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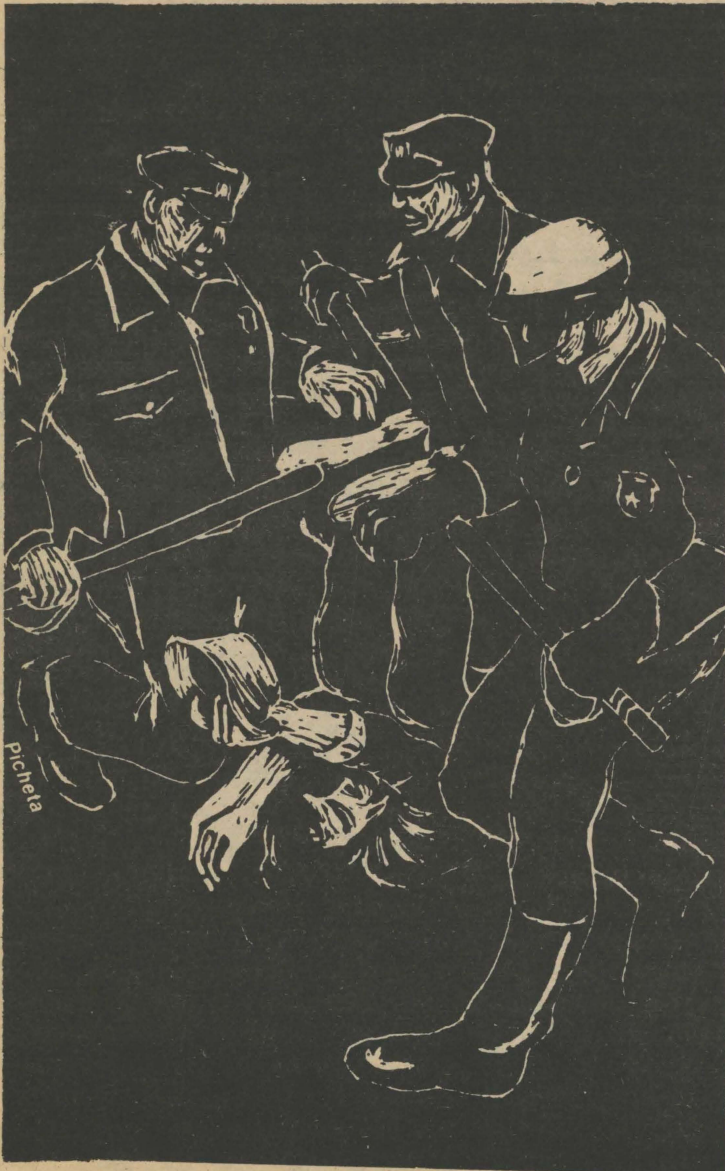
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OPINION/ COMMENTARY



TERRORISM: WHAT IS IT?

Words ending in 'ism' are not only proliferating but they are most frequently used in the arena of ideological conflict. One which has recently been brought to the center of the arena is 'terrorism'. Indeed, one of the watchwords of the Reagan administration is 'anti-terrorism'. That is, Reagan, along with others who make up the rearguard of capitalism, such as Margaret Thatcher, have decided to launch an all out attack on terrorism.

Yet, terrorism, like beauty, is in the eye of the beholder. Literally, the term refers to the political use of terror and intimidation, but it is important to know who is using terrorist tactics against whom, and for what reason. Reagan and Thatcher have taken it upon themselves to define terrorism for us. For them, terrorism involves political acts of violence which are intended to overthrow the existing power structure, particularly the State.

They assume, and

of course they would, that the existing State does indeed honor the will of the people (as was honored the election of Bobby Sands to the British Parliament) and that it does not exist in an oppressive relation to them. They never stop long enough to question whether this is the case or not, they merely proceed to defend the status quo.

The State, however, can and does exist in an oppressive relation to the people, and for those persons who organize themselves to remove the oppressive yoke of the State terrorism refers to those acts of violence perpetrated by the State, and all its supporters, upon the people in order to subjugate and control them. For example, the murders of several students at Kent State in 1970, by the National Guard can be viewed as an act of terrorism by the State. The violence perpetrated by the State, through its instruments of violence, the military and the police, upon such liberation groups as

the Black Panthers, the Brown Berets, the American Indian Movement, and, yes, even the Symbionese Liberation Army, can only be viewed as acts of terrorism from the perspective of these groups.

Terrorism is not a term which can be defined once for all by the State. Rather it is a term whose meaning differs according to the position of those groups involved in struggle. The State will define the efforts of liberation groups as acts of terrorism, while members of liberation groups will denounce the control efforts of the State as acts of terrorism. Consequently, the term can only be understood as an ideological tool within the context of armed conflict.

Terrorist acts are really nothing more than forms of warfare. As such we cannot denounce terrorism in blanket fashion, rather we must decide where we are located within the struggle. Only when we have done this can we denounce the acts of the enemy as terrorist.

PROTECTING WHOSE VITAL INTERESTS?

The United States government in maintaining its position as the supreme military protector of the Western Nations (Great Britain, France, Spain, Italy, Japan, Switzerland and Israel, etc.) has directly penetrated the economies of large geographic regions of the world (Asia, Africa, The Caribbean, Central and South America) and bought off the ruling interest of certain countries. It has also assisted the other Western Nations in dominating the internal economies of various areas of the above mentioned regions. These acts have been accomplished by utilizing advanced technological knowledge (military, agricultural, industrial) as a weapon of intimidation against the inhabitants of these undeveloped and undeveloped regions. This economic domination has been carried out by and in behalf of various corporate interests. Some examples include the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund as the financiers, while U.S. Steel, British Petroleum, Coca Cola, Standard Oil, Anaconda Copper, I.B.M. and various Universities (their research is used to support the oppression of people throughout the

world) act as the beneficiaries.

In their efforts to gain and maintain economic control, the Western Nations are apt to use any method available. This is especially true in those situations where their control is threatened by the inhabitants of the dominated regions, who attempt to alleviate their misery through the only recourse left to them, armed struggle.

When these liberation movements occur, the people involved are labeled by the Western Nations' press as rebels and terrorists. As the liberation movement becomes more successful, the dominant interests become less stable, and this usually the point where U.S. military has been deployed to intervene.

Wherever acts of intervention occur, the Western press has continually hidden the role of corporate interests in the whole affair. This has been accomplished by telling the people that it is in their vital interest for intervention to occur.

However the corporate vital interests are to maximize profits, which is opposite of the U.S. peoples' vital interests of adequate housing, health care, education, and employment, etc. So let us examine

a series of interventionist acts committed by Western Nations, with the support of U.S. military power, and whose vital interests they have consistently served.

We can begin with 1898, which was the year when the U.S. occupied Cuba. We have been taught that the U.S. entered Cuba because the Maine (a U.S. battleship) was blown up. The Cuban people, however, had been waging armed struggle for independence against Spain. At the time of U.S. intervention the Cuban people were a step away from independence. The U.S. moved in and militarily coerced Spain, who no longer controlled the country, to sign treaties and began to occupy Cuba. This continues today on Guantanamo.

Moving forward in time, WWI ended in 1917, however, the Western powers' military excursion didn't. They continued their expansion by attacking the newly formed Soviet Union in order to destroy those peoples newly acquired freedom from the international capitalist camp. In this case the Western Nations were not successful but they were willing to curb the development of Democracy in order to serve their

interests.

In the 1930's, the U.S. Marines landed in Nicaragua to quell the anti-imperialist movement that had gained strength in that country, and to protect the corporate interests in coffee production, unorganized labor, and rubber and wood production. Although formal occupation ended around 1935, they nevertheless militarily supported the 40 years of uninterrupted military dictatorship by the Somozas, which as we know ended in 1979.

The next act of intervention occurred in 1948, in the Middle-East. In this situation the Western

Nations imposed the Nation-State of Israel on the people of the region. This act displaced many Palestinians and other Arab peoples, as well as created a

strategic military area to protect the recently won (WW2) corporate oil interest of British Petroleum, and Standard and Gulf corporations.

The 1950's offers us another Middle-Eastern excursion, but this time it was carried out by the C.I.A. That is, the Iranian people had elected a democratic oriented government. The new government then proceeded to take control of the oil industry. The Western corporate interests, again thwarting the developing of democracy, didn't want to lose an exploitable and stable resource base. So they funded the C.I.A. to develop a coup that put the Shah (his family rule was accented with close ties to Hitler) back in power. As we know, the Iranian people were able to develop enough organiza-

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¿QUIEN ES QUIEN?

1. Who was the Padre who, over a hundred years ago, was not only a presbyter, but a legislator, a political activist, an educator, who started the first newspaper west of the Missouri River?
2. Who was the priest who joined the armed struggle to fight for the rights of workers and peasants in Colombia? answers on page 9

EL SALVADOR: ANOTHER VIETNAM?

Many efforts are being made today to halt the involvement of the United States in El Salvador. People are once again marching in the streets, and they are lobbying on the hill in an effort to curb or stop any further aid to present so-called 'moderate' government of El Salvador. Many of these efforts, however, have made a superficial and misleading comparison between the situation in El Salvador and that of Vietnam in the 60's. When those people making this

"whether the big brother is bullying or paternalistic does not alter its oppressive nature."

comparison say, "Don't let El Salvador be another Vietnam," they are using the word "Vietnam" to touch off a people's fears and memories of the internal torment the U.S. underwent during those times. The comparison is motivated by the fear that the United States may suffer another military defeat, as it did in Vietnam or at least engage in a long and unpopular war.

