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Passage

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**JANUARY 1985
VOL. 25 NO. 5**

SOUTH AFRICA PROTEST



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NORTHWEST PASSAGE

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OVERHEARD
...AT AMERICA'S LUNCH COUNTERS

To the Editor,
 In the last issue of the Passage, I read with interest the article on the Campbell's Soup boycott. I was surprised that I had not heard of the plight of the farm workers sooner. I not only had the sense of the suffering and needless deprivation the workers have been forced to face, I was also forced to face the ugliness and seriousness with which the Campbell's company does business. As a result, I do not go into a supermarket without cruising the soup aisle to see if someone is reaching for a can of Campbell's.... I greet them eagerly and give them the facts about the boycott ... the facts alone are compelling enough that once a person hears them, I assert, he will neither enjoy or buy Campbell's again.... I applaud the Passage for the stand they have taken on the Campbell's issue and the sensitivity and integrity with which the article was written.

T. Gibson
Seattle

"I was decorating the bathroom in my mind."

Dear Passage People:

All I can say is *thank goddess* for the Passage Personals! Yours is the only paper in town that has allowed me to truly express myself. A couple of days ago, I decided to place an ad in the *Weekly* that I'd run in the *Passage* a couple of months ago. I was curious to see if the responses would be any different. The ad was a minor piece of feminist erotica, if I do say so myself, and I was certain that it would win the *Weekly's* coveted "Ad of the Week" award.

Imagine my surprise and consternation when the *Weekly* would not consider running my poetic ad with-

out major deletions. In fact, the exact words of the person taking my ad were: "Uh, I don't think it's a good idea for you to be so specific about your physical attributes." When I replied that I didn't see anything wrong with being specific I was told, "Listen, we know *you're* not a degenerate, but there are plenty of degenerates out there who'd love to put ads like this one in the *Weekly*. If we ran your ad, we'd have to do the same for every degenerate."

Degenerate, my shapely derriere! That ad was merely saucy and humorous; a reflection of my irreverence and *joie de vivre*. From now on I'm doing all *my* personal advertising in the *Passage!*

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11. I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete. (signed) Kris Fulsaa, Distribution Manager.

CORRECTION

In the last issue, Paul Zinsel's article was described on the front page as "Israel: The Politics of Economy". This should have been "Israel: The Politics of Ethnicity". The Passage regrets the error.

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Terror from the Sky in El Salvador



by Kurt Peppard

BOMBING CIVILIANS

The Salvadoran army has been bombing civilian targets in rural El Salvador. These indiscriminate attacks have been acknowledged by a variety of news sources, the United Nations' General Assembly, and the UN Commission on Human Rights.

Besides "iron" bombs, incendiary bombs containing napalm or phosphorus are being dropped, and the use of bacteriological weapons has been reported. The Red Cross and other medical aid workers have been blocked in their efforts to aid the victims.

The daily bombing runs in El Salvador, though not widely reported in the US, are not a new occurrence. They have been a regular part of rural life in that country since 1980. The 137 bombings in the first five months of 1984 are an increase of 70% over the 1983 total of 227. In five Departments (administrative districts) of El Salvador, the increase has been 530%. In March of this year, claiming to be protecting the elections, the military conducted 47 bombings, a new monthly record in the four-year-old war.

In that same month, the number of bombs dropped increased from ten to thirty per day. At the suggestion of US advisers, three to five planes are sent on each mission, compared to one or two prior to March. 1300 deaths have been attributed to the bombings in the first six months of this year.

NOT BY ACCIDENT

The Salvadoran army, under the direction of US advisers, has been using the same techniques of "pacification" that the US used against the people of Vietnam. According to the Salvadoran army, the rebels (organized as the Marti National Liberation Front or FMLN) use civilians as shields. At the same time the army feels that the civilians are just as guilty as the rebel soldiers. As Lt.-Col. Miguel Antonio Mendez said, "We are not trying to remove the sea from the fish, because there is no sea; there are only fish." The U.S. Embassy in El Salvador agrees; according to U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering, "It is our understanding that the overwhelming number of civilian casualties are suffered by civilian logistical support personnel [for the FMLN]... we believe it is correct to conclude that there are no (or very few) displaced persons *per se* in the actual fighting zones, as normally these people move themselves to areas free of hostilities or where government assistance is available."

However, it is very difficult to decide to leave an area where one has lived all one's life. Most of these people are extremely poor; bombing raids and ground-troop sweeps often destroy what little they have. Those that do leave, and are caught by the army, will meet either death or internment in a refugee camp. And where is it that they can go except to the refugee camps and increasingly crowded urban slums? Due to the army, approximately 500,000 persons are internally displaced.

In direct violation of Article 40, Protocol II of the Geneva Convention, the Salvadoran military has been

bombing civilian homes, some of which have flown the white flag. Bombings have occurred in areas where no recent FMLN activities had taken place.

DEVASTATION VICTIMS

Besides killing and injuring people, the bombs destroy their homes and subsistence crops. The air raids also force the population to flee, allowing ground troops to come in and finish off what is left. Crops, orchards, livestock and personal possessions, including all farming and eating implements, and even pictures of saints, are systematically destroyed. Any persons left behind are murdered.

