

August 25, 1986

File - Cameron

PROTEST IN SUPPORT OF ALLAN MEMORIAL VICTIMS .

Dear Sisters, Brothers, Supporters and Friends:

We are demonstrating in Ottawa on Monday, September 22nd to protest the Canadian government's recent decision that it owes no reparations to the Allan Memorial Institute victims. These Canadians were forcibly subjected to regressive electroshock, psychic driving, massive drugging and sensory deprivation in a series of brainwashing experiments conducted by the late psychiatrist D. Ewen Cameron, and co-funded by the Canadian government and the U.S. government (CIA). These brain-damaging experiments were conducted through the 1950s and early 1960s, and the Canadian government has still failed to admit its legal and moral responsibility.

The Ontario Coalition to Stop Electroshock has written numerous letters to the Trudeau, Turner and Clark governments during the last few years requesting a public investigation into these psychiatric atrocities, and reparations to the nine Canadian victims who are currently suing the CIA. To date, all that has occurred is another government whitewash report. Despite the fact that Canadian victims such as Velma Orlikow can neither concentrate nor read after these experiments, and people such as Robert Logie can not sleep without terror, lawyer George Cooper states in this report that there is no conclusive proof that these experiments damaged anybody!

To paraphrase the immortal words of the great U.S. poet e.e. cummings, "there are some kinds of shit that we won't eat".

Our public demonstration will begin at 1 p.m. on September 22nd in front of the United States Embassy in Ottawa. We will then march up Parliament Hill and assemble in front of the Main Parliament Building by 2 p.m. There will be speeches from psychiatric survivors and supporters, and probably some Members of Parliament. We also plan to hold a candlelight vigil in front of Parliament to commemorate all those Canadians who have died or were driven to suicide as a result of these psychiatric atrocities.

Because of the international scope and extent of the atrocities and Dr. Cameron's reputation as the "father of Canadian psychiatry", this is clearly the most important antipsychiatry demonstration that has ever taken place in Canada. We urge anyone concerned about the evils of psychiatry and government complicity in these events to join us.

Given that over 75% of Dr. Cameron's victims were women, we particularly urge all feminists to participate in our demonstration. On thousands of occasions while drugged, victim

Velma Orlikow was forced to listen to a taped message which told her, "You are a bad mother. You are a bad wife." This was typical of the "treatment" called psychic driving. The sexism compounds the atrocity. Let's not let them get away with it!

How can you help?

1. Come to the demo.
2. Distribute copies of this letter to groups you're involved with and urge them to come.
3. If you drive a car or van, provide transportation to Ottawa for people who have neither cars nor money.
4. If you have friends or relatives in Ottawa, ask them to house one or two people on Monday night, September 22nd.
5. Join our organizing committee if you have time and interest.

This protest demonstration is sponsored by the Ontario Coalition to Stop Electroshock, whose member groups include: ON OUR OWN, Phoenix Rising, Houselink Community Homes, Parkdale Activity & Recreation Centre (PARC), Psychiatric Alternative Network (SPAN), Toronto Rape Crisis Centre, and the Disabled Women's Network (DAWN).

For more information, please call: Dr. Bonnie Burstow at (416)-536-4120, Sam Wagar at (416)-534-5081, or Don Weitz at (416)-461-7909 or (416)-699-3194. Thank you for whatever support you can give us.