A comparison which is couched in such terms is misleading in that it clouds the more important issue: the right of people to struggle for liberation. The

misleading comparison implies that if the United States was certain of victory, the war would not be a long one, and would be popular with the present, increasingly, conservative populace; that such a war would be perfectly legitimate and moral. The real issue in El Salvador, like the real issue in Vietnam (and hence a valid comparison may be made), is the U.S. government's brutal efforts to suppress a people's just struggle for their inalienable human rights of justice, freedom, and self-determination through a truly democratic government; and the alignment of oneself with the people of El Salvador and their struggle.

To demand a halt to U.S. intervention in El Salvador in order to save military face is to continue to think in nationalistic terms. Recall such cries as "America first! America, right or wrong! America, love it or leave it!" These chauvinistic slogans are once again heard in abundance; like the ravings of a crowd in a novel foreshadowing the approaching disaster. Such slogans may be seen as extreme or as the rantings of a demagogic preacher for the moral majority, but they differ very little from the liberal's slogan of "Can we afford another Vietnam?"

The focus from the liberal view is not on the morality of war, nor on the justness of the struggle, but rather, on the cost of such an involvement to the United States, as though one were yearning for the days when war was good for the economy and politically safe to support.

Such self-centered nationalistic notions propagated by both reactionaries and liberals lead to the notion that the United States is the 'big brother' of the world. Whether the big brother is bullying or paternalistic does not alter its oppressive nature. In this manner both conservatives and liberals supported the war in Vietnam. Today the liberals are sometimes

"the U.S. has become the very opposite of what it claims to be ... it is a military regime"

opposed to U.S. involvement in the civil war taking place in El Salvador. But if they continue to use as a basis to this opposition the notion that the United States cannot afford another Vietnam, they may easily change tunes with the same nationalistic fervor when they decide that they can no longer afford not to support the "War in El Salvador."



Playing the role of the big brother, they would then justify the 'invited' invasion of another people's land.

Such ideas ignore the true issues: these people's rights to determine their own future, to live free of social and economic oppression, and the commonality of all peoples in this regard. From this perspective one can only demand a halt to U.S. involvement in El Salvador because of one's understanding of unity of the struggle of the people of El Salvador and our own here, as Che termed "those within the monster."

The truth of the matter is that the United States has become the very opposite of what it claims to be; rather than being a democratic

society, it is a military regime, both at home and abroad. Where is the "Free World" that is being protected? And from whom is it being protected?

There is no "Free World," it has yet to be built. The Salvadorean people are one step ahead of the U.S. citizenry, for they have correctly concluded that they do not live within the "Free World," and based on

that conclusion they have decided to build one. Myths and illusions are difficult to destroy, and as long as the people in this country continue to believe in the perverse fabrication that this country represents a democracy, and as such it should continue to play guardian of the world.

KIKO GETS HARASSED FOR LEAVING STATE

Francisco 'Kiko' Martinez, the Chicano attorney from Colorado who is currently facing federal and state charges for allegedly having mailed bombs in 1973, is again subjected to tactics of intimidation and harassment by the legal system. Two important developments which have occurred in the case since a mistrial was declared in the first federal trial in January (see *Nuestra Cosa*, Winter 1981 issue) provide evidence that the legal system will fully exercise its authority in an effort to discredit and silence Kiko. These tactics of intimidation involve Kiko's recent arrest and incarceration, and a motion to suspend his license to practice law.

On April 7, a scheduled court appearance to argue motions before Court Judge Alvin Lichenstein resulted in Kiko being arrested and thrown in jail for a period of 24 hours. It appears that the Great Guardians of Good were upset because El

Abogado had travelled outside of Colorado in order to address an audience at this year's National Chicano Student Conference held on 2 - 4, April in Tempe, Arizona. Judge Lichenstein ordered Kiko to reappear before him at a later date, when it would be determined whether or not Kiko's \$150,000 state bond would be revoked. U.S. Marshalls and Denver police then told Kiko and Kenneth Padilla, a member of the Martinez legal defense team, that they had a warrant for Kiko's arrest for having violated his federal bond conditions.

When Padilla left the courtroom to call U.S. District Court Judge Kane to clear up the warrant, the Chota grabbed El Abogado and dragged him from the courtroom. This fighter for freedom was caged for 24 hours until Judge Kane finally ruled that Kiko be released. But, this release was not without strings. Judge Kane ordered El

Abogado to produce affidavits from all the people who posted bond in his behalf stating that they know Kiko was out of state, thereby implicating them in the alleged bond violation. Kane further ordered Kiko to report to the court any plans he may have to leave the state of Colorado.

While this harassment of El Abogado by one element of the Great Guardians of Good was taking place, another element, the Colorado State Supreme Court's Grievance Committee, was considering suspending El Abogado's license to practice law. This was based on the ironic reason that Kiko was not fit to practice law because criminal charges had been filed against him. Such reasoning within a legal system and profession

which professes that a person is innocent until proven guilty is ridiculous. El Abogado was given only

20 days to respond in writing to these hypocrites of justice.

The case is no longer only Kiko's problem, it never was, rather it is a public issue. That is, whether or not the Chicano population will allow the State to harass its

freedom fighters. Persons interested in supporting Kiko may contact the:

Kiko Martinez Defense Committee
P.O. Box 753
Alamosa, Colorado 81101

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RIVERSIDE POLICE REJECT POLICY PROPOSAL BY COMMUNITY

by Raymond Navarro

In the last issue of Nuestra Cosa (Winter 1981) the events resulting from a police raid on December 6 of a quinceañera held at a local club, Diamond Jim's, were reported. The Riverside Police and the Migra jointly raided the quinceañera harrassing the participants, demanding to see green cards, and arresting 80

through a series of meetings, including a meeting between concerned members of the community and Police Chief Vic Jones held at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church on January 30.

Since the meeting of January 30, the Police Committee (a sub-committee of the Riverside

question, detain, arrest, or place an 'immigration hold' on any persons not suspected of a crime, solely on the ground that they may be deportable aliens.

(2). Upon arresting an individual for a criminal offense, local police will refrain from initiating inquiries of individuals concerning their immigration status when such inquiries are unrelated to the offense for which the person is arrested for.

(3). When requested to do so by INS, local police may assist INS agents only when a reasonable belief exists, based upon articulable facts, that the INS agents are, or will be in personal danger.

(4). Local police shall continue to have contact with possible undocumented persons for the purpose of conducting normal police business and not for the sole purpose of determining their immigration status."

These proposed guidelines were rejected by the Police Committee who made their own recommendations to the RPD. On March 16, Police Chief Jones presented the committee's

recommendations, which were approved and adopted by the RPD, to a crowd of about 120 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church. The policy is as follows:

"Riverside Police Department officers shall not instigate or conduct any sweeps, roundups, or other concerted attempts for the sole purpose of arresting undocumented persons.

If requested by Immigration and Naturalization Service officers to assist on the arrest and/or investigation of immigration laws, members of this Department shall 'keep the peace' only unless other criminal violations exist.

Initiating contact with possible undocumented

Immigration Laws, officers may notify Immigration and Naturalization Service Officials."

Many of the community people are uncertain as to the real effects of the new policy. As may be seen by the wording of the new policy there is considerable room for interpretation on the part of the police. Consequently, how this new policy will be carried out is yet to be tested.

With regard to the community and police relations as a consequence of this event, many community residents have ambiguous feelings toward the police. Chief Jones expressed concern toward maintaining a continued

"This raid raised a number of issues concerning police and raza community relations"

individuals. Of this number 40 were deported although only 4 were formally charged; two of which were charged with "resisting arrest". It was further reported that a police dog was deployed, seriously attacking one individual, without any stated justification. This raid raised a number of issues concerning police and raza community relations, and the working relationship between the police and the U.S. Immigration Office. Community action followed

Community Relations Commission) met to discuss proposed policy concerning the Riverside Police Department, the U.S. Immigration Office, and undocumented persons. Carlos L. Juarez, legal counsel for Congreso Nacional Para Pueblos Unidos (CNPUI), who has been advising the community people involved in the raid, submitted the following guidelines for observance by local police to the Police Committee:

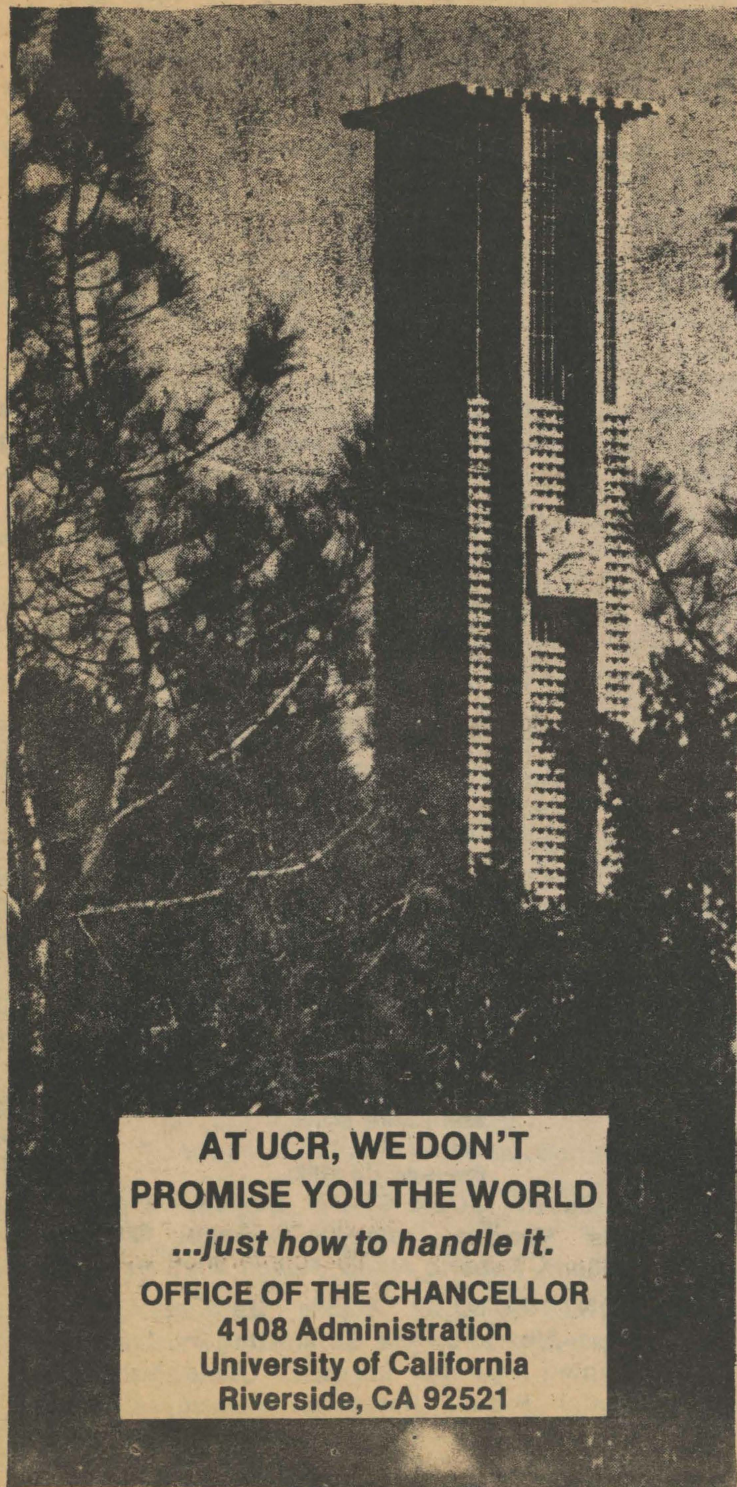
(1). Do not stop and

"many of the community people are uncertain as to the real effects of the new policy"

persons will be for the purpose of conducting normal police business and not for the sole purpose of determining citizenship.

If an undocumented person is arrested or detained for criminal investigation, other than

communication with the community. He mentioned that a once a month meeting at the church to hear the concerns of the people would be a good approach. As of date, there have not been any meetings held or scheduled.



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MECHISTAS UNIDOS TO HOLD IV ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Mechistas Unidos conference began four years ago as an attempt by Riverside County high school and college Mechistas and community agency workers to alleviate interrelated problems such as barrio rivalries and drug abuse that confront Chicano youth. This attempt has been moderately successful and the effort has been expanded to include San Bernardino Mechistas in the planning and implementation of the conference.

This year's planning has been underway for the last several months, with the planning meetings taking place every Thursday at the U.C.R. M.E.C.H.A. cultural center at 3:30 p.m. As in the past the conference will be held in the gym at the University of California, Riverside on May 29, 1981 from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Past topics, such as gang violence and drug abuse, will again be discussed. Added topics include



Racism and the Chicano; The Draft and the Communities; Chicanas, Political Action and Organization; The Media and the community; and Higher Education, to name a few.

As in the past, the theme of unity and pride is central, but is being expanded to include the restructuring of the M.E.C.H.A. chapters. In this way we will be better able to serve our communities and to work together with our parents to

participate effectively in the community power structures in order to help alleviate the problems we face.

We are looking forward to having all Mechistas of the Inland Empire with us on this day of unity and pride, for on this day we will discuss our problems and arrive at conclusions about how to solve them. In this way we will be able to further the Chicano Movement in its quest for the liberation of the Chicano people.

1980's SIGNAL BEGINNING OF A NEW RENAISSANCE IN CHICANO STUDIES

by Alfredo Mirande

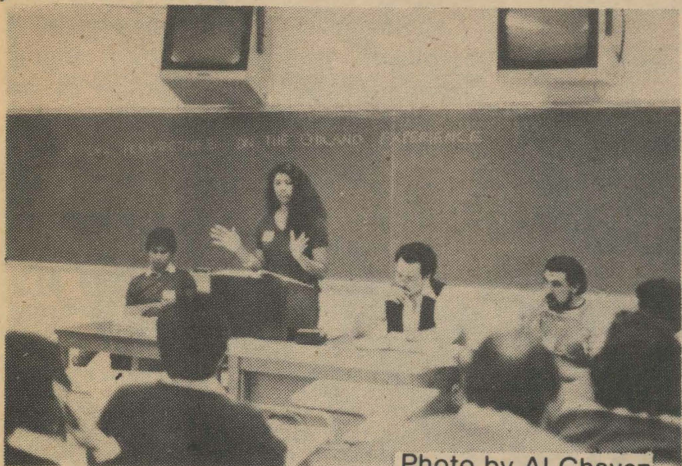


Photo by Al Chavez

The 1960's have generally come to be recognized as the Renaissance of Chicano Studies. It was during this eventful period that Chicanos and other minorities began to question and, in many cases, to challenge the educational system. Students from elementary to college levels staged walk-outs and protests, demanding more Chicano teachers, Chicano counselors, Chicano Studies courses, and bilingual classrooms. In short, they demanded that the educational system be made more sensitive and responsive to the history, language, and culture of the Chicano people.

Although it was a difficult and turbulent era, many of the changes and reforms that were sought did come about. Chicano Studies programs emerged nationwide at colleges and universities, helping facilitate recruitment of Chicano faculty. These faculty not only provided significant role models for students, but also gave impetus to Chicano research and scholarship.

The result was an intellectual, cultural, and aesthetic Chicano Renaissance. Chicano scholarly journals and publishers appeared. Chicano history was re-discovered and fields

such as Chicano psychology, Chicano sociology, Chicano political science, Chicano art, and Chicano literature emerged and began to gain legitimacy. A rash of books and articles on and by Chicanos appeared, as did Chicano novels, plays, and poetry.

In the late 60's and early 70's Chicano scholars began to recognize a growing need for their own professional and academic organizations, sensing a lack of sensitivity and representation in those to which they belonged. Discontent with traditional social science and its organizations culminated in March, 1972 at the annual meeting of the Southwestern Social Science Association in San Antonio where Chicanos broke away and formed the National Caucus of Chicano Social Scientists (NCCSS).

The first annual meeting was held at New Mexico Highlands University in 1973. The name of the organization was changed to the National Association of Chicano Social Scientists (NACSS) at this meeting and to the National Association for Chicano Studies (NACS) in 1977, as the Humanities were incorporated into the group. Since then annual conferences have been held and

the organization has burgeoned from a small ad hoc group of Chicano scholars to a large and vibrant association.

The ninth annual meeting of NACS was recently hosted by the UCR Chicano Studies Program, in April this year. This conference was the largest and most diverse to date and brought together between 600 and 700 Chicano scholars to the UCR campus. They participated in 45 panels and workshops covering a wide variety of topics ranging from labor, education, and politics, to Chicano psychology, mental health, and the future of Chicano Studies. The conference culminated with the special preview of *Seguin*, a new Chicano film for television that has been heralded as a Chicano Roots.

The Riverside conference was an historic meeting in that it marked the greatest assemblage of Chicano scholars and educators ever, who addressed and exchanged ideas regarding past and current trends in Chicano scholarship. Despite the diversity of participants and topics addressed, the conference demonstrated that the discipline of Chicano Studies has clearly reached a new level of maturity and sophistication. Earlier scholarship was generally reactive, focusing on criticisms of traditional disciplinary perspectives and refuting negative depictions of Chicanos. Reaction to previous works seldom offered solutions or alternative views.

Chicano scholars today have obtained legitimacy and recognition. Chicano literature and literary criticism, for example, exist as recognized and respectable fields. In fact, this conference was unique in presenting a landmark panel on Chicana (women's)

literature. Chicana literature was deemed to be significant in its own right and not simply subsumed as a part of Chicano or Women's literature. Now less concerned with justifying themselves, Chicano scholars are free to devote their energies to developing and advancing their respective fields.

A sign of growing maturity and sophistication has been a movement toward greater acceptance of a wide variety of views and perspectives.

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THE U.C. NUCLEAR CONNECTION

by Daniel Friesse

In the past few months much attention has been focused on the increasing involvement of the U.S. government in El Salvador. Many observers liken this situation to our past military and political entanglement in Vietnam. Recently the Reagan administration has revived the domino theory and applied it to Latin America. Although an increased involvement is probable, perhaps inevitable, a much more important question is raised.

That is the increasing threat of a "limited" nuclear war.

In the past a nuclear war has been considered unthinkable. Our defense policy was based on the concept of MAD (Mutual Assured Destruction). In the last five years U.S. policy has shifted, indicating the defense planners' ideas that a nuclear war could be won. Concurrent with this policy is the development of a whole new arsenal of nuclear weapons to fight this "limited" "winnable" war.

The U.S. now possesses approximately 30,000 nuclear warheads, enough to decimate one million cities the size of Hiroshima. Every single one of these warheads was developed at either Lawrence Livermore or Los Alamos Scientific Laboratories. Both of these labs are managed by the University of California, but owned by the Departments of Energy and Defense. This stems from an historical link which goes back to the

Chicano scholars have also become less concerned with ideology and rhetoric and more concerned with offering solutions to pressing social problems. Indicative of this trend was a panel on reapportionment -- now recognized as a crucial issue -- and other panels on police-community relations, the media, undocumented workers, sexuality, marital counseling, divorce, cannery workers, land rights, and public policy.

Manhattan Project. The combined budget for both labs is approximately 900 million dollars and the labs employ 13,000 people. 50% of the labs budget is devoted directly to nuclear weapons research, another 17% is weapons related. Most of the 33% remainder of the budget goes to nuclear energy research. In fact, research on other energy sources (solar, geothermal, conservation) comprises only 5% of the budget.

