

Minors spiel a minus

SUN 9/10/06

■ The Holocaust, in which an estimated six million Jews were murdered, was "not a racist act".

■ The Hutu-Tutsi civil war in Rwanda — in which, conservatively, 500,000 people have been massacred since April solely because of their ethnicity — is not racism, either, but "an intercultural conflict between people of color."

■ The only people of color who have racist tendencies are those who have "been co-opted by the privileged group".

■ And the only racism in Canada is that which is directed at visible minorities and aboriginals.

The man who made these outrageous statements — and who is getting paid, with your tax dollars, to do it — is none other than Arnold Minors, consultant, member of the Metro Police Services Board and possible successor to board chair Susan Eng.

The 48-year-old Minors is now in the midst of conducting a series of two-day anti-racism seminars for provincial Crown attorneys.

The course is absolutely mandatory, and must be taken by every Crown in Ontario.

But Minors' remarks, dogmatic definition of racism and refusal to even discuss the possibility that discrimination may also constitute racism have left many of the Crowns reeling in disbelief.

His remark, for instance, that the Holocaust, however horrible, wasn't also racism left one Jewish Crown attorney so obviously upset that, after the class took a break, Minors offered the man a further explanation.

He told the group that the notion of a "Jewish race" was a theoretical concept conceived by the Nazis and that there was no Jewish race, merely a Jewish religion. The explanation, say sources in local Crown attorneys' offices, appeared to somewhat mollify the man.

But other Crowns who have taken the course remain troubled, especially over Minors' definition of racism as discrimination "that is aimed at the target group and the target group is people of color and aboriginals".

"He was not prepared to acknowledge that other discrimination is also racism,"



was not prepared to modify it (his definition). He was not prepared to discuss any other form of discrimination.

At one of the most recent two-day seminars, Minors was specifically asked if this definition was simply a "working hypothesis" for the purposes of the course. The answer came back quickly, Sun sources say: "He said no, it wasn't just a working hypothesis. That (his definition) was racism in the Canadian context."

However disturbed by Minors' comments many Crowns were, most are simply "scared to death" to criticize him openly because of his apparent clout within the Bob Rae government and for fear of their careers.

Minors has had other lucrative Ontario government contracts — he was one of the consultants hired last year to teach race relations to Ontario police officers — and obtained his seat on the police board as the premier's nominee. The course he taught police officers, as well as the one he is running now, had their origins in the Stephen Lewis report written after the Yonge St. riots. Clearly, he is a golden boy.

The astonishing question, I should think, is how he continues to win government contracts and maintain the position of trust he apparently has at Queen's Park when what he preaches, when all is said and done, is that whites have a patent on racism.

The Crown attorneys, who are in the courtrooms of Ontario every day, don't believe that. Most of us don't believe it. The two women who were pushed around at the Kennedy subway station don't believe it. So why are we all paying someone to teach this unmitigated —?

■ Christie Blatchford writes

QUESTIONABLE THEORIES' ON JEWS

MPPs: Fire Minors

By JEFF HARDER

Queen's Park Bureau

9/11/67

A Jewish MP just said that the Aryans were different, Arnold Minors said yesterday.

Minors, a Metro Police Services Board member, accused anti-Semitism teachings by a group of anti-Semitic pupils.

He defended his government-sponsored lectures.

"The experience of the Jewish people is different from the people of color," Minors told the Sun.

"We didn't talk about anti-Semitism or

about gay people or about any other form of discrimination. I talked about the experience in Germany with the Aryan race declaring the Jewish race to be inferior and the Holocaust that occurred as a result."

Opposition MPPs demanded that Premier Bob Rae fire Minors for claiming the Holocaust was not a racist act.

"I don't want to get into the discussion, Minors said when asked if the Holocaust was an act of racism.

Liberal MPP Elinor Caplan wanted to know how Minors, an acquaintance of Rae, is handling government contracts "to teach

and preach questionable theories."

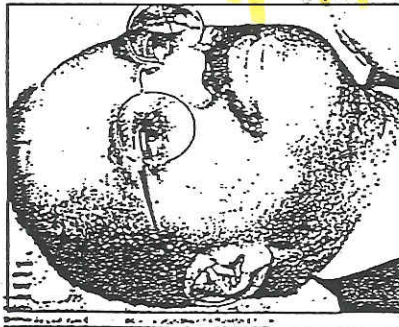
Tory MPP Charles Harrick was smoking mad.

"This is sick," he said. "It's bizarre in the first order."

Minors has a \$108,500 contract with the attorney general to give two-day anti-racism workshops to Crown lawyers.

Sun columnist Christie Blatchford revealed yesterday that Minors is telling his pupils that there is no Jewish race, only a Jewish religion.

Rae, whose wife is Jewish, said he didn't know anything about Minors' teachings.



ARNOLD MINORS

Teaching race relations to Crown

ARNOLDESE

Saying the Holocaust was "not a racist act" isn't the first time Arnold Minors has shown symptoms of foot-in-mouth disease. Try these Arnoldisms on for size:

- "You have no choice but to hand over your notes." (Response to Sun reporter Sharon Lem after her notebook was demanded by participants at a Metro Housing ethnic employees' meeting, Nov. 10, 1993.)
- "I am perfectly happy and comfortable in myself that I did nothing wrong." (Responding to criticism of his refusal to help Lem, Sun, Nov. 19, 1993.)
- Not quoting white employees in a 1993 report on racism at the Ontario Human Rights Commission doesn't "damage notions of due process."
- Any "expression of racism" by Ontario Human Rights Commission staff should be "sufficient grounds for immediate dismissal." (recommendation made in same report)
- "We have to make sure that if any officer commits any racial harassment, his ass is grass." (Toronto Star, Sept. 26, 1993)
- Focusing on race, in the aftermath of the VVI Leimonis shooting in which the suspects were black, is "irrelevant and harmful" because it reinforces stereotypes. (Globe and Mail, April 8, 1994)

UNDER FIRE ... Metro Police Board member Arnold Minors is being investigated over his remarks on the Holocaust.

Holocaust talk probed

Rae orders investigation into Minors' comment

By JEFF HARDER
Queen's Park Bureau

Premier Bob Rae has ordered an investigation into Arnold Minors' remark that the Holocaust wasn't a racist act.

The controversial Metro Police Services Board member, nominated to that post by

Rae himself, made the remark while giving anti-racism lectures to Crown lawyers, Sun columnist Christie Blatchford revealed this week.

Rae said he ordered the probe after reading Blatchford's column.

"My office has asked the solicitor general for a full report," Rae told reporters yesterday.

"Any objective observer would say the Holocaust was one of the great racist tragedies of the last two millennia."

The NDP government handed Minors a \$108,500 government contract to teach the classes in the aftermath of riots on Yonge St. two years ago.

Rae said yesterday he doesn't take kindly to

anything that smacks of anti-Semitism.

"I'm not just a supporter of the Jewish community, I'm married into the Jewish community, I'm part of the Jewish community. My children are being raised in the Jewish religion."

"So, you can imagine how strongly I feel about the need for us to demonstrate not just sensitivity, but understanding what's at stake here," Rae said. "That's why I've asked for a full report."

Minors told the Sun Thursday that his pupils weren't supposed to discuss his lectures outside the classroom. "Things that people say within

Things that people say within the program ... should stay there unless those people want to make it public

— Arnold Minors

the program ... should stay there unless those people want to make it public."