Sincerely,

Dr. Bonnie Burstow

Dr. Bonnie Burstow
and

Don Weitz

Don Weitz

(for)
Ad Hoc Organizing Committee
for the Allan Memorial Victims

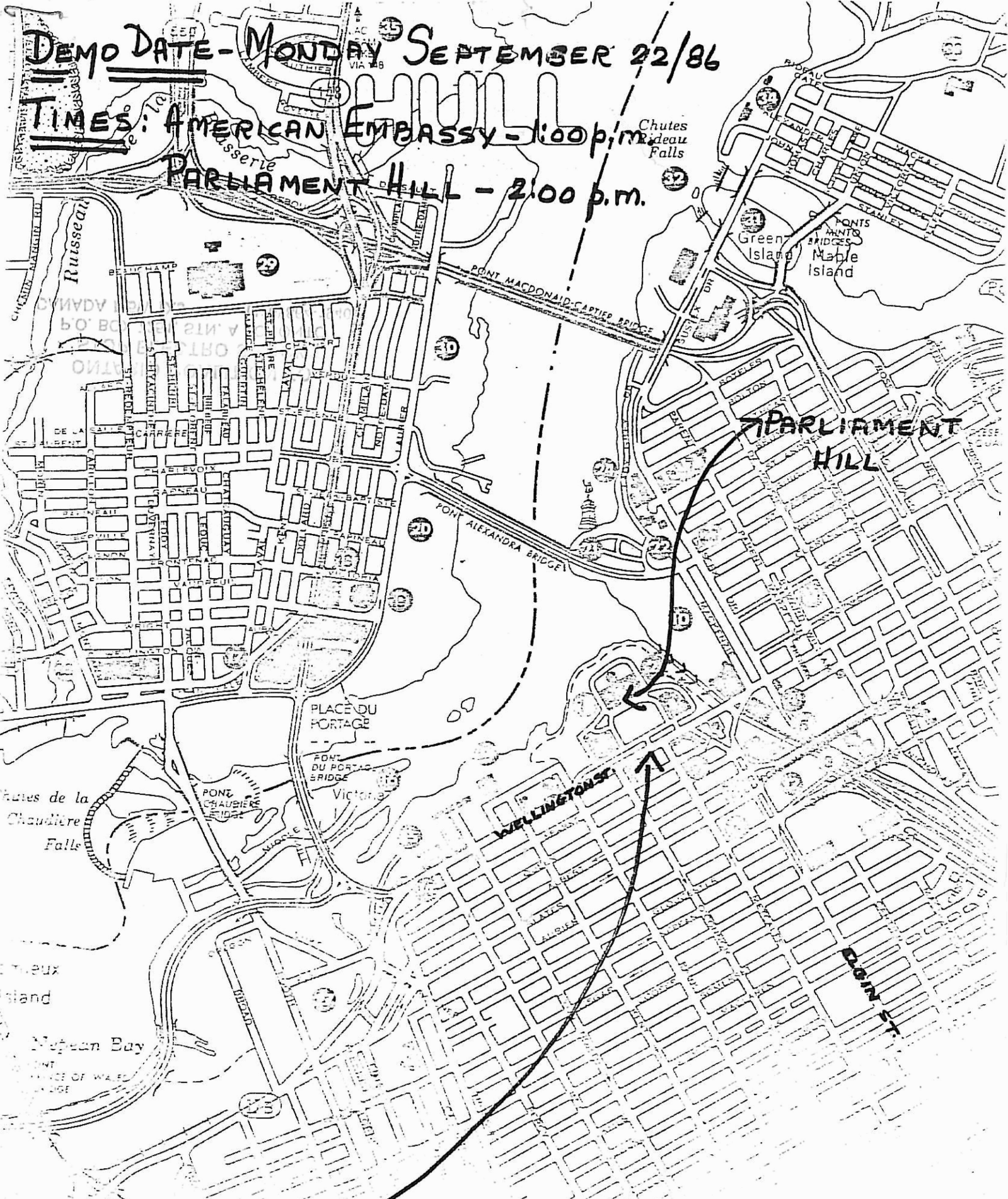
Enclosure: Ottawa demo map.

Address: Ontario Coalition to Stop Electroshock
c/o Dr. Bonnie Burstow
Box 7251, Station A
Toronto, Ontario
M5W 1X9

DEMO DATE - MONDAY SEPTEMBER 22/86

TIMES: AMERICAN EMBASSY - 1:00 p.m.

PARLIAMENT HILL - 2:00 p.m.



AMERICAN EMBASSY
100 WELLINGTON ST.
(OPPOSITE PARLIAMENT HILL)

OTTAWA