

WAR-TORN CHILDREN

REGIONAL CULTURAL CENTRE, LETTERKENNY
8TH FEBRUARY—24TH MARCH 2018

Posters

Peace education
starts at home -
and in the nursery.

An A4 version of this poster is
available for free downloading
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website at

[http://
www.innatenonviolence.org/
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FLEEING IN 1945

STILL FLEEING TODAY.....

Auf der Flucht 1945 / Fleeing in 1945
by Mara Loytved-Hardegg, 2010.
Conflict Textiles collection.

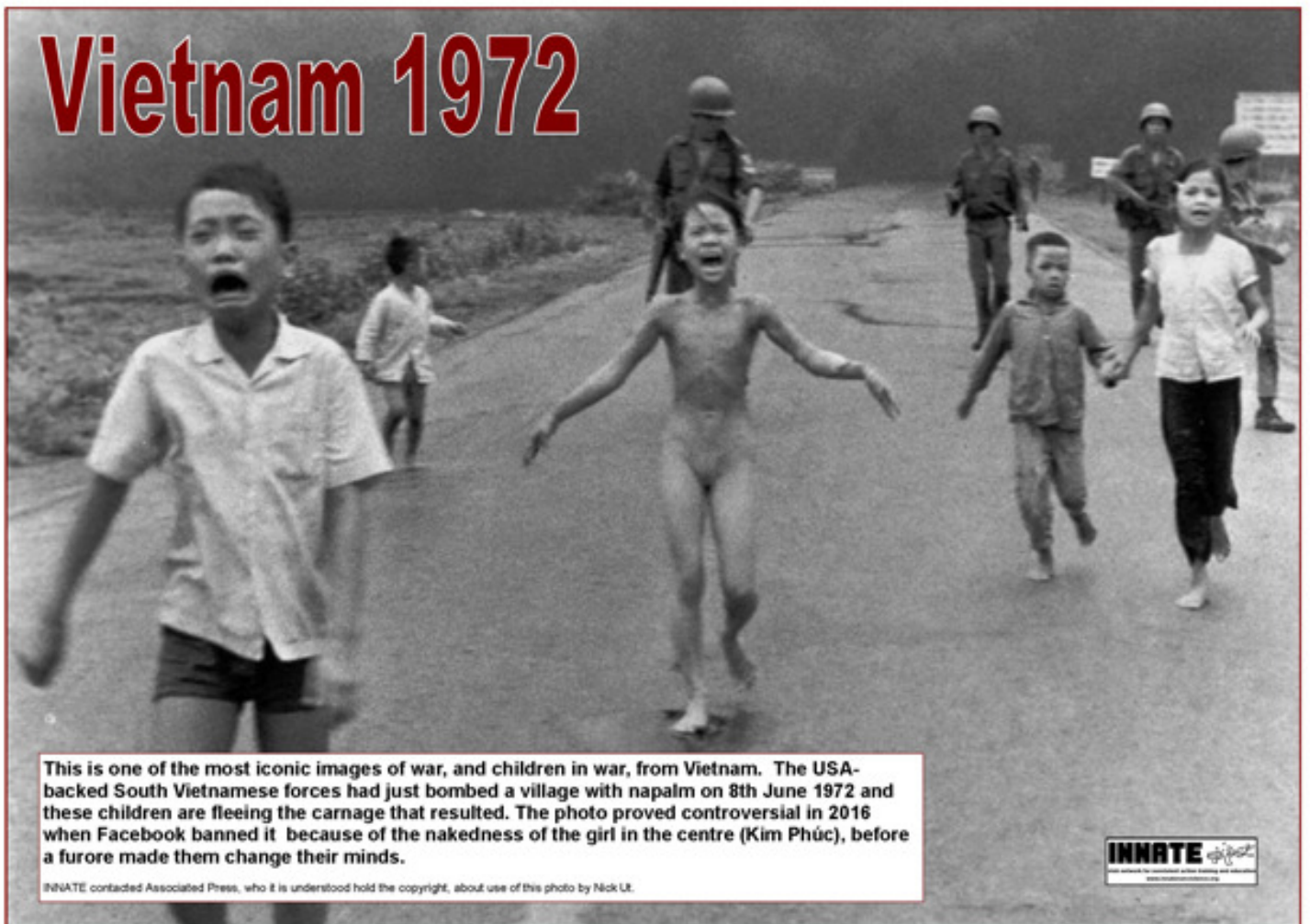
INNATE International Network of Nonviolent Activists



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The original arpillera
is in this exhibition

