

# CHANNEL 5



**Radical Rays:** In the dead of night a perfect swastika appears on the South African embassy. It's as though the repressed unconscious of the building has seeped through the bricks. Tired of all that effort to appear reasonable and liberal, the embassy becomes a little more candid for a moment. The swastika has disappeared by the morning.

It was, in fact, the subversive work of Polish artist Krzysztof



Wodiczko and his powerful Xenon-arc slide projectors. Since 1980 he has been projecting images on to buildings whose grandiose architecture speaks the language of power. An eye projected on to the Swiss National Bank scrutinises the vaults of gold below. A huge hand representing the American oath of allegiance turns up on the AT&T building in downtown Manhattan. But is the allegiance to the democratic

ideals of the USA or to its anti-democratic multinational interests?

Wodiczko's last visit to Britain was in August 1985, when he projected these images of hands and a tank on to the Duke of York Column in London. This year the Edinburgh Festival is the setting for this new-style graffiti. Which he has taken in the more theatrical direction of a transient gesture. •

*Pete Culshaw*