The University of California gains very little from their association with the labs and it has little if any control over what types of work occurs there. Workers at the labs are exposed to higher than normal cancer rates (a recent study indicated that the skin cancer rate was twice the national average). Lawrence Livermore is located in a densely populated area (4 million people within a 40 mile radius) and is situated on a number of active earthquake faults. What the University does get is \$3.8 million a year in management funds, funds which in the past have gone to construct parking lots, faculty clubs and other U.C. projects not normally funded by the state legislature.

The current five year managerial contract is set to expire in 1982. I feel that it is time we began questioning the continued involvement of U.C. in its managerial role of OUR weapons labs.

OPEN LETTER TO PARENTS

Currently the educational future of our community seems quite bleak. Today our youth are trained to become a part of the unskilled labor force, as opposed to becoming skilled and professional workers, who can then provide our community with the services needed. With this in mind, a group of concerned Chicano/

Mexicano parents, students, and community agency workers have formed the

de Inland Empire.

The group focuses on the effects of the educational system in our community. A few of the problems are the already high and rising rate of disciplinary actions taken against our children, a curriculum that is not sensitive to the needs of our populace and which leads to feelings of inferiority on the part of our children, the lack of proficiency in the communicative skills of our children, and the lack of understanding of our legal rights which we, as parents, have in the educational

process.

Therefore, Padres Unidos de Inland Empire have consulted with Chicano/Mexicano students, parents, and administrators about the educational system and its deficiencies. Our conclusion is that there is a lack of understanding and communication between our community and those persons within the educational system. Based on this, it seems there is a desire and need for Chicano/Mexicano parents from different areas to come together and discuss these important

educational problems.

Accordingly, Padres Unidos have been organizing a conference to meet the above mentioned needs. The theme of the conference is "Chicanos and Educational Change," with the purpose of providing a setting where information and ideas can be exchanged, so that solutions may be reached about the educational

problems affecting the lives of our children. We therefore, are requesting the participation of all persons interested in the educational future of the Chicano/Mexicano community.

The conference will take place on Saturday, May 30, 1981, at the University of California, Riverside. Registration, which is free, begins at 8:30 a.m. in Watkins 1000.

U.S. SUPPORTS FASCISTS IN EL SALVADOR

by Susan Gregory & Jeanne Binning

What is really happening in El Salvador?

The Reagan administration answers the question this way:

An honest, reform-minded, centrist and basically popular government headed by Christian Democratic President Jose Napoleon Duarte is under siege from the extreme left and the extreme right. The left is by far the main danger, constituting a communist conspiracy to seize power, manipulated by the Soviet Union with help from Cuba and Nicaragua.

The roots of the current struggle in El Salvador lie in its own historical development. Salvadorean agriculture, industry, and finance have been and continue to be controlled by a small group of elites. Wealth and political power, in this predominantly agrarian country, are based on land ownership. The fact that 60 percent of the arable land is owned by 2 percent of the population has resulted in the increasing impoverishment of the vast majority of the Salvadorean people. Demands made by the peasantry for land redistribution, during the process of land concentration, have resulted in a long history of repression and military rule. In 1932, 30,000 citizens (4% of the population) were massacred by government forces in a month's time following a peasant uprising.

For the past fifty years, El Salvador has been run by repressive military (or military-civilian) regimes which have sustained their rule through a combination of electoral fraud and outright political terrorism.

In the late 1960's, broad-based social movements began to gain increasing influence among a wide range of Salvadorean occupational groups. Urban-based trade unions and rural-based peasant associations proliferated and began to demand recognition from employers, landlords, and the state. Religious, intellectual, civic, and professional groups began to cooperate with these associations, defending their claims for legitimacy and equity. In April 1980, the Democratic Revolutionary Front, which comprises over 150 organizations incorporating all sectors of society, was formed. Its total membership adds up to nearly one million people; and if one includes entire families in these counts, it becomes increasingly clear that the FDR is not a small group of "leftist extremists," but represents the great majority of the Salvadorean people.

The landlord-military regimes---frightened by the potential power of such organizations---have responded by escalating repression. Arrests, disappearances, torture, political assassinations, and mass murders have become daily occurrences affecting all occupational groups, but in particular the peasantry. This has been accompanied by the destruction of villages and towns with aerial bombing (including napalm) and artillery. Also incidents of spraying of the civilian population with



pesticides have been reported.

Along with the annihilation of the social basis of political opposition the military regimes have silenced all forms of cultural dissent: the universities have been taken over by the military, opposition newspaper headquarters have been bombed and machine-gunned, and a large percentage of the intellectual community has been killed or has fled into exile.

This extensive repression has contributed to the growing support for the mass organizations (now incorporated in the FDR) as individuals have sought protection in numbers. A government counterresponse of deepening repression followed. Eventually, both sides were carrying arms; guerilla organizations were formed to protect the unarmed mass organizations and to retaliate against attacks from government

represents a "centrist political movement" which is trying to maintain order against extremists of the left and right. Data collected by many international organizations, however, clearly refute the U.S. position.

Amnesty International in its January 1981 report "Amnesty Action" states that "Of the more than 8,000 people killed this year (1980), government forces have been implicated in the deaths of an estimated 6,000." (Emphasis added)

Clearly the scope and duration of this institutionalized violence indicate that the junta is not a "moderate centrist" regime but rather an extreme-rightist regime that is systematically exterminating its opposition.

Arrest, torture, disappearance, and political assassination thus must be seen as principal instruments of rule; U.S. policy,

"It should be asked whether the United States government should be supporting a repressive regime"

forces and paramilitary organizations.

The present ruling junta in El Salvador, installed by the October 15, 1979 coup, came into power promising widespread reforms. However, from its first months a campaign of terror and violence virtually unprecedented in Salvadorean history was waged by the junta, with the support of the United States. The United States government, with massive military aid, equipment and over 100 instructors, has been outfitting the Salvadorean armed forces and training them in "modern counterinsurgency war techniques."

The savage nature of the Salvadorean junta has not been correctly portrayed by the U.S. government and media. The official U.S. view is that the regime

therefore, must be described, not as supporting centrist reform, but as sustaining right-wing terrorism. The evidence strongly indicates that U.S. government officials are misleading the American people when they say the U.S. aid and advisors are supporting El Salvador's "last stand for democracy."

The Reagan administration is trying to justify U.S. intervention in El Salvador by charging that foreign powers are aiding and directing the insurgent forces. In February 1981, the Administration released a "White Paper" purporting to show that what is occurring in El Salvador is indirect armed aggression by the Soviet Union, Cuba, Vietnam, and other communist bloc governments. However, it is clear from a study of the economic, social, and political situation of El Salvador that the

liberation movement has emerged based on the internal conditions of the country and cannot be discredited by raising the phantom of Soviet or Cuban interference. It follows that the United States cannot quell the violence of an internal civil war by providing more arms to a regime opposed by the majority of its citizens; it can only increase and prolong that violence as it did in Vietnam.

Over the last two years U.S. military aid in the form of arms, equipment and military advisors to El Salvador has steadily increased, at a rate many times that of preceding decades. In addition to these forms of aid, at least 300 Salvadorean military officers were being trained at U.S. facilities in the Panama Canal Zone, according to the Washington Post (October 7, 1980). Before leaving office, the Carter administration approved \$10.5 million in aid and the character of this aid officially changed from "non-lethal" to "lethal" aid and included teams of military advisors.

Also in October, 5 or 6 advisors on operational planning and assistance were sent to El Salvador and 8 to 10 men were sent between late December and early January. On December 5, the United States ceased military and economic aid to El Salvador pending the investigation of the murder of three American nuns and one lay missionary on December 2. Both economic and military aid have since been resumed despite reports by such groups as Amnesty International stating that the Salvadorean government was responsible for the killing of the four American women ("Amnesty Action", January 1981).

Shortly after entering office, the Reagan administration increased military aid by \$25 million; it has stationed 56 advisors with the Salvadorean armed forces, including 15 Green Berets; it has leased 10 Huey helicopters to the junta, while pumping in vast amounts of economic aid. The Fiscal Year 1982 Security Assistance Act proposes a \$66 million dollar package in military sales credits, economic support funds, and military training funds. In addition

to outfitting and training Salvadorean soldiers, the U.S. government is heavily equipping and training the armies of the right-wing military governments of Guatemala and Honduras as potential forces to prop up the Salvadorean junta and to repress liberation movements in their own countries.

In the face of the escalation of military aid to and involvement in El Salvador, the draft registration, and Cold War rhetoric about Soviet international terrorism, it should be remembered that the civil war in El Salvador has its own internal causes and that the liberation movement represents the Salvadorean people's struggle for self-determination. It should be asked whether the United States government should be supporting a repressive regime, and thereby opposing the Salvadorean Liberation Movement.

GUATEMALA: THE LIBERATION STRUGGLE INTENSIFIES

by Alberto Garcia



As the Salvadorean civil war heats up, and while the Sandinian revolution in Nicaragua consolidates, the people in Guatemala once more organize their combat forces. Since the resignation of Jacobo Arbenz, on June 27, 1954, the political strategy of the Guatemalan government has been characterized by its incapacity to pacify the nation and to open a trench for a popular democracy.

The repressive instrument represented by the armed forces and the oligarchic groups have created, for many years, a terrorist climate. They have established a system wherein day by day, citizens who have the capacity to organize the people to fight against corruption lose their lives. The sector which controls the economy of the country, such as the import sector, export sector, the traditional industrial sector, and the powerful national banking sector supported by the foreign capital, form a strong coalition of support for the government of Romeo Lucas Garcia. The cotton and coffee growers have been the organizers of the "Mano Blanca" and other rightist groups who terrorize the people.