Civilians who return to fix up their homes are bombed again. Through repeated bomb damage, nothing is left with which to rebuild and the soil is damaged beyond use.

Where things have not reached the level that people are forced to abandon their area, conditions created by the army make normal daily activities nearly impossible to carry out. The smoke created by cooking fires in daytime gives bombers a clear target, as does farming activity or the hanging of laundry. At nighttime, water must be kept close to cooking fires so they can be put out at the sound of aircraft. Many days are spent hiding in holes or caves. Sleeping is difficult even on quiet nights. These disruptions, coupled with the impossibility of escape, are literally driving people crazy.

MEDICAL ASPECTS

Napalm and phosphorus destroy everything in their paths. Their fluidity enables them to roll into hiding places such as holes. They emit toxic gases.

Napalm, which is petroleum-based jelly, sticks to everything it touches and keeps burning until smothered or used up. It normally inflicts surface burns which are not always fatal, depending on the degree of the burn and the percentage of the body affected. As with most burns, infection and shock are critical factors.

Phosphorus, on the other hand, is nearly always fatal. It will burn through to the bone, and it is difficult to extinguish. It ignites upon contact with air, and liquefies at 120 degrees F. In the blood, 0.1 gram is lethal.

Phosphorus cannot be put out merely by submerging the wound in water. Through repeated application of mud packs or gauze soaked in a saline solution, the flame can eventually be smothered due to lack of oxygen; however this can take a day or longer. If it becomes reexposed to air, it will reignite. In milder cases, the victim may live if the phosphorus can be scraped from the wound. Lacking anesthesia, this is an especially painful process.

RED CROSS MARKS THE SPOT

In addition to aerial surveillance, the activities of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) have also been used to locate civilian targets. The ICRC makes it a point to inform the military authorities of their scheduled visitations 24 hours in advance. Bombing raids have been conducted immediately after the Red Cross dispensed aid to victims of military assaults. Or, on the day of a scheduled visitation, the army denies the ICRC access to the area; civilians arrive, and the army attacks them.

The army, for obvious reasons, does not want this information to get out, as is evidenced by their murder of the wounded and fleeing. In March of 1983, Mariannella Garcia Villas, the president of the Salvadoran Human Rights Commission, along with several coworkers, went into one area of bombings to investigate. (This group should not be confused with the government's Salvadoran Commission on Human Rights, the president of which is also the head of the National Police.) On March 14, as they were leaving the area, they were murdered by soldiers of the Atlacatl Immediate Reaction Battalion. Fortunately, one member of the party escaped with the tape recordings, photographs, and soil samples containing napalm they had collected.

As already indicated, the Reagan Administration too plays a major role in these bombings. The US advisers have taken part in planning and executing military maneuvers, while US troops from Honduras fly the bulk of spotting and reconnaissance missions. Besides the 55 advisers and 40 support personnel in El Salvador, soldiers from among the 350-400 troops stationed in Honduras make regular ventures into Salvadoran territory. Because they are based in Honduras, they do not fall under the 55-adviser limit for El Salvador.

The bombing of civilians in rural El Salvador clearly demonstrates that the army is unable to defeat the FMLN. Salvadoran president Duarte's recent attempts at negotiating with the FMLN-FDR should, at best, be considered another maneuver to get more US military aid so that once again he can step up the war against the people of El Salvador.

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Chileans Confront the Pacos

by Thomas Schmid

(Translated from Die Tageszeitung, West Berlin, Thurs. Nov. 29, 1984)

The Chilean regime, using all the means of power at its disposal, was unable Tuesday to prevent the first Day of Protest against the military dictatorship since the President, General Pinochet, decreed a state of siege. For the first time, all segments of the opposition had joined in a call for a test of strength. They said this one would be "decisive". The protests were introduced by numerous bombings the preceding night. Tuesday evening, the dictatorship withdrew the credentials of all foreign journalists and summoned them to its information office. Nevertheless, the following report reached us from our special correspondent, Thomas Schmid

