of the God they are proclaiming."

The "Tongues of Flame" exhibit opened at Blinderman's gallery earlier this year and is now appearing at the Santa Monica Museum of Art in California.

John Whitehead, founder and president of the Rutherford Institute, told a news conference here that the NEA had "unconstitutionally used taxpayers' funds to engage in actions which are hostile toward religion and religious persons."

"The government should not become the patron of hate art against some of its citizens," Whitehead said. "Religious people must no longer be the personal targets of cannon fire from National Endowment projects."

Wojnarowicz previously had filed a federal lawsuit in New York against the Rev. Donald Wildmon and his conservative American Family Association.

In late June, a New York federal judge ruled that Wildmon's group probably had misrepresented Wojnarowicz's works by including fragments of them in a pamphlet titled "Your Tax Dollars Helped Pay for These Works of Art."

The judge said the pamphlets, which were mailed to members of Congress, religious leaders and media outlets, probably had damaged the artist's reputation and the value of his works. He issued an injunction forbidding further publication of the pamphlet.

# Incinerator site ignites battle of will

**From Associated Press reports**  
**OXFORD, N.C.**—Flora Mann has been upset by many events in the four months that Granville County has been under consideration for a hazardous waste incinerator. But she wasn't surprised to learn that threats of violence had canceled a public hearing.

"Would they (members of the Hazardous Waste Management Commission) lay down their lives to get it in here? Because I think we'd lay down our lives to keep it out," the 74-year-old register of deeds said Wednesday as her eyes — which only minutes earlier had been filled with tears — flashed with determination.

"These people don't think it's wrong (to fight the incinerator). Sunday school teachers tell them it's not wrong... They (commissioners) have brought civil war upon us," said Mrs. Mann, whose house and 60 acres of land sit in the middle of the proposed site.

The commission is trying to find a place to put a hazardous waste incinerator, a solvent recovery facility and a landfill. The facility will handle wastes from North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama, Tennessee and Kentucky that range from discarded paint cans to acids and inflammable wastes from industries.

The hearing, scheduled for Thursday, was canceled Tuesday when the chairman of the county commissioners said the state could not use J.H. Webb High School for the meeting because of threats of violence.

The commission now can try to reschedule the hearing with 14 days' notice in a state-owned building in Granville County, hold the hearing outside the county or cancel the hearing altogether.

Officials on Wednesday said they never heard direct threats. Mike Warren, chairman of the county commissioners, said comments he heard were more along the lines of: "I'm afraid there might be violence at that meeting. I have my reasons for thinking that."

But Warren said he heard that, or similar, remarks "from more than one place. I considered them real because of the mood, because of the emotional stress the county has been through. It created a situation that could be volatile."

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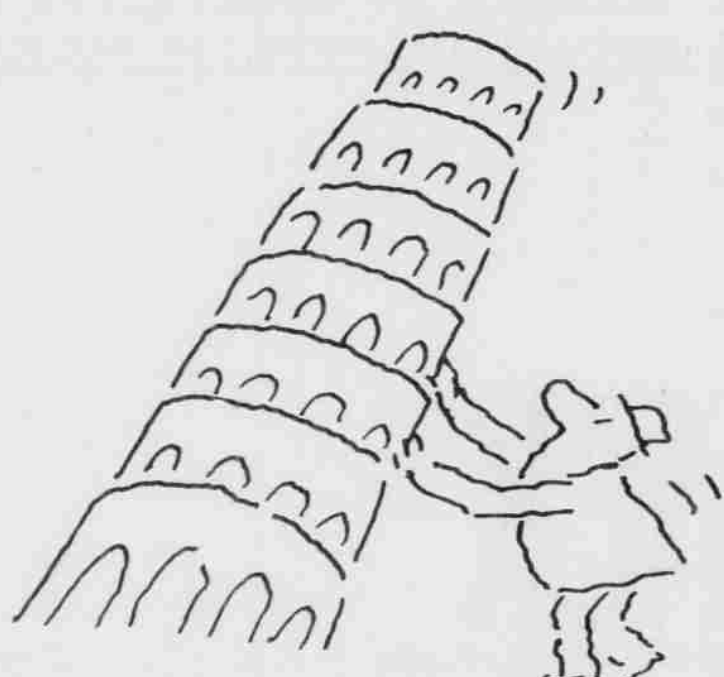
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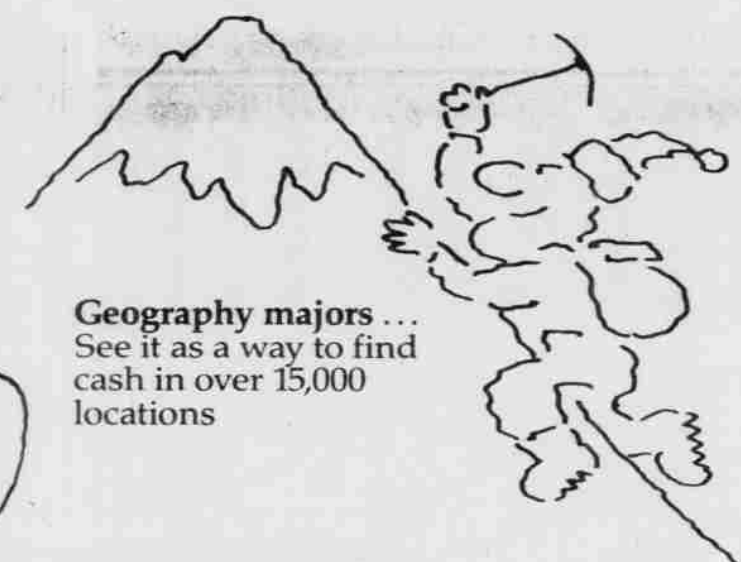