Vietnam 1972



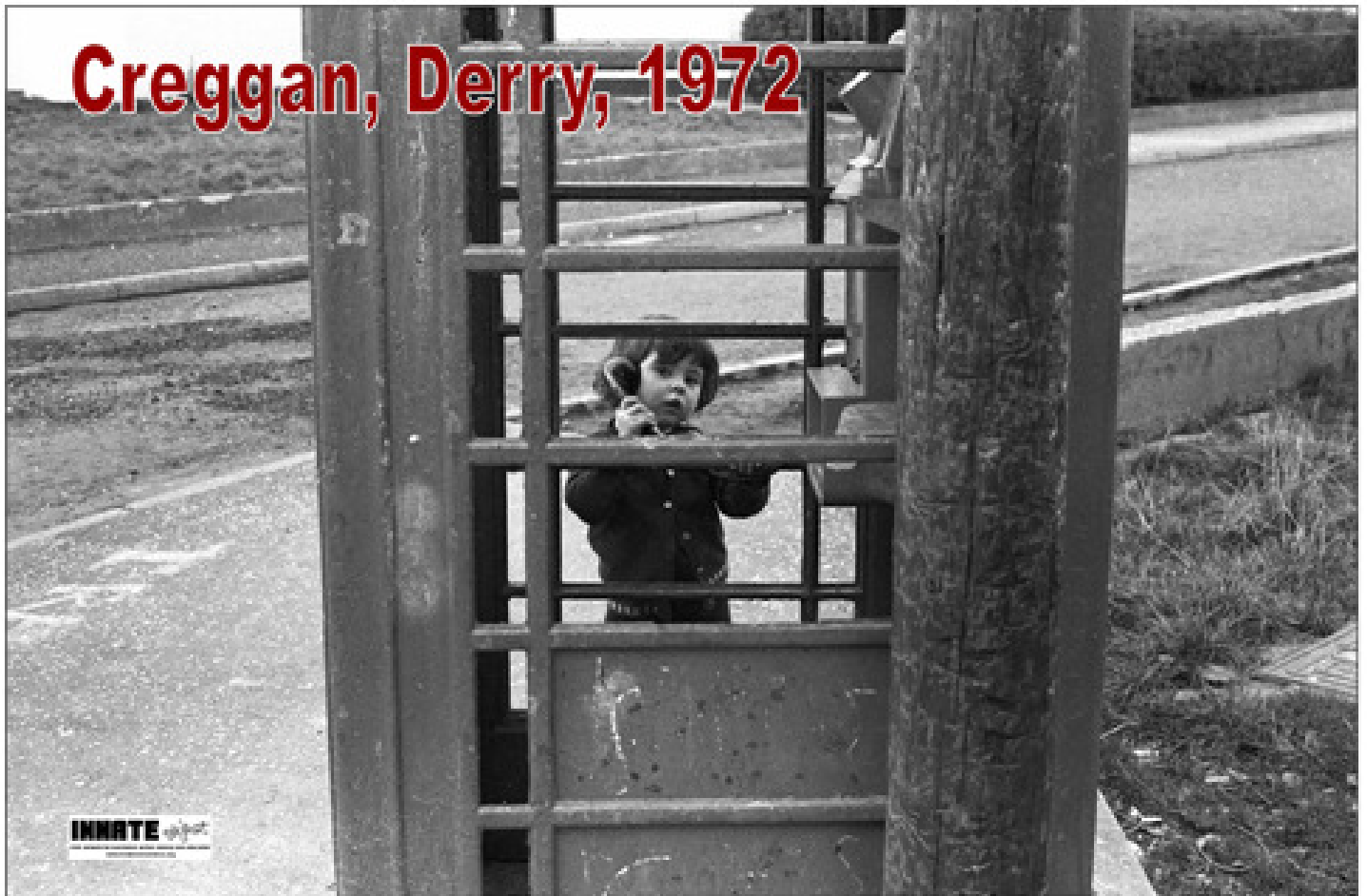
This is one of the most iconic images of war, and children in war, from Vietnam. The USA-backed South Vietnamese forces had just bombed a village with napalm on 8th June 1972 and these children are fleeing the carnage that resulted. The photo proved controversial in 2016 when Facebook banned it because of the nakedness of the girl in the centre (Kim Phúc), before a furore made them change their minds.

INNATE contacted Associated Press, who it is understood hold the copyright, about use of this photo by Nick Ull.



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Creggan, Derry, 1972



© Eamon Melaugh (cain.ulster.ac.uk/melaugh/); it appears in his book of photos "Derry—the Troubled years".

War is not a game



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Children's rights

From a summary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, articles especially relevant to conflict and violence

Article 6

Every child has the right to life. Governments must do all they can to ensure that children survive and develop to their full potential.