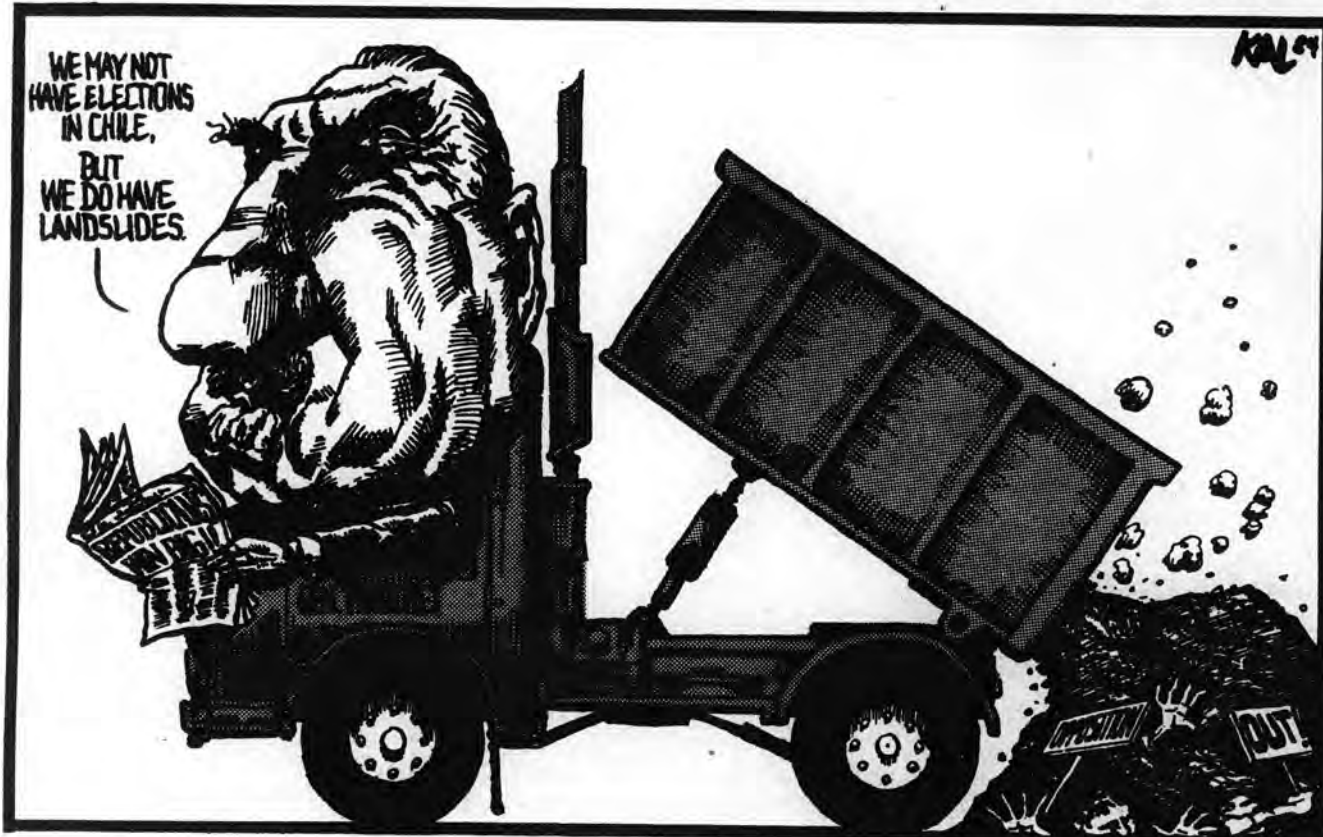
—Die Tageszeitung

the dozens of international press and TV cameras. The old proprietor of a radio shop raises the storefront grating, lets people in, and puts up walls of cardboard boxes against the water, until the danger has passed. This repeats itself half a dozen times. The cafe next door receives a respectable load from state pipes. The water is swept out and sawdust spread around. All routine, once a month. There is no shop on this large plaza which would deny democrats shelter.

It's calmer in front of the department of engineering. With all composure, the students pass the time, lay a chain to bar the gate to their military-occupied school, and let themselves be photographed by a fleet of journalists. Back and forth they run between a 20-meter (60-foot) banner, which tells Pinochet to go to hell, and the street, where they block the intersection. Back and

district's nonpartisan organizational structure, many of whose members come from various parties.

The 18 grassroots organizations in the neighborhood (a health service, community kitchen, group for the homeless, etc.) each send two representatives to the Command's directorate, which, "as a precaution", redesignated itself a Christmas Committee yesterday, Monday. As a precaution, Rosa says with a laugh, for some members of the Command were recently exiled to the northern desert. There are only seven men in the 36-person Command. And even at that, men are overrepresented; for it is women almost exclusively who work in the base structures. "That has a lot to do with the machismo here," Rosa explains to me. For the women, this creates the possibility of breaking out of their traditional roles. While we talk, Pierre Dubois, with priestly patience, tosses short interviews to dozens of journalists. I have never before experienced such loathsome journalism. The camera teams patrol the slum streets in taxis, stand and walk with military straightness, carry themselves, as if they had just conquered the territory. But the people have gotten used to it; they are reserved.



Monday evening. On the street an older, well-dressed man lays a hand on my shoulder from behind: "Are you a journalist?" "Yes, here are my cred—" "Come with me." I feel just the least bit weak in the knees. But a few steps on, my companion whispers to me: "Go to the central train station at 6:30, something's happening there."

The underground is punctual. When I arrive five minutes late, the act has already run its course. I find only smoldering garbage, a couple of dozen *carabineros** (or "pacos" as they are popularly known), and thousands upon thousands of leaflets on the street. The whole site is strewn with a message which was not allowed to appear in any news medium: "Protest Tomorrow, General Strike the Day After."

Tuesday. Downtown at nine in the morning, I come upon a genuine certified crowd. A demo, I think — since under the state of siege, gatherings of more than two people are forbidden. But no: they're curiosity seekers watching glaziers at work. In the night, a bomb shattered every last window up to the eighth floor in the four corner buildings at this intersection of two alleys. Less than 200 meters (600 feet) beyond lies the Moneda, the presidential palace.