They are the ones who daily feed and finance the repression in the cities and in the country. Ever since Lucas Garcia assumed power in Guatemala, thousands of people have disappeared and lost their lives. The level of violence remains as high as in the administration of President Laugerud Garcia.

Many humanitarian organizations such as Amnesty International have denounced and criticized severely the violation of human rights. Many students from Central America going through that country have been incarcerated and harassed. Last July, Douglas Manuel Segueira, a medical student from Nicaragua attending the University of San Carlos in Guatemala, was arrested by the armed forces, and his whereabouts were unknown for quite a while, until the government officially recognized his arrest under the pressure of the government of Managua.

According to recently published information by the press from Costa Rica, five of the forty persons who are murdered daily for political reasons in Guatemala are women, who are targets of the campaign which intends to block the struggle for liberation. The press from



Spain recently informed that 25 missionaries left Guatemala for Mexico and the democratic Nicaragua of today, thereby escaping from repression.

The military repression in Guatemala which in the beginning affected only the students

and workers, has extended now to the zone of el Quiche. The majority of the natives have been obligated by the military to concentrate in the high lands and in that manner desert those areas in which the great national and foreign interests plan the exploitation of the mining riches. The repression in Ixcán has taken place systematically for a long period of time and the army has occupied several Mayan towns, where hundreds of community leaders have been assassinated and exterminated. Bombardment is frequent in that region.

In carrying out the task of controlling the population, the army and the police have created a false campaign of alphabetization. Each soldier controls a certain number of houses in order to know the number of persons who live in each one. In that manner they stop the farmers from joining the "guerrillas."

The control is such that many times they torture the entire family if the supposed alphabetizers do not find a "student."

The class in power tries to stop, by all and any means, the new advance that the revolutionary movement has taken. In Guatemala, as in El Salvador the government suffers from the fear of having the liberation flame, which lit the Sandinista revolution, extended. On their part, the revolutionary groups create an organized task without interruption.

The Rebel Armed Forces, FAR, and the "Guerrilla" Army of the Poor, EGP, continue coordinating their activities. In the fronts of the "guerrillas" already consolidated, the revolutionaries have moved to the offensive. From July to November of 1980, the EGP launched 15 ambushes to the military lines and 17 chastisements to the forts, detachments and other fixed enemy posts.

In the month of August the front of Che Guevara organized in Huchuerango and its maneuvers took over seven departmental heads. The combat capacity of the Guatemalan people is under trial but as the threat of an armed intervention is perceived, the struggle in the region increases.

The Washington government has proved that its actual politics is to use the stick once again in Latin

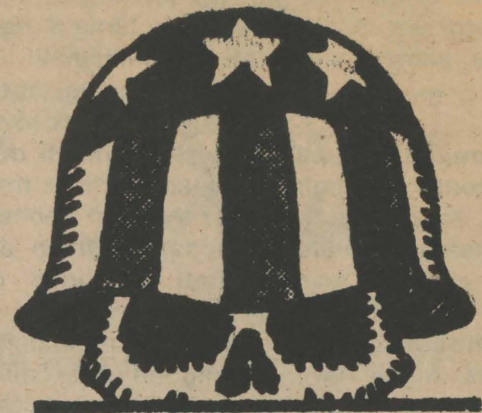
America, without regard to the blood shed. The military assistance to the genocidal governments of Central America insults the dignity of these people and furthers even more the hope of brotherhood in the continent. The American people will never be able to support the colonial politics of the past years as a solution to the problems that Central America is facing. For that reason we condemn every intent of intervention in Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua. For that reason we condemn the use of territory in Honduras as a base for antirevolutionary operations and we hope for a more prudent political action in the relations that the United States is trying to maintain in Central America. In the case of Guatemala, the change continues to be inevitable and the use of force will intensify even more the struggle for liberation.

Translated by Onelia Martinez

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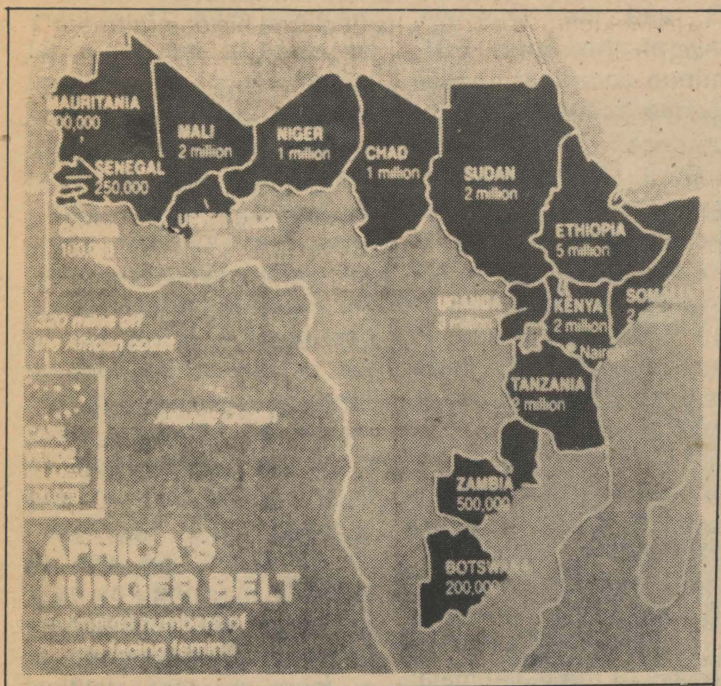
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DROUGHT CAUSES FAMINE IN AFRICA

by Paul Titus



For eight of the last eleven years, in a zone of Africa which extends from Senegal in the west to Ethiopia and Somalia in the east, fluctuations in the seasonal rainfall have resulted in drought, crop loss, and at times famine. These regions, which lie between the deserts in the north and the semi-arid savannas below them, are some of the harshest and most difficult earthly places in which to live. The nations of these areas are the very poorest in the world. The people of these areas subsist either by growing grain crops, like millet and sorghum, or by herding cattle, camels, and goats.

Droughts are not unusual in these regions. Though not frequent, they seem to occur in cycles and severe ones are named and remembered in the oral traditions of the inhabitants. The societies there have developed systems of trade and interaction which have allowed them to survive. In the wet season the grazing lands extend north into the Sahara Desert, and the nomads follow them with their animals. When the grass recedes they return south to the temperate farming regions. The farmers and herders trade grain for milk and blood, and weeds and stubble in the millet fields are grazed in exchange for the manure dropped in the process. In prior times of drought the herders were able to move southward until the land recovered.

Though they often still live traditionally, the people of the Sahel, Sudan and Ogaden regions are no longer isolated, and today they are part of the world community. As in every part of the world these people

have both benefitted and suffered as a result of their contact with capitalism and colonialism. While the Europeans brought medicine, tools and other commodities, with them also came borders. The effect has been to change the way people could react in times of disaster.

The Europeans came by way of the sea. The effect of this was to redirect the economy of the northern savannas from the desert to the coast and the rail heads. In the west of Africa the nomads who had controlled trade became less significant and farmers began to raise commercial crops, such as peanuts, for export. When the colonizers withdrew (French from the west and British from the east) they left behind state boundaries which are not natural in terms of the people living there.

In some regions, people having the same culture are now divided between two nations, and traditional migration routes are blocked. The result has been that when those fleeing the recent droughts have reached the borders with other, already poor, countries, they have been forced into refugee camps where they must rely completely on aid for their survival.

There are other factors which paradoxically make this recent drought more destructive despite and because of contact with the advanced technological countries. In western Africa good weather during the period between 1950 and 1968, availability of medical care, and a new system of wells all contributed to an increase in the population of both people and livestock. However, in the case where changes of weather can

determine the relation of people to their means of producing from the earth this increase in population, as well as the restricted movement resulting from boundaries, and more significantly the presence of the wells which reduced the need to move in search of water, led to an unstable situation. In a land with sparse vegetation overgrazing (by more animals which stay around the wells), excessive milling of trees for fuel, and the erosion of farmland have all contributed to famine and the expansion of the desert.

At the same time, in the fertile regions of these countries, ever more land is being taken up in the production of such crops as fresh vegetables and flowers for export to Europe. The need to produce these crops in order to develop their economies decreases these nations' capacity to feed their displaced peoples. The result is an ever increasing dependence on aid, not only for development, but for many people to stay alive.

The droughts have reached famine proportions twice in the last decade. In 1973, during the fifth year of the drought, 200,000 people starved to death in the Sahel region (Western Africa). If not for emergency aid from the world community the death toll would have been greater. The second famine began in 1975, when reduced rainfalls occurred in the Ogaden and Sudan areas of Eastern Africa (Somalia, Ethiopia, Uganda). These effects of the droughts and famines are intensifying today and are being compounded by war in Ethiopia and Somalia and violent banditry in Uganda. Today it is estimated that there are approximately 1.5 million refugees in Somalia. Infectious diseases cause huge problems. People are weakened through hunger, malaria, tuberculosis, hepatitis and dysentery. These diseases are rapidly spreading among the refugees, and the children are dying because of measles. The "Economist" magazine estimates that in Uganda alone 400 to 500 people are dying daily. Inadequate supplies are getting through to the refugees because of logistical problems, corruption, banditry, and (most horrifying of all) apathy.