MPP Elinor Caplan, who is Jewish, described the teachings as "questionable" and wanted to know why taxpayers are being billed for the course.

Tory MPP Charles Harnick said Minors should be removed from the police services board.

Hey, it's our money

Arnold Minors is Arnold Minors.

To us, he's an idiot who sees the world solely through the prism of race. What's worse, an idiot who has been a destructive force on the Metro police services board. But we can live with that.

What we can't abide is our socialist provincial government paying this clown public money to spout his vile piffle as if he was some sort of credible expert on race relations.

C'mon — a guy who tells Crown attorneys that the Holocaust was "not a racist act"?

Who claims that black people can't have racist tendencies unless they have "been co-opted by the privileged group" and that the only racism that exists in Canada is that aimed at visible minorities and aboriginals?

Oh, come on. For this sort of politically correct propaganda, Minors, who is also, incredibly enough, an NDP appointee to the Metro police services board, is being paid \$108,500 of tax money by the ministry of the attorney general?

What possible use are Minors' nutty theories to Crown attorneys anyway?

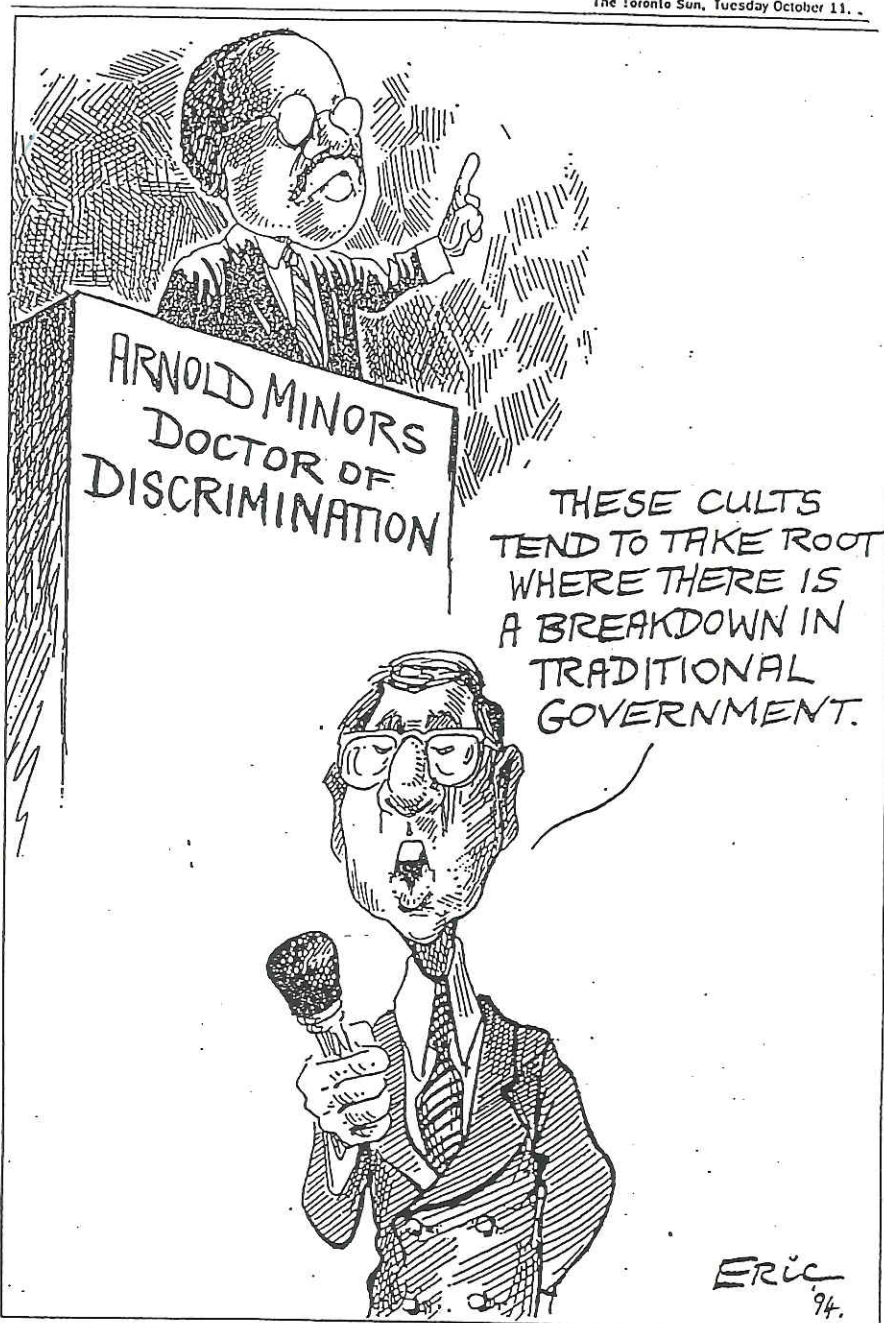
Still, we shouldn't be surprised that the same government at Queen's Park that apparently takes this sort of nonsense seriously also paid out \$35,000 last year to the Black Action Defence Committee, who of course would be the kind of people who would applaud such nonsense from Minors.

What we want to know is what, exactly, does Premier Bob Rae think he's doing? Does he really believe that people like Minors and the Black Action Defence Committee speak for most people of Ontario?

Because let us remember it is the premier and his government who give people like Minors and the BADC their credibility and influence.

Now Rae has ordered the solicitor-general's ministry to probe Minors' remarks about the Holocaust. Big deal.

For our money, Minors is entitled to his stupid opinions. We just wish this government would stop giving him both the money and the platform to spout them.



MINORS SLAMMED OVER INACTION IN SHOOTING

Bad example

By ROBERT BENZIE

Toronto Sun

9/4/15

Arnold Minors' conduct the night of a fatal shooting downtown came under fire yesterday from a fellow member of the Metro Police Services Board.

As revealed first in the Sun, Minors didn't help an officer in distress on Sept. 29 — the evening his neighbor, Albert Moses, was shot after attacking a constable with a hammer.

Moses, 41, later died from his wounds. The province's Special Investigations Unit is probing the incident.

Minors, who lives next door to the scene of the George St. shooting, went inside his house and didn't call 911 — even though he saw a plainclothes officer radioing for backup.

Police services board member Norm Gardner said his colleague's behavior "makes you wonder."

"I don't want to bad-mouth him, but if you're interested in humanity, you don't run away from a situation," Gardner said.

"If all citizens had acted like Minors did, we'd never give out any awards for bravery or anything like that," he said.

"We have an example to set to the community — that's part of our responsibility."

Gardner said he was driving home the night of the shooting when he heard a radio report and headed to the police station to see if the beaten officer was all right.

"Knowing what the situation is now, I'd have hoped (Minors) would have expressed more interest in terms of the officer's safety."

Laura Rowe, also a board member, said she called the duty desk at police headquarters for an update on the officer's condition as soon as she heard of the incident.

But Rowe stopped short of blasting Minors for not phoning 911 for help that night.

She stressed he's in no way obligated to get

involved in such matters.

"If there are expectations that board members should do police work, then I would like them spelled out."

Asked about Minors' actions, Rowe said he may not have wanted to get involved after all the flak he's taken on policing issues in the past.

"I would guess that Arnold's a little gun-shy about interfering with a police investigation in any way. When you come under a lot of criticism, you tend not to want to take risks."

