

## BONN

## Peter Fend's Political Tangle

In Bonn at this time there is an impressive exhibition focusing upon the state of art in earth observation called "Global Change." Scientists as well as artists are involved in the show, which expresses the idea that at last we have achieved an authoritative procedure for monitoring the world in an up to date version of landscape painting. What is not recorded is that many of the scientists and artists involved have previously been part of in satellite monitoring projects for the mass media, under contract with a private company of artists founded in 1980, New York, called Ocean Earth Construction and Development Corporation. The attitude of the German government toward Ocean Earth and its founder Peter Fend, has been hostile to such an extent as to initiate a state of suspended rights for a while (but for a Documenta invitation), including restriction of entry into German territory. Further to the Maastricht treaty adoption by France and in line with attempts to create a larger legal jurisdiction, the French have also adopted this attitude, so that the company is now on "the list."

By 1986, German secret police told the company that it was not qualified (obviously in a political rather than a scientific sense, because the company has not been willing to falsify or distort imagery in order to protect vested economic interests)

to do what it was doing, and should promptly stop.

In 1989 the *London Times* ran a story, describing Ocean Earth as the "expert" on Chernobyl, based on satellite data analysis and a paper published by the company. The imagery and analysis produced by Ocean Earth clearly shows that the fundamental problem at Chernobyl was architectural and engineering in the very conception of site, not just a series of human errors, which led to the accident. Exposed by Ocean Earth, the real problem could be corrected, presumably through the introduction of procedures from the West, by the replacement of administration and technologies with German or French experts. This would align with the economic program of the German government which calls for a massive export of German nuclear engineering into the East and third world. Four photographs from the European Space Agency, the rights of which have been legally given to Ocean Earth, were deposited in the computer of the Sipa Press photo agency in Paris, from where they have been apparently "rendered away." To whom? Under whose authority? No explanations are given by Sipa, and clearly the French state is in cooperation with the German state on this matter.

(Excerpted from an original text by Peter Fend.)

## MADRID / NEW YORK

## ICI Honors Corral and Giménez



MARIÀ DE CORRAL



CARMEN GIMÉNEZ

Independent Curators Incorporated (ICI) honored Marià de Corral, director of Madrid's Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, and Carmen Giménez, curator of 20th century art at New York's Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, at an award dinner on November 1. In recognition of their extraordinary achievements, each received the ICI Leo Award, named after Leo Castelli, given every two years to individuals who have made major contributions to the international contemporary art world.

## BONN

## Videonale

The Bonn Kunstverein recently presented a six-day exhibition, "Videonale," in which the work of international artists, some being shown for the first time in Europe, was on view. Serving as a complimentary program, the New Museum of Art of the Federal Republic of Germany presented a retrospective of the 80s, and the Kunstmuseum concentrated on the 70s with the Oppenheim Collection. The underlying idea of the show was to make video art known to a broader public.

## MILAN

## Artists Claim their Territory

An exhibition in which artists claim their territory within Italy is being organized in Milan by Giacinto Di Pietrantonio. Among the projects are John Armleder's work for the River Po, Haim Steinbach's in Venice, Wim Delvoye's in the costal resort of Portofino, and Mimmo Paladino's for Palermo. The projects for the future realization of these works are to be displayed on January 15 (through January 30) at Via Cantoni 3, Milan, along with the publication of an artist-run magazine, *Documentary*, and three other exhibitions curated by Gianni Romano, Elio Grazioli, and Marco Colapietro.

# IGOR SACHAROW-ROSS

## СТОЛ

TABULA ROTUNDA

Städtische Galerie im Museum Folkwang Essen

26. Nov. 1992 – 10. Jan. 1993