I Can Stand a Little Rain

At noon sharp, there's really something happening at the Plaza de Armas directly in front of Santiago Cathedral: 300 journalists are following fifty opposition leaders, predominantly Christian Democrats, who have popped up at Santiago's central plaza. Hardly have they disappeared, when from all sides there sounds the chant, "el pueblo/unido/jamas sera vencido" (the people/united/will never be defeated), the battle cry of Allende's supporters over eleven years ago.

And already the pacos are here, their water cannons wheeling onto the scene, spraying people, all in front of

forth the pacos drive past, hurling a couple of tear gas grenades.

The journalists exchange news: the Spanish national TV team and UPI's director had cassettes taken away from them. In addition, there is the rumor that all journalists have to get themselves reaccredited.

It is women almost exclusively who work in the grassroots organizations. "That has a lot to do with the machismo here," Rosa explains.

Where Unemployment Surpasses 50% and \$400 Surpasses Per Capita Annual Income

The neighborhood of La Victoria ("Victory"), a slum in the south of the metropolitan area, feels a little like liberated territory. Numerous artistically rendered wall paintings tell of the neighborhood's battle-readiness and desire for peace. Here, nobody beats around the bush about their opinions. People are quite openly against Pinochet, against the "milicos" (the soldiers), and of course against the pacos. No doubt about it. Inside La Victoria's small church, which is attended by Father Pierre Dubois since his predecessor was shot by soldiers two months ago in his own home, I meet with Rosa, the thirtyish president of the Neighborhood Command, the

Again and again, youths in the darkness stalk the pacos and throw stones; the pacos for their part shoot rubber bullets and lead shot.

Already before darkness sets in, there is action. Youths, almost children, form a small procession and shout against Pinochet. Nothing happens . . . until, with deafening noise, paco and milico helicopters fly in low — only meters above building roofs.

That appears to be a signal. Streetfighters, 12 to 18 years old for the most part, emerge everywhere. Other boys keep taking quick sniffs of a kind of glue called "Neoprene" from little plastic bags.** The pacos control entry into the neighborhood, but don't feel at ease going in, even though there are no burning barricades this time. Again and again, youths in the darkness stalk the pacos and throw stones; the pacos for their part shoot rubber bullets and lead shot. There's no close combat; when there is shooting, people run off. There are already too many deaths from such confrontations, a fiftyish father tells me, slingshot in hand. Meanwhile, it is dangerous to try to leave the area. Gunfire cracks the air again and again.

I find refuge with a family. We talk until late into the night about Allende and the coup in times past, poverty and hopelessness today. And my host keeps apologizing for people not aiming to be as militant this time. Before, everybody was defending the barricades. "It was like a carnival. But since then, people have been a little afraid, after the mass arrests, the daily intimidations, patrols, shooting, under the state of siege. And tomorrow the press will write that everything was quiet."

At six in the morning, the helicopters wake me up. They roar for a solid hour in low flight over the neighborhood. You can't hear yourself talk. More and more people are suffering from neurosis. Lorencia of the health committee had told me. Sure, the residents make fun of the pacos and their helicopters; but they can't laugh away the stress.

Translation and subheads by Dale Chock, NWP editor.

* Carabineros are a feature of Italy and some Hispanic countries: a regional or national police force armed with submachine guns (originally carbines — hence the name.)

** Neoprene is the trade name of a synthetic rubber; this usage is incongruous. Glue sniffing is widespread among teenage boys in the extremely poor sections of Chilean cities.

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Sexual Mutilation

Clitoral excision as cultural norm

by Soledad de Montalvo-Mielche

The temperature generally drops several degrees when female circumcision is mentioned by any European, when Muslims are present. What is interesting from an historical point of view is the fact that both male and female circumcision has been practiced in Ethiopia and Egypt since antiquity. Sanchuniathon, Herodotus, Diodorus Siculus, Strabo, etc. have confirmed this. There can be absolutely no doubt that the practice of male circumcision was borrowed by the Hebrews from the Egyptians.

For males, circumcision is a messy but comparatively trivial operation, whereas for females, clitoridectomy is painful beyond belief. All of the women whom I know personally who have undergone 'pharaonic circumcision' and have been infibulated say they have never recovered from it—physically or mentally—and, of course, they are absolutely incapable of experiencing any sexual pleasure. On the contrary, sex is very painful for them.

No doubt, eastern men have always nourished, and still nourish, a deep visceral fear and distrust of all infant females—some of the bright ones might grow into brainy women who would go after them with meat cleavers, join 'Women's Lib', demand equal rights, etc. So eons ago the ancestors of Semitic "machos" reached the conclusion that the only way to beat the deadly females of their species was to circumcise them first, then lock them up in harems or zenanas.

Pharaonic circumcision and infibulation are regarded as the only 100% effective way to safeguard a girl's virginity. Indeed, it is so effective that, for intercourse to take place after marriage, the husband or a matron has to defibulate the bride with a knife to pry her open.

The ghastly screams and shrieks which have terrified so many foreign tourists at night in the vicinity of "Honeymoon" hotel, in Port Sudan, are emitted by brides being defibulated. A Sudanese journalist commented, "For us they seem perfectly normal, we all know that the first nights of marriage are agony."