Paul Walter, incoming president of the Metro Toronto Police Association, said if it's true Minors refused to aid the officer, then the board should "issue a vote of non-confidence" in him.

"If there's that lack of support from a police services board member, how can officers have confidence in the policies of the board?"

Minors didn't return calls from the Sun.



ARNOLD MINORS

"Gun shy"

**If you're
interested
in humanity,
you don't
run away**

— Norm Gardner,
police services board

AG's probe of Minors goes slow

By JAMES WALLACE
Queen's Park Bureau

9/16/19

Fun

Provincial officials probing allegations of racism against Arnold Minors haven't interviewed key witnesses against the Metro police board member, the Sun has learned.

Premier Bob Rae ordered a review of Minors' teachings 11 days ago after the Sun reported Minors said the Holocaust, which saw six million Jews murdered, wasn't a racist act during anti-racism lectures to Crown attorneys.



MINORS
Holocaust

But none of the Crowns contacted by the Sun yesterday — including key complainants who attended the two-day anti-racism seminars Minors was paid \$108,500 by the government to deliver — said they had been asked about Minors' teachings.

A spokesman for the attorney general's office confirmed a "review" is under way but couldn't say who was conducting it or what had been done.

Minors has also suggested that only whites are capable of racism and said the only people of color with racist tendencies are those who have "been co-opted by the privileged group."

JOE SEORES TKO

CLARK HAMMERS LUCIEN BOUCHARD IN UNITY DEBATE P. 2

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THE SUN

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NOW MINORS IN MAJOR TROUBLE

Board member calls Metro cops 'occupying armies'; Eng stunned; Blatchford

It has no business coming from a person who holds the office he does.

— Susan Eng



I do know that when police officers talk about 'Those people won't speak to us', it is precisely the same thing occupying armies talk about.

— Arnold Minors



(Minors) can't come out of this with his ethical or moral conduct unscathed.

— Michael Leshner

ARNIE'S ARMY

"There is a long, long, thousand-year history of people not speaking to occupying armies."

— Arnold Minors on why young blacks aren't co-operating with police in the shooting near Tae's Restaurant

This quote appeared in yesterday's Toronto Star in an otherwise innocuous page 6 story about the outrageous silence which has greeted Metro Police in their investigation of the shooting outside Tae's early last Monday morning.

One young black man, Steven Braithwaite, was killed, two others seriously injured, and in the days since, homicide detectives have received not one — not one — phone call from anyone admitting to having been in the club, and even CrimeStoppers, which accepts anonymous tips, has all but come up empty. Given that the potential witness pool in this case is about 250 — the size of the crowd which was in the process of dispersing when the shooting took place — the silence is simply staggering.

Tae's is, as its owner Everard Green says, a "Caribbean club", its clients almost exclusively black. And so it was on Tuesday that the Star's Moira Welsh, approached some leaders of the city's black community for their views on this see-no-evil behavior.

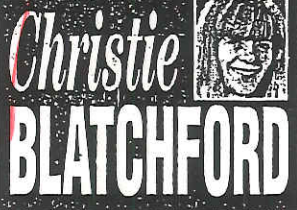
One was Arnold Minors, the only black member of the Metro Police Services Board. When she asked for his reaction to the police frustration, the silence of the community, Minors responded with the quote that began this column. He also told her, Welsh said yesterday after reviewing her tape of their conversation, "I do know that when police officers talk about 'Those people won't speak to us', it is precisely the same thing occupying armies talk about."

The published remark set off alarm bells in many of those who read it, among them Michael Leshner, an Ontario Crown attorney with 18 years under his belt, and police board chair Susan Eng.

Anti-racism training

As a Crown, Leshner is one of those scheduled to receive anti-racism training from Minors — one of 15 two-day seminars he is conducting for the attorney-general with \$108,000 of public money. Some Crowns who have already had their training had complained about some of what Minors had told them, including his statement that the Holocaust, while a tragedy, was "not a racist act."

Those complaints, as published in the Sun, led Premier Bob Rae to call for an investigation, but in the two weeks since, the investigation has turned into a "review", not one Crown has been formally contacted, and Minors continues to conduct his seminars, though he has



been asked for an interim report. His remark about the "occupying army" is now also part of the review.

Upon reading the Star story yesterday, Leshner was furious. After checking with the reporter, he unleashed his wrath as only Leshner, who once fought a lengthy and brave battle to win same-sex benefits for his partner and who is quite unafraid of controversy as a result, can.

He complained about Minors to his immediate boss, Paul Culver, his regional director, the Crowns' association and to Michael Code, the assistant deputy attorney-general.

'Expressed my concerns'

"By implication," Leshner was snarling yesterday to all who would listen, "Crown attorneys are doing the dirty work of the dirty cops."

"I've expressed my concerns to the police on gay issues before, but by no stretch of the imagination, let alone fact, can the police be compared to an occupying army. There are no racist laws on the books in this province. What criteria is he (Minors) using ...?"

"What is also relevant is how he has it, every which way. He makes money by being on the police services board, and then makes money teaching that the police are an occupying army? He can't come out of this with his ethical or moral conduct unscathed."

Leshner is 46, and by his own description, hardly on the "small-C conservative end", but he thinks Minors "is the wrong person to be advising Crown attorneys on anti-racism."

Susan Eng, meanwhile, read the remark in the Star and was left stunned. "I find it outrageous," she said yesterday.

"It's the kind of thing we hear at demonstrations. It has no business coming from a person who holds the office he does." Further-

more, she said, at a time when "we should be encouraging people to come forward" in the Tae's shooting, it was unhelpful for such a remark to come from a black role model. She expects Minors to "account to the board" for what he said.

The still-emerging portrait of Minors is of a man so arrogant he regards himself as invincible or, and this is the theory to which I subscribe, one bent on martyrdom. "Minors run off police board"; I can practically see the headline in SHARE magazine.

He compares the Metro police force to an occupying army. He walks by a plainclothes officer who, by his own admission he recognizes is a) a cop and b) in some distress — calling for help on his radio in a voice Minors tells police, later, is shaky. He does nothing to help. In his world, the only racism that matters is that directed at blacks, and his sop to Canadian history, aboriginal people. He stands idly by while

reporter Sharon Lem has her notebook taken from her and torn by a group of Metro Toronto Housing employees-turned-thugs, and does nothing to help Lem.

It's not the fall of this man which is so fascinating, but that he was ever elevated to such a position of power — a police board member, a recognized "expert" in anti-racism — and that he held

it for so long. It speaks volumes about the Bob Rae lines in SHARE magazine.

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MORE

Task force works for club shootings/P. 18

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MAJOR TROUBLE

... Police Services Board member Arnold Minors is under fire from all sides for comments he made comparing Metro's police force to an occupying army when dealing with blacks.

— SUN files, Ian Robertson



ARNOLD MINORS
"Insulting insult on injury"

Minors' lectures a costly exercise

By JAMES WALLACE
Queen's Park Bureau

Crown attorneys are being flown to Toronto and booked into hotels to attend Arnold Minors' controversial anti-racism seminars, the Sun has learned. And the NDP government will have to pay \$400 to \$500 a day to replace at least some of the province's 350 Crown attorneys with temporary staff while they're at Minors' two-day lectures, senior ministry officials said yesterday.

Minors earned himself a place in Premier Bob Rae's doghouse after the Sun revealed he suggested in his seminars that the Holocaust was a racist act and that only whites were capable of racism.