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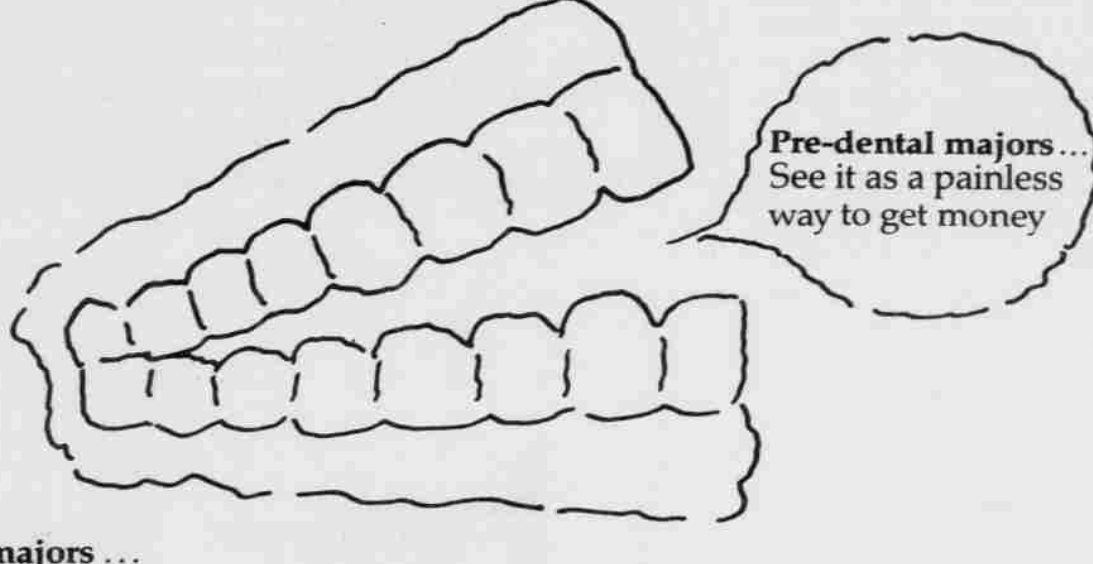
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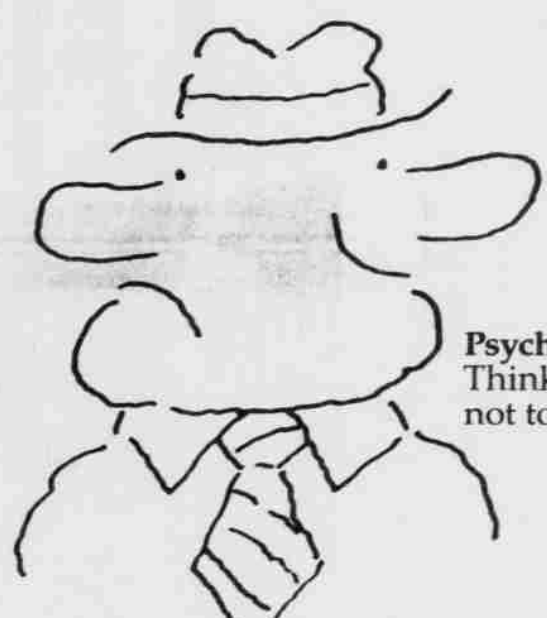
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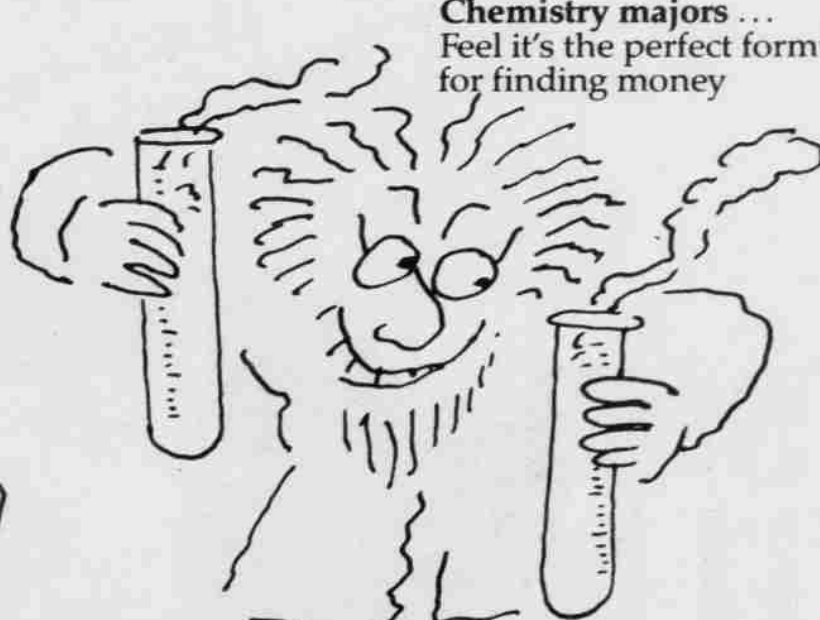