But just what is pharaonic circumcision? I saw it done when I stayed as a guest in the home of wealthy Arab friends. A great feast had been prepared to which all female relatives and friends had been invited, and since I was regarded as a guest of honor, I not only had to attend, but was given a ringside seat. The miserable little victim was grabbed by four women, who threw her upon a sort of pallet on the ground and pinioned her arms and legs. Then the "gedda", the specialist or matron or whatever you want to call her, knelt between the little girl's thighs, and began the operation by slicing off the clitoris.

All of the women present began making the most prodigious din, which they kept up during the whole operation, in a futile effort to drown the howls and shrieks of agony of the patient. As soon as the clitoris had been excised, the matron scooped (roughly speaking) it out, then began to pull and tug to extract its roots. Blood gushed left, right and center. This was only an "hors d'oeuvre"—the next step consisted in shearing off the edges of the inner lips, then carving off the rim of the outer lips, from which the gedda removed a gory ribbon of flesh about 2 centimeters in width. Where the clitoris had once been was a gaping hole from which blood poured. The matron stitched up the raw and bleeding flesh, after which she carefully inserted a tiny tube into the lower portion of the vagina, to allow the passage of urine. This, so I was subsequently informed, was to remain in place until the scar had formed.

The "operation" had lasted all of twenty minutes. Finally, the patient was bound up with cords from the hips to the knees, to prevent her from making any movements which might have caused the stitches to burst. For 15 days all girls who have been infibulated have to remain motionless, supine and trussed up like fowls.

As a direct result of this ritual butchery, most Muslim women are permanently cowed.

According to Doctor El Sayed Mirghani El Sayed, the first African doctor to write a thesis on female circumcision, in Africa alone, "50 million or more female children are circumcised every year." In Somalia, all girls between the ages of 7 and 10 are forced to submit to this barbarous operation, for religious and social reasons. Most Egyptian girls, including those who attend universities, have been infibulated.



Unfortunately, no one knows how many of the little victims who have been circumcised die—either immediately due to shock, or a little later due to the infections resulting from this prehistoric ritual butchery. Sometimes the patients bleed to death. Hemorrhages that last for 48 hours are frequent occurrences, but generally they succumb to tetanus or gangrene. Whenever a death resulting from circumcision occurs, as Doctor J.G. Taoko reported, it is bruited about that the "evil eye" was to blame, or else it is rumored that the victim herself was to blame, because she had had sexual relations before the ceremony and was "punished" for her "crime."

It is hardly necessary to describe what happens to all women who have been infibulated when they are on the point of giving birth. The mass of scar tissue is far too narrow to permit the baby to emerge. So what happens? They simply slash them open. Then, of course, later they have to be infibulated all over again. Any husband can force his wife to undergo infibulation at any time. One of my unfortunate friends has undergone this five times.

Muhammad cannot be blamed for introducing either male or female circumcision, which had been practised thousands of years before his birth, but it is relevant to note that he never made the slightest effort to ban, or suppress, or even discourage female circumcision.

Although the *Quran* considers excision an "embellishment" for women, but does not formally command it, most Muslims in the regions where it is practiced labor under the delusion that female circumcision is a prescription of Islam. The Grand Mufti of Mecca—who might be compared to the pope—publicly proclaimed:

"The ablation of the gland clitoris is agreeable to Allah." This astonishing "pronunciamento" was made smack in the middle of this century.

Every year, more than 50 million little children are cut, like livestock are castrated, in 40 countries of Africa and the Middle East. Although some African countries have legally banned the practice, it has not declined. Many wealthy individuals now have their daughters circumcised in hospitals by doctors who specialize in these operations and become rich in the process.

UNICEF, UNESCO, WHO, etc. have been in possession of "confidential documents" since 1958 that informed them of the savage mutilations inflicted on children, but not one of these organizations has ever done anything constructive. They remain rife with lethargy or, like frightened cuttlefish, exude inky sophistries.

No doubt Khomeini will force all Iranian women to undergo pharaonic circumcision and be infibulated, if he has not already made this practice a legal obligation. In Ethiopia, the Amharas, who are Christians, and the Fellashas, who are Jews, as well as some other tribes also insist that their women be circumcised. Groups of other peoples in Africa, in Kenya for example, also practice female circumcision. But the only people who practice infibulation are the Muslims.

For more information consult: *The Hidden Face of Eve, women in the Arab world*; Beacon Press, order number ISBN 6701-6.

This article is an adaptation by the NWP of one published in *The American Atheist*, July 1984.

January 1985/Northwest Passage/Page 5



Mark Redding

Foreign Policy: Seattle Style

WHITE TRAIN TRIALS

The trials for those arrested for "obstructing a lawfully operated train" — the White Train — were held in the past few months. Aided by an extraordinarily competent and amiable group of lawyers coordinated by the National Lawyers' Guild, the defendants argued that the train is not operated lawfully under any moral, ethical, or legal code. Furthermore, by committing the relatively small crime of blocking a train, a much greater harm of nuclear war was being prevented. However, the court did not allow international law to be included, and no witnesses with special insight into nuclear issues were allowed to testify. The facts and reasons underlying personal motivations for trying to stop the train were not considered relevant.