He also publicly stated this week that he believes the police failed to find witnesses to a murder of a black after hours club as the result of a long, long, long and year-long of people not speaking to occupying armies.

Opposition MPP Charles Harnick said it's appalling for think the taxpayers are paying Arnold Minors for the kind of expertise he's delivering.

"To think we're paying \$400 a day to have a man who's insulting and insulting is insulting," Harnick said.

Rae, who nominated Minors to serve on the police services board, said that the anti-racism seminars were a "costly exercise."

Minors' contract to deliver 16 anti-racism seminars for the NDP was worth \$100,000. He was paid \$100,000 to deliver the seminars. He said the Sun was out to get him, a Crown who attended the lecture, said. Minors failed to return telephone calls from the Sun.

Resign!

Police board member has lost his credibility: Cohort

By TRACY NESDOLY
Toronto Sun

Arnold Minors should "do the honorable thing and resign" from the police services board for comparing Metro Police to an "occupying army," a fellow board member says.

Minors, who was kept from yesterday's board meeting by a previous commitment, was chastised for his "occupying army" comments in an interview with the *Star* earlier this week.

That story focused on the silence encountered by detectives investigating Monday's early-morning shootout at a North York after-hours club that left one man dead and two others seriously injured.

Investigation

The province is investigating Minors' comments to determine whether action should be taken.

At yesterday's meeting, the board dissociated itself from Minors' comments.

Metro councillor Brian Ashton, who called for Minors' resignation, also accused him of

possibly hindering a murder investigation.

"I am very concerned I can no longer take his counsel or advice on matters of importance, particularly in regards to the black community, because of the comments he's made," said Ashton.

"I don't believe he represents a serious perspective in the black community." Board chairman Susan Eng said Minors' comments "does harm" to relations between the black community and the police, and "he should be asked to account to us for it, to identify whether or not he understands the anger this has generated, and the disappointment."

Eng also struck out at the police, saying it is "not helpful for police officers to suggest that any community doesn't value human life and ... to suggest that's why they are not coming forward."

She was apparently referring to comments made at a press conference by homicide Det. Sgt. Bob Clarke, who said, "People can shoot someone down in the presence of hundreds of others. They have that confidence because they're right; no one's talking."

Board member Laura Rowe said while Minors' remarks are divisive, "we don't have a set of rules about how many times you're allowed to put your foot in your mouth."

She suggested that Minors may have run into trouble because he's accustomed to a teaching role, "where he has an hour to explain what he means. It doesn't work that



I don't believe (Minors) represents a serious perspective in the black community

— police services board member Brian Ashton

way in the media." Minors gives anti-racism training for the attorney general, to the tune of \$100,000. He drew the ire of some assistant Crown attorneys for suggesting the Jewish Holocaust was a tragedy but "not a racist act."

The Metro Police Association, the force's union, is also asking Premier Bob Rae to call for Minors' resignation.



A HANDFUL ... Norm Gardner ponders a sticky situation while Susan Eng has her say at the police services board meeting yesterday. The board dissociated itself from remarks by member Arnold Minors in which he compared Metro Police to an "occupying army."

MORE
Board expands task force on after-hours clubs/P. 22

— Ken Kelly/SUN

WHO DOES ARNOLD MINORS REPRESENT?

NOT ONE VOICE

"Given the breach between black leadership and its putative constituency, we shouldn't be surprised at the motley company seeking to fill it."

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. on The Black Leadership Myth in the Oct. 24 New Yorker

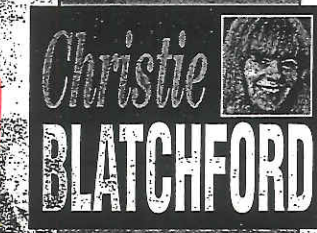
The public spanking of one young black man calls it has been delivered unto Arnold Minors. The latest blow came late yesterday when the Ontario attorney general's ministry axed the four remaining sessions of anti-racist training left on a Minors \$108,000 contract. The content of that controversial course for 111 Crown attorneys means the 390

ARNOLD MINORS
... Controversial member of police services board had his four remaining sessions of anti-racist training cancelled yesterday.

course which enraged as many as a dozen of Ontario's front-line law officers with its narrow focus on black-directed racism and Minors' refusal to deem the Holocaust a racist act — is under review. On another front, at the Metro Police Services Board where Minors sits as an appointed member, he has been called on the carpet for comparing the Metro force to an "occupying army." His colleagues have disassociated themselves from his remarks, some have called for his resignation.

But the larger and more important question remains: Does Arnold Minors speak for the black community? Who was he representing with those remarks?

The answer is not clear, at least not to this aging white girl. The two bright young black men I contacted were somewhat divided. Winville Larcher, a 32-year-old investment professional, found Minors' "occupying army" line harsh, but reflective of a real problem that exists between the black



community and the police. Like many blacks, I suspect Larcher says, "I think most people know what he (Minors) meant to say." Larcher wonders if Minors isn't paying the price for speaking the politically incorrect truth.

McLean Greaves, a 28-year-old writer for The Metro Word, a black arts newspaper, says in his opinion Minors wasn't speaking for "the black middle class, the black urban professional crowd." But he too, says, "What he wanted to say and what he said are two different things." Neither believes he should resign from the board, and there seems little danger of that happening.

The importance Larcher and Greaves attach to language captures what I see as the widespread perception in the black community that Minors was somehow misunderstood by the mainstream, predominantly white media. This, in my opinion, ignores the reality of Minors himself, which is that he is a cautious speaker, careful to the point of being ponderous, not to mention someone who earns his primary living as a communicator.

His recent denials/clarifications notwithstanding, there is evidence he said precisely what he is accused of saying.

Paul Culver, the senior Toronto Crown attorney, last week sent off a letter to Michael Code, the assistant



FARRELL
Running for office

deputy attorney general, passing along the concerns, some "quite emotional," of about a dozen Crows who have spoken to Culver about the content of Minors' seminars. Their complaints, being called to task for it. The same column who heard Minors say the Holocaust wasn't a racist act.

As for the "occupying army" line, it was first reported in the Toronto Star in a tape-recorded interview which makes it clear Minors was quoted accurately and in context.

Yet, there persists this sense that somehow, Minors was misinterpreted, perhaps deliberately, and is now being run out of town. There is also within the black community, near as I can tell from the people I've talked to and those I've heard on the call-in shows, a further sense that blacks should stand up for him, what Henry Gates calls a need for "racial unanimity."

The truth, it seems to me, is that the black community is every bit as diverse and fractured as the white community. More so, Gates writes in the New Yorker. And yet the only voices which represent this great, heterogeneous mix, at least in the mainstream press, are the likes of Dudley Lewis and Charlie Roach. They tend to speak for the tiny group of black youth who find themselves in confrontation with the police, who feel disenfranchised, and yet, because they're the only ones talking, others are reluctant to criticize them.

His now-suspended contract with Queen's Park aside, where does this leave Arnold Minors?

The answer is... still on the police board, which, next Wednesday, will be choosing the next police chief.

The solution to this problem is quite simple, it seems to me: Everyone who sits on this board should be a Metro councillor, elected first by the public and then by his or her colleagues to the board.

Reflection, I think, would give Minors the credibility he does not now have. Ditto Lennox Farrell, who echoed Minors' remarks last week and who is now running against Mel Lastman for the North York mayor's job. Should Farrell win, should he then be named by Metro Council as a police board member, he would have all the legitimacy the elected are entitled to claim, and we would all have to weigh his opinions in that context.