Article 19

Governments must do all they can to ensure that children are protected from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and bad treatment by their parents or anyone else who looks after them.

Article 27

Every child has the right to a standard of living that is good enough to meet their physical and social needs and support their development. Governments must help families who cannot afford to provide this.

● Do a word search online to get more details

INNATE
This network for nonviolent action training and education
www.innatenonviolence.org

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Children's rights violated

Photos which depict the gross violations which take place regarding the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child due to war and conflict

Article 6



Girl who has lost all her family and friends, killed, Latakia on the Turkey/Syria border, 2014.

Article 19



Displaced boy, with scars, who had been kidnapped and tortured, living on the border of Uganda and Rwanda, 1997.

Article 27



Palestinian refugee children from Syria, displaced again, this time to Lebanon/Syria border, 2014.

Photos: Ann Patterson, Peace People

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Syrian refugee girls with bracelets they have made,
Amman, Jordan, Za'arari refugee camp, November 2016

Photo: Ann Patterson, Peace People

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The network for international action, training and education
www.innateonline.org

Child's letter to Margaretta D'Arcy

This letter is one example of schoolchildren's expressions of solidarity with Margaretta D'Arcy in 2014. She had been recently imprisoned for walking on the runway at Shannon Airport in early 2012 as part of nonviolent protests against the Irish government's acceptance of USA military use of Shannon Airport, in breach of Irish neutrality.

Scoil Eoin,
Tubber Road,
Gort,
Co. Galway.

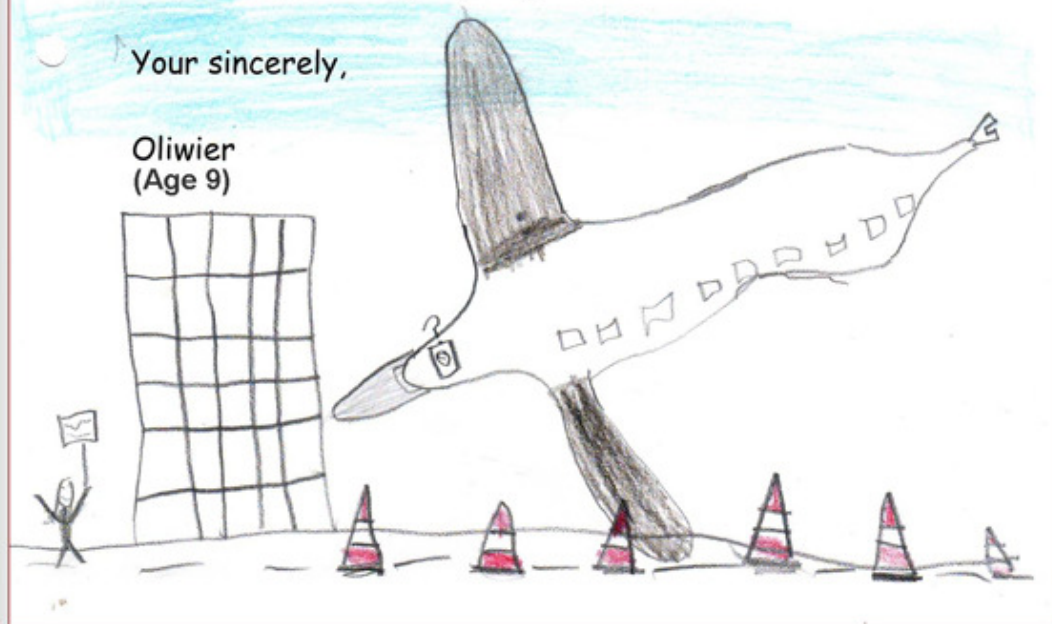
11th February 2014

Dear Margaretta,

How are you doing there . My name is Oliwier and I saw you on the computer. My teacher told me about you. I think that you are a great person. I believe that war is a terrible thing. We have heard about our human rights. I know that everybody is born free. We have the right to say what ever we want. I don't think that you should be in prison because you were only saying what you think. We hope that you are going to go home soon.