Evidence uncovered during the first trial that a brake check was not done, as required by law, caused the prosecutor to drop charges against the first group, AHIMSA, a wimmin's affinity group. In spite of this evidence, during

the second trial a new prosecutor tried to convince the jury that the train was lawfully operated on the small plot of land where the arrests were actually made. Recognizing the absurdity of this argument, the judge dismissed the case against the second and third groups, among them members of Seattle Nonviolent Action Group.

Although some people feel that this is a legal technicality unrelated to the nuclear issue, others believe that not checking the brakes on a train carrying hydrogen bombs is a horrifying reminder of how human error can lead to nuclear annihilation.

The legal battle has not ended; the prosecutor now plans to appeal the judge's ruling for the last two trials.

The next "White Train" is expected in the next few months; preparations to continue the history of resistance to this death train are being made by several groups in the Puget Sound area.

— David Hastings

CONSTANT VIGIL

In Washington, D.C., a woman holds an around-the-clock vigil across the street from the White House, protesting the U.S. presence in Central America. Her name is Concepcion. She began her vigil in 1981. The police and the courts have tried all their muscle to move her. Concepcion has been jailed six times. A law was created forcing her to move from the sidewalk in front of the White House to Lafayette Park, across the street. There, in spite of weather, the difficulties of day-to-day life on the street, and the law, Concepcion continues to make her statement. After four years, her

spirit of protest has not been dampened.

In Seattle, people representing different political groups, including SNAG and CISPES, keep a vigil at the Second Avenue entrance to the Federal Building daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., in solidarity with Concepcion's protest in Washington, D.C. More people are needed to make this nonviolent action really effective. Anyone can join. Just show up at the Second Avenue entrance, between Marion & Columbia Streets Monday thru Friday or call SNAG at 523-6687.

— Jesse Bernstein

SOUTH AFRICA ATTACKED

The South African government's system of apartheid and U.S. and Seattle connections to it were the subjects of a demonstration by 500 people as well as numerous acts of civil disobedience on December 9. The national day of protest, of which these acts were part, is the latest event in a growing national movement that hopes to see the breaking of all U.S. ties with the South African government while also pushing for the release of political prisoners in that country.

According to march organizers, the choice of Seattle as one site in the nationwide protest was in part due to there being a South African consulate here. Both Washington state and the city of Seattle have a vested interest in keeping the South African regime and its racist laws alive. According to the organizers, Pacific Northwest companies with a stake in the system are Boeing and Seattle-First National Bank.

Investments in South Africa by all U.S. corporations exceed \$16.4 billion. It is through such investments that the white South African minority is able to conduct business as usual. Blacks in that country are "involved in a life-and-death struggle" to change that system.

During the demonstration, the protestors pointed to the arrest and detention of numerous labor leaders and community organizers—many of whom still have not been charged with any crime—and the armed invasion of numerous "townships" (neighborhoods) by the

army as examples of the current repression. The release of 11 of the labor leaders was cited by the protestors as evidence that their pressure campaign is having results.

The Reagan Administration's policy of "constructive engagement" is, said the protestors, "nothing more than a farce... a way of looking good while doing nothing at all." They feel that their chosen tactics will more strongly affect the South African government and educate the U.S. public.

Besides demonstrations and civil disobedience, the movement is also endorsing two bills to the Washington State Legislature that would end state investment in companies doing business in South Africa. Representative-elect Jesse Wineberry (who was one of 23 persons to have themselves arrested at the demonstration by trespassing on the consulate grounds) and Senator George Fleming will submit the bills in their respective legislative branches. A similar move has been announced by the Finance Committee of Seattle City Council.

However, march organizers said, until the South African government's actions towards its black citizens change, or until the 13 South African consulates in the U.S. are closed, the protest movement will continue. One demonstrator said, "The tragedy of the whole thing is that we have to do this at all."

—Bob Quinn

WAR CHEST TOURS

During a time when the administration and the press are painting all youth as conservative or reactionary, we can expect little media coverage for the War Chest Tours (or for other manifestations of "disloyal opposition" to the government). But a random sampling of teenagers would show that many are highly aware of the impending war, and as a whole they are no more conservative than teenagers were in 1964. The average age of War Chest Tour organizers is about nineteen.

In Dallas, a Tour was organized in five days for the Republican National Convention. "The cops were not used to mobile tactics. We were half an hour ahead of them the whole day." (They were arrested later while swimming in a public pool.)

The report from an organizer of the War Chest Tour on election day in Cleveland was particularly uplifting. Two people from the Anti-War Action Coalition (AWAC) had attended the Tour in Dallas. They saw Cleveland as politically dead, but got some publicity on college radio stations, did some research on corporations, and assembled in a public

square on election day. About ten young anti-war activists were joined by forty black people from a nearby housing project and began their march. Almost immediately an anarchist painted an "A" on a wall and three police tried to bust her.