Until then, Lennox Farrell is just another token candidate who can claim to speak for anyone he likes without ever being called to task for it. The same holds true for Arnold Minors, who was appointed to the board by Premier Bob Rae, and who, presumably, remains there at the premier's pleasure.

Blatchford's column appears Tuesday through Friday.

Minors setback: Seminars axed

By JAMES WALLACE
Queen's Park Bureau

The NDP has suspended Metro Police Services Board member Arnold Minors' controversial anti-racism seminars for four days.

Premier Bob Rae ordered a review of Minors' teachings Oct. 2 after a column in the Star had suggested the

Holocaust "was not a racist act." Minors later said he believed the failure of Metro Police to find witnesses to a murder at a black afternoon club was the result of a long, long history of racism and of people not speaking in occupying armies.

Rae, who nominated Minors to serve on the police board, refused to comment on Minors' comments or remarks in the week

But Attorney General Marion Boyd's office issued a statement yesterday saying "in light of recent events" the ministry is "suspending all currently scheduled anti-racism training sessions for Crown attorneys pending an evaluation of program delivery."

Minors' company, Arnold Minors and Associates, won the contract worth \$108,000 to deliver 16 anti-racism seminars

for the NDP. He has delivered 12 of those sessions so far.

Liberal MPP Elmer Caplan said Minors should also be "fired" from the police board.

"The teachings were inappropriate in the extreme," she said.

Minors did not return phone calls from the Star or the NDP.

Oct. 25/94



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Misdirection polka

Here a probe, there a probe, everywhere a probe probe.

No, not a version of Old MacDonald's Farm or a piocologist, on a busy day but the premier and his ministers responding to yet another mess with yet another probe.

The cabinet did nothing yesterday regarding police commissioner Arnold Minors despite erroneous media reports elsewhere that he was about to be fired.

Lest we forget, the New Democrats had already ordered a probe into Minors' 1987 remarks about the Holocaust (a tragedy, not a racist act) and has now ordered yet another probe on his 1989 remarks comparing the Metro police to an occupying army.

In fairness, the first probe didn't really seem to be taken on with all that much enthusiasm by the government and as of a few days ago hadn't done much, although Minors' remaining anti-racism seminars with Crown attorneys have been suspended pending that investigation.

So at least the fact this new probe will be taken on by the Ontario Civilian Commission on Police Services with a 60-day time limit indicates that it will presumably, at least come to some sort of conclusion.

Those whose short-term memory remains intact through this sorry affair will recall that it was the same body that Chief Bill McCormack wanted to probe both the Metro police services board's conduct and his own.

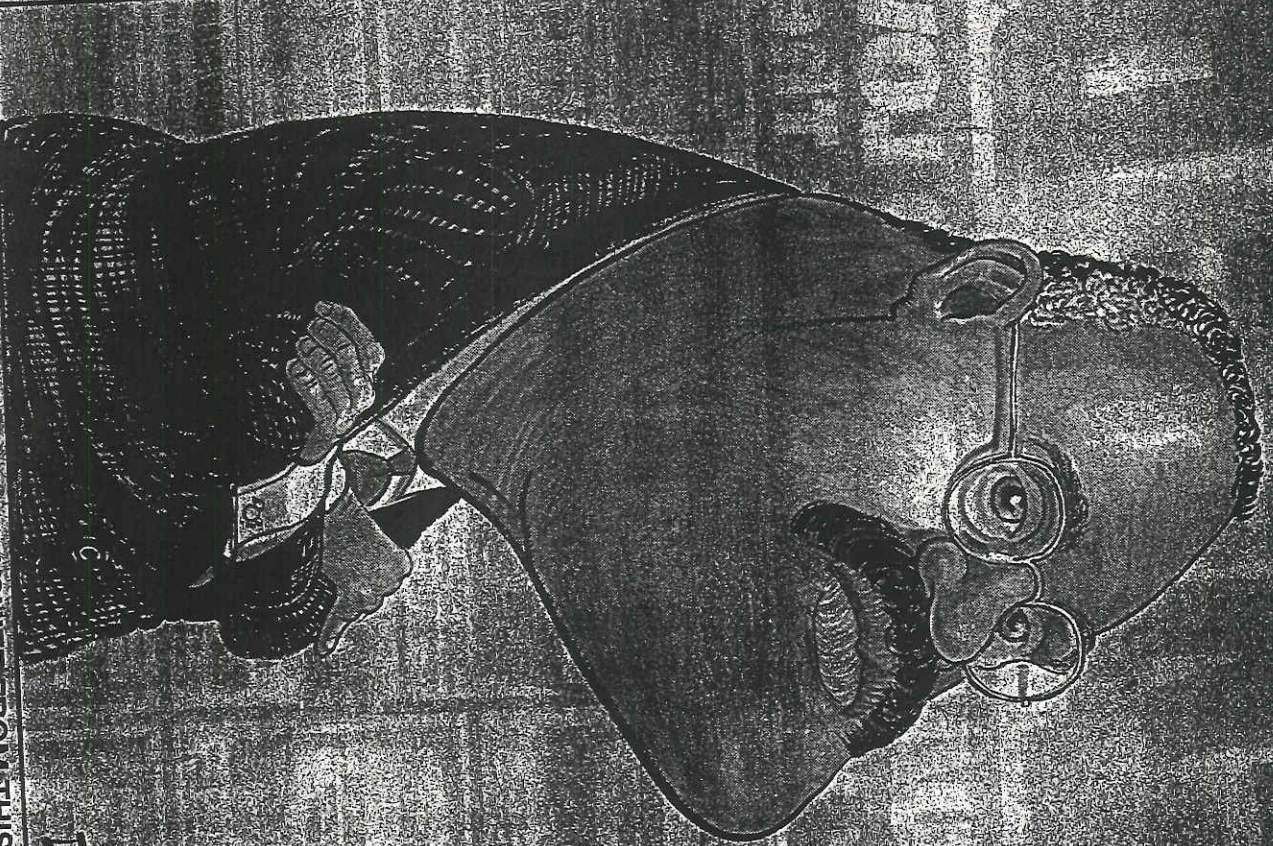
Ironically, its loaded with NDP appointees so we suspect Christopherson's effort is really aimed at making this issue go away while keeping cool.

Meanwhile, Minors continues to sit on the police board and can participate in all of its decisions, including selecting the next chief, incredible!

We have preferred him, bounced now but the important point is that after Minors' latest tirade (which wasn't even his worst yet, just the last straw) we don't think Bob Rae would dare nominate him the next head of the board as once appeared to be the plan.

Of course, that raises the key question of just who Rae is planning to place in the chair's job, just as he placed Susan Eng there at the start of his term.

Now that's something to really worry about.



DONATO
TORONTO SUN

WOULD YOU BUY A NEW POLICE CHIEF FROM THIS MAN?

Arrest in gran's murder

STORY: PAGE 2

ALMA SMITH 50

High
11C/52F

PAGE 26

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NDP orders probe of 'army' remarks

MINORS STAYS

*'That's what I want -
I'll clear all this up...'*

- Reaction by Minors: P. 4
- Blatchford's analysis: P. 5
- Editorial, Donato: P. 10



AND CHRISTOPHERSON



■ Arnold Minors talks to reporters outside his downtown Toronto house yesterday.