What is being done and what should be done? In 1974, international agencies, the U.S., and European nations joined with other African nations to provide

emergency supplies to the nations of the Sahel. Despite the fact that hundreds of thousands died, the relief operations were considered successful. However, they can be criticized on many grounds. There had been warnings of impending famine for several years, but they were virtually ignored by agencies such as the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization and the U.S. Agency for International Development. When aid was finally presented, it was done in an uncoordinated manner by several organizations. Food deliveries were made at times when the coastal roads were too wet to use and donations of aircraft were inadequate. The attitude of the U.S. Government now and at that time can be accurately described as apathetic, or as "business as usual". That is

blamed on the United States. Though the structures of the many of the present governments in Africa are a result of colonial ties with European nations, some of their problems are particularly African. In 1974 the President of Chad, Tombalbaye, refused to accept American aid after charges of corruption against him were detailed in a U.S. newspaper; much of the chaos in Uganda follows the reign by Amin, and Ethiopia too, has been charged with official neglect of the drought victims there.

It is a fallacy to believe that things will be back to normal once the rains start. The desert has spread, the disruption has been too great, and the economic and ecological conditions do not show any ready sign of development.

Research is being done, (UCR has an agricultural

"criteria upon which aid is organized and distributed must be changed"

the United States uses its surplus grain supplies as a political and economic tool. Additionally, in 1974, the Food For Peace program gave over half of its billion dollar budget to pro-U.S. countries such as Chile, Vietnam and Cambodia, while the six states of the Sahel received only 12% of it. Agriculture is treated as an industry and so is guided by hard-headed economics rather than by social welfare needs. It is simply not profitable to help starving people in resource-poor regions.

Just as the cause of famines cannot be entirely blamed on the lack of rainfall, the lack of sufficient aid can not be completely

research station in Senegal), and the nations in the Sahel are organizing to act collectively on problems which are common to them. Technology alone will not help. Development is needed simultaneously in several sectors of life. Agriculture, health services, education, as well roads and communications networks must all be expanded and improved. Crucial too is the absolute necessity for restructuring to occur in the international economic order. Additionally the criteria upon which aid is organized and distributed must be changed. Otherwise, life in the marginal climatic regions will constantly walk the knife-edge above disaster

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"so were my ancestors"
i was hungry and you said,
we don't hire over 35
i was hungry and you said,
God helps those ...
i was hungry and you told me
i shouldn't be
i was hungry and you told me
machines do that work now
i was hungry and you
had napalm bills
to pay
i was hungry and you said,
the poor are always with us.
Lord,
when did we see you hungry?

Matthew 25:37

INTERESTS *from page 2*

tional cohesiveness to topple this Facist dictatorship in 1979.

In 1965, military intervention was again brought close to home, as the marines were once again deployed to invade the Dominican Republic. The vital interests being protected here were those of the American Sugar company, which was the largest sugar refiner at the time. Their stability had been threatened because students and workers had joined together in an uprising to overthrow the government and gain liberation from economic

bondage. Again, an attempt to form democracy was stopped by U.S. Marines for the benefit and protection of corporate vital interests. Furthermore, the Caribbean is of strategic military importance, and its use as a place for the Western Nations' ruling classes to pursue their decadent lifestyles in obscurity, is essential to remember.

The final example is the case of Vietnam, the place where the longest act of military interventionist occupation the Western Nations have embarked on has occurred. The U.S. military was involved here from the early 1950's until

¹ The Padre was Antonio Jose Martinez. He was born January 7, 1793, in Abiquiu, Territory of New Mexico. The Padre studied at the college of Durango, where he became well versed in grammar, rhetoric, ontology, metaphysics, general physics, mathematics, theology, and the rules of the Roman Catholic Church. He was ordained a priest on February 16, 1822. Soon thereafter he returned to his native Abiquiu, and from there he went to Taos.

Being a firm believer of education, Padre Martinez established a school in his home in Taos in 1826, when education as such was still unknown in the Territory. In 1835 he brought to Taos a printing press, which was used for several printing projects. The first project was a newspaper called El Crepusculo, The Dawn. Another project was his famous Crepusculo de la Libertad.

During the years 1830, 1831, and 1836, the Padre served as deputy of the Department of the Territory of New Mexico.

As has been shown, there hasn't been a decade in this century that the West has kept its military out of other peoples' countries. Every time they have deployed their military, it was to deny people the right to struggle for liberation, and to protect the vital interest of various corporate entities. There are also a few questions to be considered. Where will the next act of intervention occur? Lebanon, Guatemala or El Salvador. Will they all be another Vietnam or part of the maintenance of control by the Western Nations?

a sobering realization that social change is a slow and painful process. There is also a keen awareness that many changes are cosmetic and superficial. Placing Chicanos in token positions of power and influence, for example, is an old and dangerous practice that simply creates the illusion of change.

The present decade holds tremendous potential for significant and real change, but such change will come neither automatically nor easily. That we are the largest growing minority and that California may soon become a Third World State cannot deny the daily reality of the barrios of the Southwest -- poverty, hunger, violence, drugs, crime, and despair.

¿QUIEN ES QUIEN?

cont. from page 2

mental Assembly in the Territory of New Mexico under the Mexican Government. During the years 1852-1853, the Padre served as an elected member of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of New Mexico.

Padre Martinez died on the 27th of July, 1867, after many years of service to his people. He sided with Benito Juarez in his effort to reform Mexico, battled against MENTAL SLAVERY, and fought on the side of the poor against those who believed that they had privileged access to the land. It is indeed unfortunate that his successors within the Church have not seen fit to follow in his footsteps.

² The priest was Camilo Torres. Going directly against the orders of the church, Padre Camilo publicly condemned the elite ruling class of Colombia and aligned himself with a movement advocating a more equal

reconstruction of the Colombian society. In 1963, he declared his commitment to this movement during a speech which he delivered at a rally in Bogota. He toured the country and spoke to workers and peasants of this movement.

In June of 1965, he founded the United Front of the Colombian People, bringing together liberals, intellectuals, militant Catholics, trade unionists, and communists in an effort to organize a movement that would bring a popular government to power. Believing that the revolutionary struggle is a Christian and priestly struggle, and that a revolution was historically necessary in order for people to attain power, Padre Camilo joined the armed struggle. On the 15th of February 1966, four months after joining the guerrillas of the Army of National Liberation, Padre Camilo was killed in the mountains of Bucaramanga by government troops.



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NACS *from page 5*

In this light, the theme of the Riverside NACS conference seems most appropriate -- "Chicano Experience: Reflections on the 70's, Directions for the 80's." Participants looked back and examined a decade of Chicano research and scholarship and also looked forward, seeking new directions for the future. Chicano scholarship has achieved many inroads as evidenced by scope of and participation in the conference, and also the very recent publication of significant and scholarly Chicano works not only by Chicano publishers but by prestigious University presses like Harvard, Yale, California, and Chicago. It

appears that we are on the threshold of a New Renaissance in Chicano Studies.

It can also not deny the fact that only a select and fortunate few have actually reaped the fruits of the movement of the 1960's. An urgent challenge to the growing numbers of Chicano scholars is to develop mechanisms for applying the information and knowledge they have acquired in a manner which will help to alleviate these social problems. Perhaps in this way the idea of the 1980's as "The Decade of the Chicano" can be brought to pass.

Despite these advances, projections for the future are not of blind optimism, but rather, of cautious and guarded optimism. There is

REAGAN'S BUDGET PROPOSALS HURT THE POOR

One of the major issues confronting people today is the 1982 fiscal budget proposal by the Reagan administration. In his budget proposal to Congress, Reagan has extensively reduced the already insufficient social and welfare programs, which presently help only a very small percentage of the poor remain afloat of the high and ever increasing costs of living. Reagan proposed cuts in every area of the federal government budget except military spending and the "social safety net" (social security and veterans' benefits); but even then, some of the latter's peripheral programs were also targeted for reductions.

million presently in the program. The proposal would also reduce benefits from about 258,000 more families; reduce the little they receive to even less. He also wants to entirely exclude those persons on strike from receiving benefits, and to reduce funds for refugee assistance.

He has restructured Welfare from the categorical type grants in existence now into 3 block grants. The establishment of block grants means that the money is given in a lump sum to the state governments and they in turn would decide how to use the money. The block grants must be used in the general

services programs for the elderly into one block grant.

The food stamps and nutrition programs were also hit by changes in the eligibility guidelines. The Reagan administration is talking about dropping 400,000 families from the food stamp program by putting a ceiling of \$10,985 for a family of 4 (130% of the federal poverty level) for those eligible to participate. They are also going to reduce benefits to families

education are also being cut by 25% each.

College student aid has also been drastically reduced. Grants for low and middle income students and guaranteed student loans are all being reduced. The administration proposes that students and parents pay a greater share of college costs, before even being eligible for loans and it will no longer subsidize interest on loans to parents or pay interest accrued

the burden of what is cut.

Also, twenty-six categorical health programs are to be consolidated into two block grants. The total amount allocated is to be cut by 75% of its amount. A general health services program and preventive health services program are to be formed from these block grants.

These are just some of the cuts the Reagan administration has proposed in its 1982 fiscal budget. Not included were the cuts to subsidized housing, community development aid, or in the Public Service Employment. It is quite evident from what is presented here where Reagan's heart does not lie. His budget does not affect those people who have money and are financially well off; rather, he goes for the throat of those people least able to afford and to defend themselves against these cuts. The poor people are the ones who suffer from lack of adequate health care.

They are the ones who suffer from lack of adequate housing and education. Their children will be the ones who will suffer by higher school lunch prices. When the readjustments for eligibility requirements are put into effect, they will not reflect the ever increasing inflation rates on prices for food and other living costs. The poor will receive even less of what food stamps and aids they get now.

While creating these hardships for people, Reagan still justifies the increase of the military budget by over \$30 billion, in order to provide military aid

"Reagan has extensively reduced the already insufficient social and welfare programs."