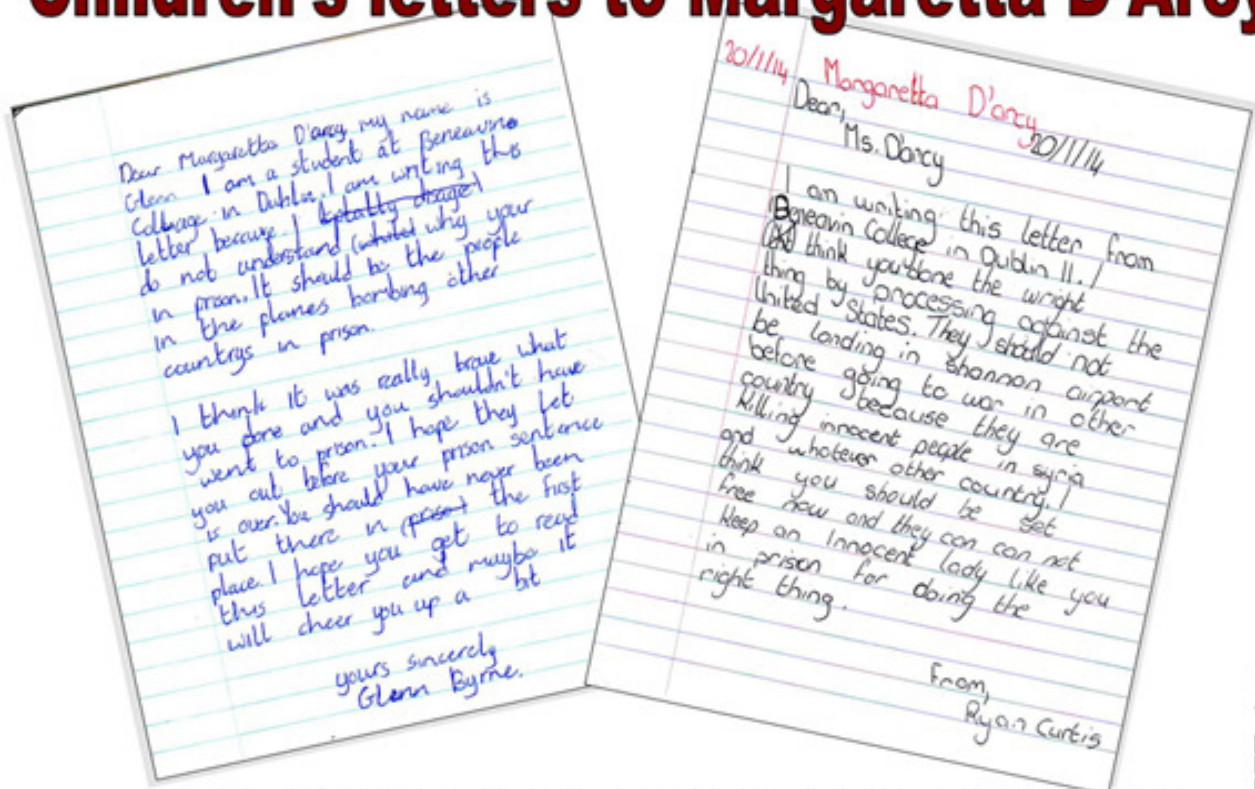
Your sincerely,

Oliwier
(Age 9)



•This letter emerged from activities associated with Amnesty International Friendship Week which happened to coincide with the theme of persuasive writing for creative writing lessons. Scoil Eoin/Gort National School is multicultural and the teacher, Mary Mellick, felt that it is important to recognise that diversity is to be valued and that tolerance is vital in the world we live in today; she was handed a postcard in Galway to send to Dáil Éireann highlighting the situation in Shannon Airport. When shown to the class, one of the children suggested writing to Margaretta D'Arcy. "It really demonstrated to me the uncomplicated view that children have of the world, their understanding of fairness and their willingness to show tolerance. If I remember correctly they even sent her a friendship band! They really engaged with the activity and the simplicity of their words was very moving..."

Children's letters to Margareta D'Arcy



•These letters came out of discussions in 1st year RE class at Beneavin de la Salle College, Finglas, Dublin around the topic of Christian nonviolence and its obligations on Christians today to engage in nonviolent resistance to every form of evil in the world. After looking briefly at the action by five people who put a US Navy warplane out of action in Shannon Airport in 2003, the class went on to look at the example of Margareta D'Arcy who had recently been imprisoned for protesting at the US army's continued use of Shannon Airport. The teacher, Mairin MacMaolain, reports that "The whole class was engaged with writing solidarity letters, horrified with the reality that peacemakers were the ones being imprisoned while the war-makers were free to bring death and destruction anywhere they wished with the help of the Irish State."

Return of the exiles



This applique shows a joyful reunion of family members who were forced into exile during the Pinochet dictatorship in Chile. It was made immediately after the regime ended. Most of the exiles had been taken in by Sweden, Argentina, Canada, France and Germany. Making it possible to return after exile is an emotional and relevant part of dealing with the past, be that Chile, Northern Ireland or any other country in the world. Article 14 of the International Declaration of Human rights says "Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution".

Photo: Martin Melaugh

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