- Fred Thornhill, SUN

jackpot? You bet, but just

Gretzky plans goodwill hockey

NDP INQUIRY HAS NO TEETH

A MINORS' VICTORY

Mau-mauing the flak catchers, Tom Wolfe called it — his wondrous phrase for the way, in the late '60s, smart black folks were able to manipulate white liberal guilt to their own ends.

Well, we've always been a little behind in Canada. So it is that three decades later, in the Arnold Minors imbroglio, we are blessed with another splendid example of this curious phenomenon.

For all the stern-sounding noise out of Queen's Park and Metro Police headquarters yesterday from, respectively, Solicitor-General David Christopherson and police board chair Susan Eng, one thing remains abundantly clear: Minors has won.

The inquiry Christopherson announced — it will be conducted by the Ontario Civilian Commission on Police Services and will last 45 to 60 days — has no power to either suspend or remove Minors from the police board, as Murray Chirba, the commission's acting chair, explained yesterday.

That can happen only if, and when, the seven members of the commission, on hearing the results of the first investigation, recommend a second, full public hearing presided over by two or three commission members, and if and when, at its conclu-

sion some weeks or months later after the expenditure of some considerable sum of taxpayer money, those members then decide Minors has somehow breached his statutory duty on the police board and isn't fit to carry on.

Such a public hearing would surely get bogged down in the larger "context" issue — the importance of Minors' skin color and his experience as a black man in then-colonial Bermuda in leading him to compare, as he so clearly did in a taped interview with the *Toronto Star* (the paper should put the tape on its StarPhone service, so all of us can hear it), the Metro Police force to an "occupying army."

This is the dog breakfast that second inquiry would likely become, a veritable circus of testimony from experts in pan-African pain and its relevance to African-Canadians, whatever other issue would there be left for a public hearing to explore after the first inquiry. "We are not after all dealing with a complicated murder probe here, but literally a simple case," he said she said. And if the public inquiry were to be called, you can be confident that when all was said and done, Minors would be forgiven.

Far more likely, I think, is

Christie
BLATCHFORD

UNDER PRESSURE

Metro Police Services Board member Arnold Minors closes the door to his home yesterday after letting in a select few from the media.

that the commission's investigators will take two months to interview the two key players in this (Minors and the *Star* reporter who has the "occupying army" quote in the only context that should matter, i.e. as his response to a simple question about why Metro cops mobbed a recent triple shooting outside a black club are being met with a wall of silence, and will conclude that, while troublesome, his remark doesn't warrant further action, and that

will be that.

At the police board, meanwhile, they are powerless — quite without legal authority — to do anything but exert "moral suasion," as one reporter reminded Susan Eng yesterday. There is, alas, some doubt about whether there is even the will to do that much.

The board, you see, is about to choose a new police chief. Next week, the hired-gun consultants will present the members with a short list — likely with five or six names on it — and do the final, in-depth interviews of these candidates, arriving at a decision by Thursday or Friday.

The choosing of the new chief is also Eng's last hurrah — her term is up next May — and so the exercise has in some measure taken on added meaning, especially given the recent struggle for influence between her and Chief Bill McCormack.

It is known that Eng's choice is deputy chief Robert Kerr and that both Minors and Laura Rowe are in the Kerr camp, too. Councillor Norm Gardner and Metro Chairman Alan Tonks are said to be torn between London Chief Julian Fantino and deputy Jim Clark

with Councillor Brian Ashton apparently favoring deputy Dave Boothby. Where Rev. Massey Lombardi will go is still anyone's guess.

How the votes will all shake down in the end is up in the air, but it means, at the starting gate, Eng already has three of the necessary four votes — a loss of even one (Minors) could do critical damage to her chances, and Kerr's. Though she seemed yesterday genuinely aggrieved at the way Christopherson has chosen to handle the Minors' problem, it also seemed she would have been satisfied to have him merely explain his remark to the board. Certainly, it's reasonable to wonder how much pressure she would exert on Minors to resign, when the loss of his vote comes at such a price.

The last anyone saw of David Christopherson yesterday was him being chased out of the Queen's Park media studio, down the west stairs and into his car by Yvonne Kev, in her fine African headdress, shouting at him about the railroading of Arnold Minors.

Man-mauers, flak catchers! — Christie Blatchford covers Tuesday's Toronto Police Board.

He'll still help pick new chief

By TRACY NESDOLY
Toronto Sun

Cloud over his head or not, Metro Police Services Board member Arnold Minors will be part of the team making a decision on hiring the next police chief.

And other board members say Solicitor-General David Christopherson should have removed that cloud by making a firm decision about Minors' fate yesterday.

Christopherson instead announced a further 60-day review of Minors' comments referring to Metro Police as an "occupying army."

Police board chairman Susan Eng feels the government overreacted.

"I think this... is an elephant gun used to step on

a mosquito... it would have been more than adequate to have Arnold give a full accounting, a full public accounting... to the board," Eng said.

Metro chairman and board member Alan Tonks says he's "befuddled" as to why the solicitor general needs a further investigation.

"I think this places an unfortunate cloud over the next phase... which is to select a new chief," Tonks said.

The police board, including Minors, is expected to meet next week to interview candidates for the top cop job and is expected to announce the new chief Thursday or Friday.

Metro councillor and board member Brian Ashton said he stands by his earlier statement that Minors should resign, and agreed Christopherson should have made a decision yesterday.

MINORS EQUATES BRITS WITH NAZIS FOR VIEWS OF IRISH REVISING THE HOLOCAUST

ROBERT BENZIE
Toronto Sun

The British view of Irish Catholics at the turn of the century is 'exactly comparable' to how Nazis viewed Jews, Arnold Minors said yesterday.

The police services board member made the startling comparison near the end of

an interview on CFRB radio yesterday while defending himself against allegations of anti-Semitism.

He was disputing claims made by 12 Crown attorneys who said they heard him say the Holocaust wasn't a racist act during an anti-racism lecture he gave earlier this month.

"I said, in Germany at that time, the definition of race in connection with the Jewish people was based on a social

group, and that's not the same thing," Minors said.

"I went on to describe what happened in the turn of the century in Great Britain, where the Anglo-Saxon Protestants defined themselves to be the superior race and the Irish Catholics — to be an inferior race," he said.

As a matter of public policy, we can see the words that were written around the turn of the century in many books

and I said, furthermore, you could transfer Germans to Anglo-Saxon Protestants and Jewish people to Irish Catholics in those writings.

"They were exactly comparable. And the actions against the Irish Catholics — there, too, it was a racist act."

Six million European Jews were deliberately exterminated in Nazi concentration camps before and during World War II.