The administration sees fit to cut Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) by \$1 billion, the Food Stamps program by \$1.8 billion, Child Nutrition programs by \$1.7 billion, educational spending by 25%, social security peripheral programs by \$2.5 billion, Public Service jobs by \$3.6 billion, eliminate the Legal Services Corporation entirely, and cut 25% off 26 health grant programs. Yet he seeks to increase military spending by \$6.3 billion this year in order to bring the military budget up to \$177 billion for 1981, and then increase it to \$222.2 billion for the 1982 fiscal year.

In the area of AFDC, he proposes cutting the nonexistent fat off the program by making changes in the eligibility requirements people have to meet. These changes would cut 400,000 families from the 318

area for which they are allocated, such as welfare, but not necessarily specifically for the same type of programs as they have been used in the past.

The state governments would no longer have to match federal money with state money in order to receive the funds. Of these 3 block grants, one lumps together all federal child welfare, foster care, and rehabilitation service funds and community services administration programs; another replaces the low-income energy assistance programs and the emergency aid to families with children program with aid to state programs for people in emergencies program. This has the effect of reducing the combined amounts of the 2 programs, totaling \$2.4 billion in 1981, to \$1.4 billion in 1982. The third one consolidates the social

whose children participate in federally subsidized lunches at school. Along with that, they are going to tighten the school lunch and other feeding programs for children and cut down the supplemental feeding programs for women, infants and children (WIC), decreasing the number of recipients by one third. A change in the food assistance to Puerto Rico will also occur. It will change the various categorical food aid programs to a single block grant (cutting their funds from \$1.2 billion in 1981 to \$922 million in 1982) to be distributed by those in charge at their own discretion.

Educational categorical grants have been targeted, and may be changed into 2 block grants. One, which receives \$3.6 billion will consolidate 50 programs which help the handicapped and economically disadvantaged children, the functionally illiterate adults, and children in schools undergoing desegregation. The other one will consolidate local school improvements, services children to children in state institutions, and improvement in state education together. Funds for bilingual and vocational

while the student is in school.

The social security program was not touched by the Reagan administration, but three add-on benefit programs would be eliminated and another one will have its eligibility requirements tightened. The Reagan administration would like to eliminate the minimum benefits program,

"The poor people are the ones that suffer from lack of adequate health care"

the program that makes payments to adult students who are children of retired, disabled or deceased workers, and the program which pays a lump sum of money for death benefits if the deceased person has no surviving spouse or children. There would also occur a tightening of the eligibility requirements for disability benefits.

In the health budget, Medicaid was the largest program cut. They would allow only a 5% growth in this health program for the poor and disabled, while the costs of health care are expected to increase an average of 15% in 1982. What will happen is that the state and county will have to carry

to a country like El Salvador, whose people do not present a "threat" to us but are merely fighting to liberate themselves from the military dictatorship that exists there and is helped kept in power by U.S. support. In 1982 a proposed \$25 million in military loans will go to El Salvador, \$17 million of that at low interest rates, 2% and 3%. An additional \$40 million will go for economic aid, and an additional \$1 million for U.S. training of El Salvadorean military officers. The Reagan administration clearly points out by its proposals and actions that it intends not to help but to hinder the poor people of this world.



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GENTE POBRE SUFRE A LA MANO DE REAGAN

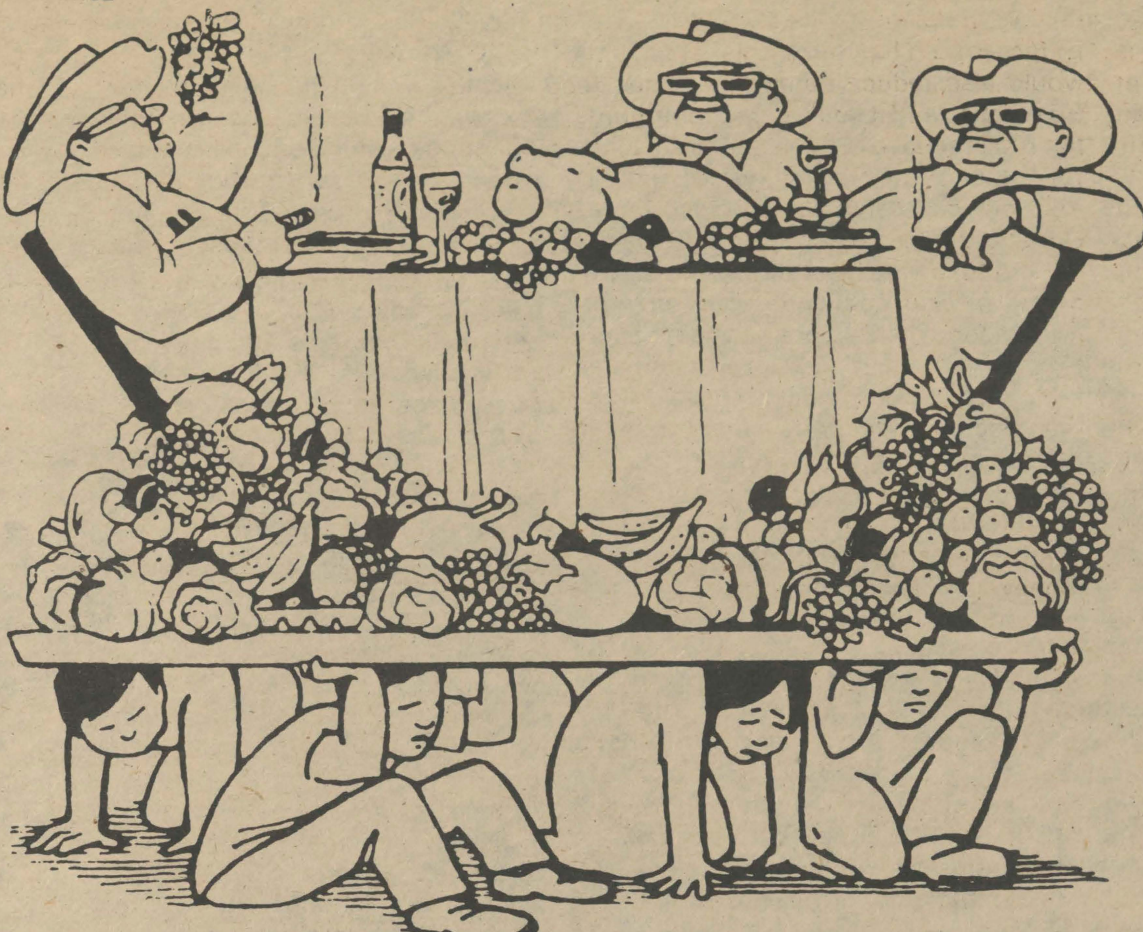
Translated by Onelia Martinez

Una de los principales asuntos que el pueblo enfrenta actualmente, es la propuesta del presupuesto fiscal del año 1982 por la administración de Reagan. En su propuesta al Congreso, Reagan ha reducido extensivamente los programas sociales y gubernamentales ya insuficientes y que actualmente solo proveen ayuda a un pequeño porcentaje de los necesitados quienes se mantienen a flote del alto costo de la vida y que sigue aumentando. Reagan propuso reducir el presupuesto en todas las áreas del gobierno federal con la excepción de los gastos de la fuerza militar y la "red de seguridad social" (seguro social y beneficios para veteranos); pero aún así algunos de los últimos programas periféricos fueron también sentenciados a reducirse.

La administración encuentra apropiado reducir la Asistencia a Familias con (niños) dependientes con \$1 billón, el programa de estampillas de alimentos con \$1.8 billones, programas de Nutrición para niños con \$1.7 billones, gastos educacionales con 25%, programas periféricos de seguro social con \$2.5 billones, trabajos de Servicio Público con \$3.6 billones, eliminación de la Corporación de Servicios Legales y reducir 25% de los 26 programas de concesiones de salud. Pero aun así intenta aumentar los gastos militares con \$6.3 billones este año para poder llegar a un presupuesto militar de 177 billones para 1981, y después aumentarlo a \$222.2 billones para el año fiscal de 1982.

En el área de (AFDC) propone reducir lo extra del programa que no existe al hacer cambios en los requisitos de elegibilidad que la gente debe reunir. Estos cambios reducirán a 400,000 familias de las 318 millones que actualmente participan en el programa. La propuesta también reducirá los beneficios de algunas 258,000 familias más; reducirá lo poco que reciben un poco más todavía. También quiere excluir completamente a aquellas personas en huelga de recibir beneficios y reducir los fondos de asistencia para refugiados.

El ha vuelto a estructurar la asistencia federal del tipo de concesiones categóricas que existen a concesiones de 3 bloques. El establecimiento de concesiones de bloque deben ser usadas en



el área general donde han sido alocadas, como el de la asistencia federal, pero no será necesario usar los fondos para el mismo tipo de programas como han sido empleados en el pasado. El gobierno estatal no tendrá que igualar los fondos federales con los fondos estatales para poder recibir dichos fondos.

De las 3 concesiones de bloque, una de ellas une toda la asistencia federal para niños, cuidado de huérfanos y fondos para servicios de rehabilitación y programas de administración para servicio a la comunidad; la otra reemplaza los programas de asistencia de energía para aquellos de bajos ingresos y el programa de asistencia de emergencia para familias con niños con acceso a programas estatales para

calificar para participar. También reducirán los beneficios a familias cuyos hijos participan en el programa de alimentación en las escuelas subsidiados federalmente. Junto con eso, también estrecharán los alimentos en las escuelas y otros programas de alimentación para niños y reducirán los programas de alimentación suplementales para mujeres, infantes y niños (WIC) disminuyendo el número de recipientes por un tercio. Un cambio en la asistencia de alimentos en Puerto Rico también se llevará a cabo. Cambiarán los varios programas categóricos de asistencia de alimentación a una sola masa (reduciendo los fondos de \$1.2 billones en 1981 a \$922 millones en 1982) para ser distribuida por los que están a cargo a su

Las concesiones categóricas educacionales han

han sido drásticamente reducida. Concesiones para estudiantes de ingresos bajos y medianos y préstamos garantizados también han sido reducidos.

