

PEACE GROUP GIVES HUMMER 'GREEN' BURIAL

RUST TO DUST

BY JIM LYNCH | The Detroit News, 2010

1 *Detroit* – To the conservation-minded, General Motors' now-defunct Hummer line has always been a target. Where some merely saw boxy vehicles, critics viewed the hulking trucks – known for their original incarnation as military transports as well as their low gas mileage – as symbolic of misplaced values among consumers and elected leaders. In May 2010, General Motors built the last of its Hummer vehicles, an H3 model.



2 A few weeks later, in an east Detroit neighborhood, the peace organization CODEPINK buried a rusted-out Hummer in celebration. “We’ve always thought this was a vehicle that never should have been made for civilian use,” group co-founder Medea Benjamin said. “It was a gas-guzzler.” In a poem titled “Ode to the Hummer,” CODEPINK organizer Rae Abileah described the vehicle as a “gas-guzzling war machine” turned “family cruiser.” During Monday’s ceremony, the people involved in the ceremony wore shirts with slogans such as “Hybrids not Hummers” and banners bearing the message “Human Need not War Need.”

3 Members of CODEPINK see the Hummer as the type of consumer product that drives the need for oil and therefore contributes to wars across the globe. The vehicle was buried in the ground and will serve as a planter – with a tree growing from the sunroof.

4 The Hummer ceremony took place in the Heidelberg Project neighborhood. The Heidelberg Project, a neighborhood that mixes residential homes and vacant plots of land that display art, is a perfect match for the Hummer display, Project founder Tyree Guyton said. “We are changing the world here,” he said. “And we see the importance of connecting with other people out there who are working for change in their own way.”

5 Across the street from the burial site, resident Denise Hightower looked on with a smile. “I like it,” she said.

Tekst 8 Rust to dust

- “the conservation-minded” (first sentence)
- 1p 33 Which of the following reflects their opinion according to this article?
They thought the Hummer
- A fitted well in most American suburbs.
 - B should only be used by heads of state or celebrities.
 - C was exemplary of how people waste natural resources.
 - D was too big and army-like in appearance.
- 2p 34 Geef van elk van de volgende beweringen over CODEPINK aan of deze juist of onjuist is.
- 1 It has managed to force General Motors to stop the production of Hummers.
 - 2 It is an association that tries to change the world through poetry.
 - 3 It thinks cars like the Hummer are partly responsible for wars all over the world.
 - 4 It organised a survey to get local approval for its ceremony.
- Noteer het nummer van elke bewering, gevolgd door “juist” of “onjuist”.
- 1p 35 What is the “Heidelberg Project” (paragraph 4)?
- A A group of army leaders who regret that the Hummer was made available for civilians.
 - B A group of conservation activists who recently buried a Hummer.
 - C An area in Detroit where art is exhibited on wasteland between private homes.
 - D The environmental research department of General Motors.

Bronvermelding

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