The Tourers started chanting, "No Cops, No KKK, No Fascist USA," and moved in on the police, who retreated. Shortly afterwards, police reinforcements tried to block the sidewalk, so the Tourers took to the street. They visited several banks and corporations. When they entered one bank lobby, the police assumed they would go out the far exit. Instead, they switched back and lost their escort. When they entered Democratic Party headquarters, the entire staff locked themselves in a room.

Two nights later, the police tried to sneak into AWAC's office, not realizing people were inside. The police copied information from pamphlets posted outside. Looking over a poster proclaiming "Hinckley for President," one cop was heard to admit, "I don't get it." Chances are he never will.

—Jack Straw

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African Dutch:

Cracks in Their Wall

by Jack Bugler

To the minds of white South Africans, any attack on white rule from whatever source is part of a Soviet directed, world-wide Communist conspiracy against the god-given prerogatives of the white race. Thus, for the increasingly undemocratic white elite (see chart of S. Africa's new governmental structure) 1984 shapes up as a very schizophrenic year.

Externally, 1984 had appeared to be quite good for the apartheid regime. In June President P.W. Botha (then prime minister) made an unprecedented tour of western European capitals. The U.S. policy of cooperation—labeled "constructive engagement"—provides support for continuous attacks on the country's unfriendly neighbors and continued intransigence on the already long delayed Namibia (SW Africa) settlement. In mid-year, S. Africa succeeded in forcing a humiliating agreement on Mozambique (it was revealed that a similar agreement had been forced on Swaziland in 1982) and a disengagement agreement was reached with Angola. Through a combination of economic and military terrorism (and a drought in the area) the black-populated and -ruled countries of southern Africa were brought to their collective knees.

As 1984 draws to a close these agreements are in danger. In Mozambique, S. Africa has been unable to halt the activities of the Mozambique National Resistance (MNR) terrorists who are funded by former

Portuguese colonialists and now supplied by Oman and Saudi Arabia through the Comoros. While this could still turn to S. Africa's favor and force a coalition government on Mozambique, this result is less certain now. In southern Angola, S. Africa has thus far failed to withdraw its troops. UNITA, S. Africa's puppet terrorist organization in Angola, has begun to degenerate into tribal feuding—including arrests and executions—and is suffering increased defections to Angolan government (MPLA) forces. And the Namibian independence movement SWAPO has stepped attacks on S. African forces in the disputed territory which was originally colonized by Germany.

increases within the black townships (areas set aside for Africans outside the "white" cities where they work) and an imposed system of government within the townships by councillors selected by the regime, have sparked the present unrest. As the anger against apartheid rises, the puppet councillors have been targeted by the protestors.

The regime's response has been brutal. Up to 300 protesters and bystanders, almost exclusively African, have been murdered by the police thus far, and well over 1,000 have been held incommunicado. A heavy-handed raid by 7,000 troops and police on the Sebokeng township on Oct. 23 led to a two-day protest strike by black industrial workers which idled 700,000 workers and effectively shut down the industrial areas of Witwatersrand. This mass political strike by black workers led to the detention of eleven black trade union leaders (since released under the pressure of the U.S. anti-apartheid demonstrations and fears of more economic damage should another strike be called). The reactions and continuing protests have delegitimized the new constitutional setup and strongly upset the regime's plan to force Africans to satisfy their political aspirations either within the so-called self-governing townships or in the 10 impoverished Bantustans which contain 13% of the country's land mass (Africans constitute 77% of the population) and where repression by the regime's puppet rulers is even more harsh than in the rest of the country. The well publicized demo-



Seattle, December 9: A pig in the bush is worth? . . .

Mark Redding



Premier Botha (center) and Foreign Minister Roelof Botha (left) greeted in Bonn by Bavarian Chief Minister Franz-Josef Strauss.

from "Africa Now," July 1984

students against substandard education, steep rent nstrations in the U.S. and the growing movement towards divestment in S. Africa have resulted in a shift in strategy by the police who are now arresting protest leaders, usually for treason, rather than detaining them. S. African security laws are draconian and treason, which means opposition to the regime, is punishable by death.

Another feature of the present crisis, potentially the most serious since the Afrikaners came to power through the so-called Nationalist party in 1948, is the incredible bad faith exhibited by the supposed critics of apartheid both inside the country and in the West. In S. Africa, the colored and Asian politicians elected to parliament, many on the strength of less than 300 votes, have yet to raise their voices against the regime's brutal behavior and content themselves with a venal scramble for high-paid positions within the government or the "loyal" opposition. This despite their self-proclaimed status as the "true opponents of apartheid." The British government has literally forced six refugees from apartheid out of their consulate in Durban, five have been arrested or detained and the one who wasn't (yet) just completed a 20-year sentence on Robben Island—S. Africa's infamous security prison.

U.S. president Reagan has spoken out against detention without trial and forced relocation but, pointedly,

refused to endorse black political rights or unconditional Namibian independence. And the 128 U.S. firms, out of some 350 doing business inside S. Africa, who subscribe to the so-called Sullivan principles have trotted out their front man, the Rev. Leon Sullivan of Philadelphia, to claim that they will now work for the overthrow of the apartheid laws. A claim scarcely to be believed given their dismal record. It is almost certain that the protest movement inside S. Africa, led by the UDF and the 'black consciousness'-oriented National Forum, will continue to grow in strength. And if the demonstrations and protests in the U.S. do likewise and spread to western Europe, the white minority regime in the last bastion of white settler colonialization in Africa is in for a psychotic 1985.