La administración propone que los estudiantes y padres de familia paguen una mayor parte del costo de colegio antes de ser elegibles para préstamos y así no subvencionar interés en préstamos de padres de familia o pagar interés acumulado mientras que el estudiante aun asiste a la escuela.

El programa de seguro social no fue tocado por la administración de Reagan, pero, tres programas de beneficio añadidos serán eliminados y otro tendría sus requisitos de elegibilidad ajustados. A la administración de Reagan le gustaría eliminar el programa de beneficios mínimos, el programa que

sobrellevar el peso de los que se reduce. También 26 programas de salud categóricos serán consolidados en dos concesiones en masa. La cantidad total alocada será reducida por 75% de su cantidad. Un programa general de servicios de salud y otro de servicios preventivos de salud, serán creados para estar los concesiones.

Estas son solamente algunas de las reducciones que la administración de Reagan ha propuesto en su presupuesto fiscal de 1982. No son incluidas las reducciones en las subvenciones de construcción, asistencia de desarrollo de comunidad, o en el Empleo de Servicio Público. Es muy evidente en lo que se ha presentado aquí ver donde se encuentra el corazón de Reagan. Su presupuesto no afecta a aquellos que tienen dinero y que están económicamente bien establecidos; más bien se dirige a aquellas personas que menos pueden defenderse de estas reducciones. La gente pobre es quien sufre por falta de atención médica adecuada. Ellos son los que sufren por falta de educación y viviendas adecuadas. Sus hijos serán los que sufran por los precios más elevados de los alimentos en la escuela. Cuando los reajustes para los requisitos de elegibilidad sean puestos en efecto, estos no reflejarán la tasa de inflación siempre en aumento en los precios de comida y otros costos de la vida.

Mientras que se crean estas opresiones para la gente, Reagan aun justifica el aumento del presupuesto militar por más de \$30 billones, para así proveer ayuda a un país como El Salvador, cuya gente no presenta una "amenaza" para nosotros pero que pelea para liberarse de la dictadura militar que existe en ese lugar y que es mantenida en poder por el apoyo de los Estados Unidos. En 1982 se propone enviar a El Salvador \$25 millones en préstamos militares, \$17 millones de los cuales se cobrará una tasa de interés baja, de 2% y 3%. Cuarenta millones adicionales serán enviados a asistencia económica y un millón adicional para el entrenamiento de oficiales militares salvadoreños. La administración de Reagan claramente señala por sus proposiciones y acciones que no intenta ayudar sino perjudicar a la gente pobre de este mundo.

"Reagan ha reducido extensivamente los programas sociales.."

personas en programas de emergencia. Esto tiene el efecto de reducir la cantidad combinada de los dos programas, sumando \$2.4 billones en 1981, a \$1.4 billones en 1982. La tercera consolida los programas de servicios sociales para ancianos en una sola masa.

Las estampillas para comida y los programas de nutrición fueron también afectados por los cambios de guías de elegibilidad. La administración de Reagan habla también de discontinuar a 400,000 familias del programa de estampillas para comida marcando un cielo máximo de \$10,985 para una familia de cuatro (130% del nivel de pobreza federal) para aquellos que

sido atacadas también y pueden ser cambiadas a dos masas. Una consolidaría 50 programas de concesiones que proveen ayuda a los niños discapacitados y económicamente en desventaja, a los adultos analfabetos funcionales, y estudiantes que sufren por la segregación, que recibe \$3.6 billones. La otra consolidaría mejoramientos locales en las escuelas, servicios a niños en instituciones estatales, y mejoramiento en la educación estatal juntamente. Los fondos para la educación bilingüe y vocacional también serán reducidos por un 25% cada uno.

La asistencia para estudiantes en colegio también

paga estudiantes adultos que son hijos de trabajadores jubilados, discapacitados o difuntos, y el programa que paga una gran suma de dinero para beneficios de muerte si el difunto no deja esposa ni hijos. También habría un ajuste en los requisitos de elegibilidad para beneficios de discapacidad.

En el presupuesto de salud, "Medicaid" fue el programa con mayor reducción. Solo permitirían un 5% de crecimiento en el programa para el pobre y el discapacitado, mientras que el costo de servicio médico se espera que aumente un promedio de 15% en 1982. Lo que pasará es que el estado y el condado tendrán que

GUATEMALA: LA LUCHA DE LIBERACIÓN SE INTENSIFICA

by Alberto Garcia

Al calor de la guerra civil salvadoreña y mientras en Nicaragua se consolida la revolución sandinista, el pueblo de Guatemala una vez más organiza sus fuerzas de combate. Desde la renuncia de Jacobo Arbenz, el 27 de Junio de 1954, la estrategia política del gobierno guatemalteco se ha caracterizado por su incapacidad de pacificar a la nación y abrir el cause para una democracia popular. El aparato represivo representado por las fuerzas armadas y los grupos oligárquicos, han creado, por muchos años, un clima de terror. Han establecido un sistema en el que día a día pierden la vida aquellos ciudadanos que tienen la capacidad de organizar al pueblo en la lucha contra la corrupción. Los sectores que controlan la economía del país tales como el sector importador, el sector exportador, el sector industrial tradicional y el poderoso sector bancario nacional apoyado por el capital extranjero, forman una fuerte coalición de apoyo al gobierno de Romeo Lucas García. Han sido los millonarios algodoneros y cafetaleros los organizadores de la Mano Blanca y otros tantos grupos de derecha que aterrorizan al pueblo. Ellos son los que a diario alimentan y financian la represión en las ciudades y en el campo. Desde que Lucas García asumió el poder en Guatemala miles de personas han desaparecido y perdido la vida. El nivel de violencia permanece tan alto como en la administración del presidente Laugerud García. Muchas organizaciones humanitarias tal como Amnesty International han denunciado y criticado severamente la violación de los derechos humanos. Muchos estudiantes centroamericanos de tránsito por esa nación, han sido encarcelados y ultrajados. En julio del año pasado, el estudiante de medicina de la Universidad de San Carlos en ciudad Guatemala, Douglas Manuel Sequeira, nicaraguense, fue detenido por las fuerzas armadas ignorándose su paradero por algún

tiempo, hasta que el gobierno reconoció oficialmente su detención bajo la presión del gobierno de Managua. Según informaciones publicadas recientemente por la prensa costarricense, cinco de las cuarenta personas asesinadas diariamente en Guatemala por motivos políticos son mujeres, blanco de la campaña que pretende frenar la participación femenina en la lucha de liberación. La prensa española informó recientemente que veinticinco misioneros se marcharon a México y a la ahora democrática Nicaragua, huyendo de la represión. La represión militar en Guatemala, que en un principio afectó únicamente a estudiantes y trabajadores, se ha extendido ahora a la zona del Quiché. La mayoría de los indígenas han sido obligados a concentrarse en el altiplano, por las autoridades militares, y así despoblar aquellas áreas en donde los grandes intereses nacionales y extranjeros, planean la explotación de las riquezas mineras. La represión en Ixcán ha tenido lugar sistemáticamente por mucho tiempo y el ejército ha ocupado militarmente algunos pueblos Maya, donde centenares de dirigentes comunitarios han sido asesinados y exterminados. Los bombardeos son frecuentes en esa región. En su tarea de controlar militarmente a la población, el ejército y la policía han inventado una falsa campaña de alfabetización. Cabe mencionar, que cada soldado controla cierto número de casas para saber el número de personas que viven en cada una de ellas. Así impiden que los campesinos se unan a la guerrilla. El control es tal que muchas veces torturan a toda una familia, si los supuestos alfabetizadores no encuentran a un "alumno".

La clase en el poder trata de detener, por todos los medios a su alcance, el nuevo avance que ahora ha tomado el movimiento revolucionario. En Guatemala al igual que en El Salvador, el gobierno

padece del miedo a que se extienda la llama libertaria que encendiera la revolución Sandinista. Por su parte, los grupos revolucionarios realizan una labor organizativa sin interrupciones. Las Fuerzas Armadas Rebeldes, FAR y el Ejército Guerrillero de los Pobres, EGP continúan coordinando sus actividades. En los frentes guerrilleros y consolidados, los revolucionarios han pasado a la ofensiva. De Julio a Noviembre de 1980, solo el EGP realizó 15 emboscadas a las columnas militares y 17 hostigamientos a cuarteles, destacamentos y otros puestos fijos enemigos. En el mes de Agosto se organizó el frente Che Guevara en Huehuetenango y sus combatientes tomaron siete cabeceras departamentales. La capacidad combativa del pueblo guatemalteco esta a prueba, y a medida que la amenaza de una intervención armada se divisa, la lucha en la región aumenta.

El gobierno de Washington ha demostrado que su actual política es la de usar una vez más el garrote en America Latina, sin importar cuanta sangre se derrame. La ayuda militar a los gobiernos genocidas de Centroamerica, insulta la dignidad de estos pueblos y aleja más y más las esperanzas de hermandad en el continente. El pueblo Americano no podrá apoyar jamás la política colonialista de los años pasados, como solución a los problemas a que se enfrenta Centroamerica. Por eso condenamos todo intento de intervención en Guatemala, El Salvador y Nicaragua. Por eso condenamos el uso del territorio de Honduras como base de operaciones contrarrevolucionarias y esperamos una política de más cordura en las relaciones que los Estados Unidos trata de mantener con Centroamerica. En el caso de Guatemala, el cambio sigue siendo inevitable y el uso de la fuerza solo intensificará más y más la lucha de liberación.





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