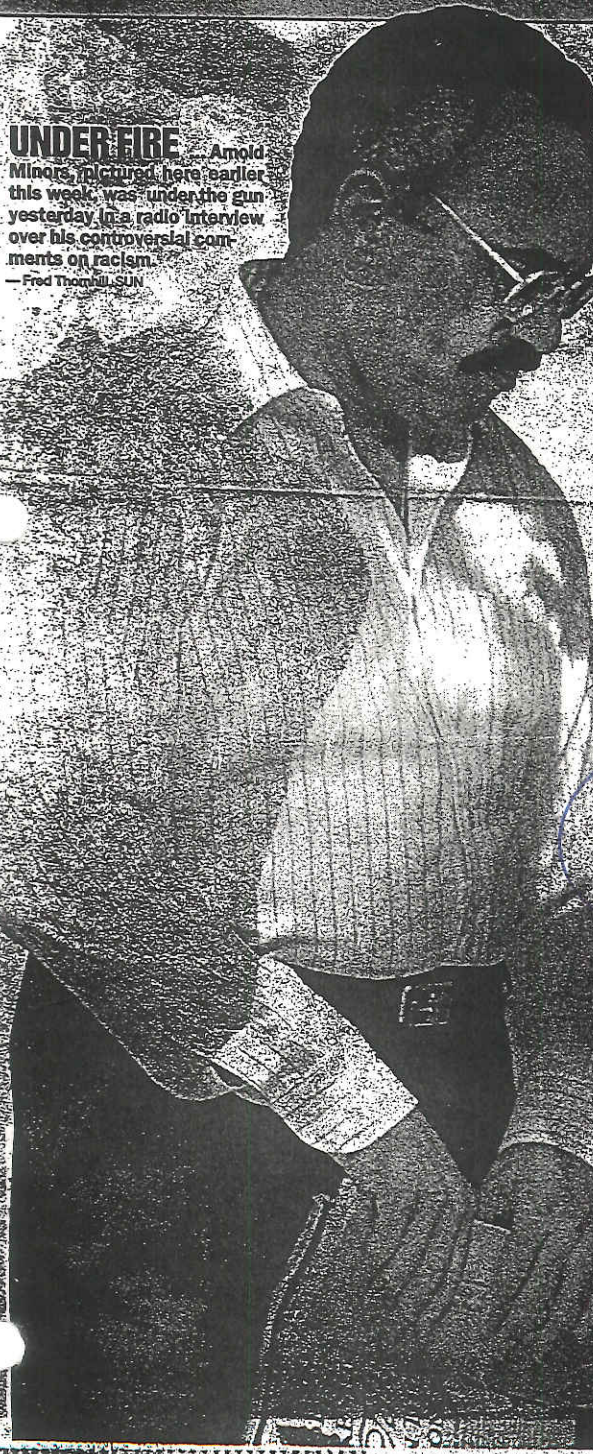
They were exactly comparable. And the actions against the Irish Catholics — there, too, it was a racist act.

— Arnold Minors

UNDER FIRE

Arnold Minors, pictured here earlier this week, was under the gun yesterday in a radio interview over his controversial comments on racism.

— Fred Thornhill/SUN



Minors on defensive

Flip-flops around comments on racism

By ROBERT BENZIE
Toronto Sun

Embattled police services board member Arnold Minors yesterday denied referring to Metro officers as an "occupying army" or claiming the Jewish Holocaust wasn't a racist act.

In an unedited 30-minute interview with CFRB Radio's Jane Hawtin, Minors backtracked, flip-flopped and danced around the controversial comments he's made recently on race and policing issues.

Despite being presented with evidence he likened police to an occupying force — including a taped interview with the *Toronto Star* — and testimony from a Crown attorney who heard him denigrate the meaning of the Holocaust, Minors maintained he's been misquoted and mistreated by the media.

He also stressed he will "absolutely not" resign from the police services board amid the maelstrom surrounding his statements.

"There's no reason for my resigning. I have said nothing that should cause my resignation," said Minors, adding he'd been "surprised" if he were fired by Premier Bob Rae after a probe into his actions.

Out of context

Solicitor General David Christopherson is currently investigating Minors, after an Oct. 19 story in the *Star*, where he said: "There is a long, long, thousand, thousand-year history of people not speaking to occupying armies."

Reporter Moira Welsh had asked him why he thought no one had come forward to assist a police probe into a fatal shooting at a predominantly black after-hours club.

Even though Hawtin played the tape for him, Minors insisted it was taken out of context.

"Here's a piece of that tape that's missing with me talking about the issue of talking about people dealing with strangers," he shot back. "That's the context. Even when people come in as liberators — the stories are that people don't talk to these forces."

"The issue is not that the police are the same as the forces — the issue is that people don't talk to strangers. We have gotten away from police officers working in communities talking with people as people, so that they get to know them as regular people in their daily lives."

"I said explicitly to the people at the *Star* I am not talking about the police; that I was not making an analogy between the police and occupying armies."

But Minors admitted he's had dealings with Metro Police in 19 years here that "remind me of my experiences of being a black person in Bermuda with police officers."

Anti-racism lecture

"I know of many other black people who talk about experiences with police that concern them about the way they have had things happen with them," he said.

Hawtin confronted Minors about comments he made about the Nazi genocide of millions of Jews in an anti-racism lecture given to Ontario Crown attorneys.

"The Holocaust is a racist act. It was an expression of racism," he said.

Minors said it was "stupefying" that some Crown attorneys complained that he'd made statements to the contrary.

But Metro senior assistant Crown attorney Uriel Privies, who took Minors' course on Oct. 3 and 4, said racism was defined in the lecture as something aimed at "either people of color or aboriginal people here in Canada."

"He said that all other actions against identifiable groups are not racism," so I then asked him whether what Hitler did between 1932 and 1945 was not racism according to his definition and he said: 'No, it is not,'" said Privies.

Privies said Minors said the Holocaust "is not racism because he regards Jewish people as members of a religion, not of a race."

"The entire tenor of his comments were that racism was something evil that was done generally by white people to people of color."

Minors said he was "astounded at that description of what happened."

He also said he'd be willing to testify in court to prove he didn't say what Privies said. "I'll other Crown attorneys at the seminar," said he did.

The courses, which earned Minors \$108,500 a year, have been suspended while he's being investigated.

Oct. 24/97

Ziemba rips ant

By JEFF HARDER
Queen's Park Bureau

The Black Action Defence Committee shouldn't be using public funds to bash Metro cops, Citizenship Minister Elaine Ziemba says.

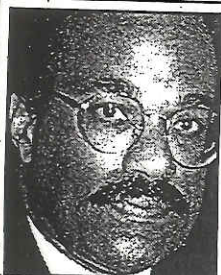
She also hinted her ministry had indirectly helped bankroll the Coalition to Stop

Show Boat, a group of activists that tried to derail the musical at North York's Performing Arts Centre.

Ziemba's ministry has given BADC operating grants totalling \$52,500 over the past two years.

BADC demonstrations have featured placards reading "Drop your gun, Pig" and its leaders have described police head-

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MINORS
Voting for cop chief?

Minors' debate turns ugly

By JAMES WALLACE
Queen's Park Bureau

MPPs debating what to do about Arnold Minors stooped to name-calling yesterday.

Tory Bob Runciman said Minors shouldn't be allowed to vote for the next Metro police chief because of his anti-Semitic teachings to Crown attorneys.

Minors told the Crowns the Holocaust was "not a racist act" during anti-racism seminars for which he was paid \$108,500 by the province.

Runciman said Minors has "little credibility."

"Over the years the current governing party and its leader have consistently talked a good fight about the evils of racism, but in this situation, dealing with one of your own political appointees with serious allegations hanging over his head, you refuse to act," Runciman said.

As catcalls rang out, Tory MPP Chris Stockwell shouted "If it was a cop, you would have hung him."

NDP MPP Tony Perruzza shouted: "You going to let that yo-yo say that and stay in here. He's a jerk."

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November 11, 1994.

withdrew from the race, the Sun has learned.

The offer was allegedly made at an evening meeting, held in early October at an Etobicoke Swiss Chalet, between Chumak

Melnik did mention to my opponent if he withdraws, certain things would happen."