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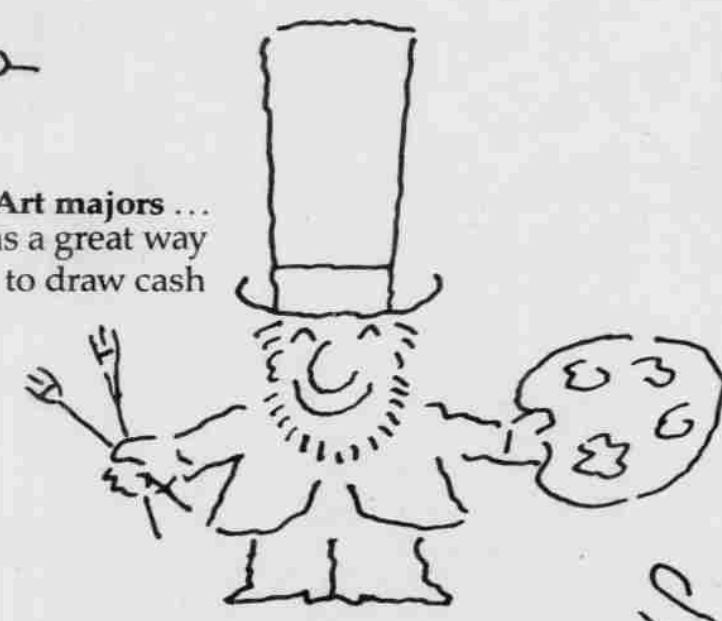
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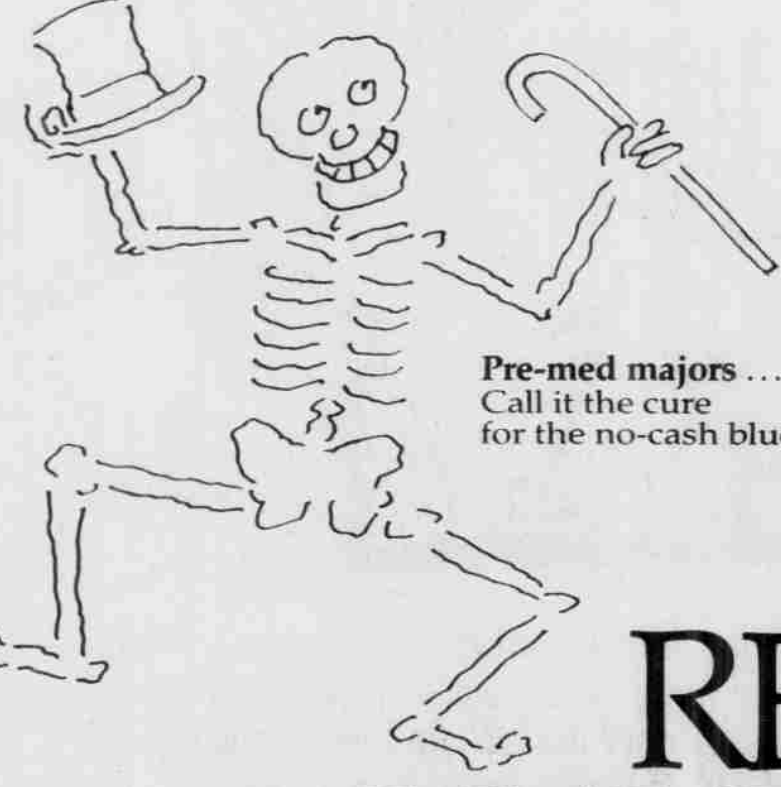
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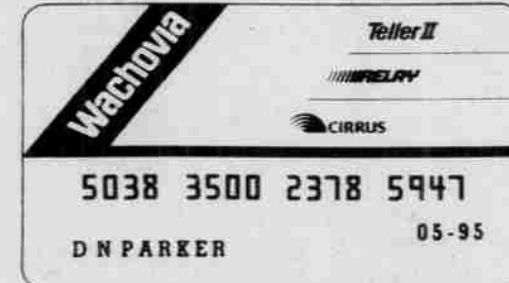
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