At this point in the interview, Chumak declined to continue, saying he would like "time to col-

except to say that Melnyk was no longer his campaign manager.

Other sources, including the Tymochko worker who was at

Tymochko anyway" the running the worker we do that made.

Melnik, the Metro couldn't be yesterday messages answered turned.

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Minors has 'hunch'

By CHRISTIE BLATCHFORD
Toronto Sun

Arnold Minors has "a hunch" he'll be allowed to finish teaching his controversial anti-racism courses to provincial Crown attorneys.

"My hunch is we will make sure my contract continues and that my work continues with the Crown attorneys," Minors told Denise Burnett, host of Caffeine Free on the University of Toronto's CIUT radio, yesterday. "My hunch is Arnold Minors and Associates (his consulting firm) will be fine on this."

Minors' \$108,000 government contract to teach the Crowns about racism was abruptly suspended last month, with three of 12 seminars uncompleted, after complaints he had described the Holocaust as not a racist act.

Officials with the attorney-general's ministry, which has received complaints from a dozen Crowns, are now reviewing the content of the course.

This controversy, and a later one over remarks he made to the Toronto Star comparing Metro

Police to "an occupying army" and which has prompted a probe by the Ontario Civilian Commission on Police Services, have made the past few weeks "enormously stressful", Minors said.

But he said he has received "over 400 calls, most of them positive", and that the show of support is "gratifying". He also thanked all those who have written letters of support to the government, among them, "white people who are comfortable being identified that way, people in the Jewish community, senior people in the NDP and other parties."

Minors pledged to continue to "speak the truth as I understand it" and said he found it "interesting" that "there are people who seem to want to drive me out of business" and off the Metro police board.

Brendan Crawley, spokesman for the attorney-general, said yesterday the ministry's probe of Minors' course continues.



MINORS
Awaits ruling

Accused killers elude deportation to Chile

2 secret police agents still here 6 years after asylum denied

BY GORDON BARTOS
FOREIGN AFFAIRS WRITER

(A) How long does it take Canada to deport alleged murderers, once a court has ordered them out of the country?

Prominent Chilean journalist Patricia Verdugo wants to know — for her murdered father's sake.

Justice Francis Muldoon of Federal Court ruled in 1990 that a Chilean couple who worked in the 1970s for a brutal secret police agency that abducted and murdered dissidents, including Verdugo's father, had no right to asylum in Canada on humanitarian or compassionate grounds.

They had been ordered deported in March, 1989.

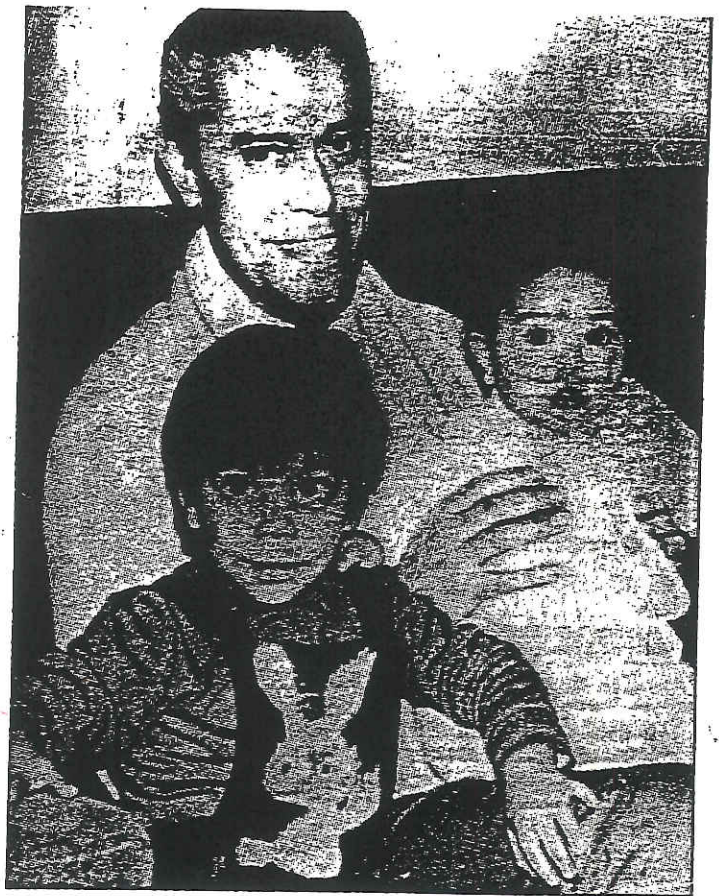
Six years later, Fernando Arduengo and his wife Nieves del Carmen Salazar, are still in the Greater Toronto area, Verdugo says, appealing the ruling and hoping to avoid being sent home, where they would face the courts.

"People in Chile, where this is a high profile case, don't understand why it's taking so long to get these two deported," Verdugo told The Star yesterday. "We know Canada is sensitive to human rights issues. So this is incredible."

"These people are under a Canadian deportation order. Why hasn't it been enforced?"



SEEKS JUSTICE: Chilean journalist Patricia Verdugo says her father Sergio Verdugo Herrera, shown with two grandchildren in 1976, was abducted and killed.



Prominent immigration lawyer Barbara Jackman, who has represented many Chilean refugees, handled their bid to stay here. She is travelling and couldn't be reached for comment yesterday.

The case is presently before the Federal Court of Appeal.

Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's officials were alerted to the wrangle during his recent official visit to Chile.

The Chilean minister of foreign relations, Jose Miguel Insulza, raised the issue with Christine Stewart, secretary of state for Latin America and Africa.

(B) "A judge in Chile and several witnesses pointed to these people as the murderers," Verdugo said. "Will they ever be brought to justice?"

Verdugo's father, Sergio Verdugo Herrera, was abducted from his home July 20, 1976, and was later found drowned. Witnesses in Chile say that the Arduengos were involved in the killing, as part of Gen. Augusto

Pinochet's repressive police machine. Verdugo was a member of the opposition Christian Democrat party, and a union leader.

Democracy has since been restored in Chile, and the country is only now bringing much of its repressive past into the light.

(C) A Chilean criminal court in 1991 ordered the Arduengos to appear to face the accusations. Interpol, the international police agency, has been alerted. And Chilean police twice interviewed the couple here, in 1993.

Since Chile has granted a pardon to all former agents of the Pinochet regime, the couple has nothing to fear by being sent back, Verdugo says.

"All we want is to know the truth about what happened to my father, to have it come out in court."

The Arduengos' story, like that of many refugee claimants, is a thicket of legal manoeuvring.

The couple came to Toronto in 1978.

Fernando Arduengo acknowledged he was a member of the notorious DICAR police agency from 1975 to 1977 and had witnessed murders and tortures. His wife was also a DICAR agent. They say they grew disgusted, fled the country, and feared for their lives if they were sent back.

They have two Toronto-born children.

In 1979, the Refugee Status Advisory Committee found they didn't meet the criteria of refugees, and the Immigration Appeal Board agreed.

In 1983, then Liberal immigration minister John Roberts refused to let them stay on compassionate grounds.

However, in 1986, Conservative minister Walter McLean, after reportedly agonizing over the issue, signed a special minister's permit allowing the couple to stay in Canada and apply for landed immigrant status.

By 1988 the couple was formally advised to leave the country.

Disabled teen on transplant list

FROM SOUTHAMSTAR NETWORK

that he's been accepted into its transplant program. His lung is