Sources: Observer, South, NY Times, Africa News, AfricAsia.



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THE AD HOC COMMITTEE TO COMMEMORATE
THE OCTOBER REVOLUTION, P.O. Box 38,
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GALLERY, 202 - 3rd Ave. S., 7:30 pm
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325-5566.

SUNDAY the 27th
3rd Sunday Gathering for Pacifists sponsored
by Fellowship of Reconciliation. Finger
food potluck starts at 5pm followed by
program. 225 N. 70th (no. 5 bus). 789-5565
Honoring Jim and Shelley Douglass with
Martin Luther King Award.

RADICAL MONDAYS THE 1st

The Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Task
Force monthly meeting, first Tuesday of
each month. 4534 1/2 University Way.
632-2078.

THE 7th

PIONEERS FOR PEACE. Caroline Canifax
of the Women's International League for
Peace and Freedom. and Charles Meconis,
Seattle Religious Peace Action Coalition.
KUOW-FM, 3 p.m. (See "Quest for Peace"
in ON-GOING)

THE 14th

Seattle Folkarts classes begin. Monroe Ctr.,
1810 NW 65th. 782-0505. Winter quarter.

THE 29th

Public hearing on Neighborhood Commercial
Area Zoning.. Mount Baker Community
Club. For more info 625-2895.

tuesday

8th

PACIFISTS. Bruce Kokopeli, Fellowship
of Reconciliation; and Diana Siemens,
Puget Sound Women's Peace Camp.
KUOW-FM, 3 p.m. (See "Quest for Peace"
in ON-GOING)

Tuesdays 8, 15, 22, 29
Seattle Agape Community leaflets against
the white train at Burlington Railroad
Offices, located at 999 3rd Ave. 7:30-9am.
For more info-Carolyn Griffon, 323-3810
or Rebecca Johnson, 243-9366.

wednes

9

Anyone interested in April 20
stration Against Intervention
America meeting at American
Workers Union Hall, 2450 6th
(corner of S. Landers St.) 7:30
282-6659. (See 1/23)

WORLD LAW AND ORDER.
of World Peace Through Law
Washington State Bar Ass'n; and
of World Affairs Council. KU
3 p.m. (See "Quest for Peace"

the Sixteenth

Students Against US Intervention
Salvador screening of "Americas
tion," and Class that went to W
Film theories presented by SAU
Univ. of WA. HUB Aud. 12:30
Admission FREE.

"DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: The
Susan Crane, Director of
Abused Women Project at
Legal Services, will d
lications of a recent
state law. (See "Home
grams" in ON-GOING)

JANUARY 15th (Wed)

* True West, Play by Sam Shepard
U.W. School of Drama
Glenn Hughes Playhouse.
8 p.m. \$400 Tues-thurs
500 Fri-Sun.
info: 543-4880

* Kick off community Mtg.
Neighborhood Commercial
Area Zoning. W. Seattle
Golf Course Clubhouse
Restaurant 7:30 pm
info 625-2895

JAN. 22: DEADLINE

Deadline for submitting requests to change
the Neighborhood Commercial Area Zoning
map. 625-2895.

Wednesday 1/23
S.A.U.S.I.E.S. present
"El Salvador: Another
and "U.S. Techniq
Genocide in Vietn
UW HUB. 12:30

wednesday 1/30
SAUSIES. sponsoring
two films
"Guatemala: The Gath-
ering storm" and Inter-
view with My Lai Vets"
U.W. HUB 12:30; 7pm
FREE!!!

Passage

-PRESS RELEASE

ON*GOING EVENTS

QUEST FOR PEACE, a locally-produced
series of four documentaries exploring the
history of pre-Vietnam era peace move-
ments in the U.S., will be aired on KUOW
(94.9 FM), Monday, Jan. 7 through Thurs-
day, Jan. 10, at 3 p.m. The series is based
on interviews with 40 local activists and
scholars; a live panel discussion with
participants from the Seattle area peace action
community will follow each taped broad-
cast at 3:30. 543-2710.

Draft Counseling by the Seattle Draft
counseling Center at the University Friends
Ctr., 4001 9th Ave. NE. 789-2751.

Seattle Lesbian and Gay Nurses' Alliance.
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ing. Nurses, students and aides. M/F.
Potluck dinner meetings 1st Sunday of
each month. 801 E. Harrison St., no. 105
Call 324-6131 for info.

Wallingford Volunteer Food Committee
meets the 1st Monday of each month.
7:30pm. 4649 Sunnyside Ave. N.
632-3392.

Life Drawing classes for women with varying
levels of skills. Warm and supportive atmos-
phere. Cedar Park Elementary School.
6:30-9:30pm. Jan 9-Feb. 20, Wednesdays.

SEATTLE FOLK ARTS Winter Quarter
classes begin Jan. 14; advance registration
is highly recommended. Check the cal-
endar for specific classes. All are held at
the Monroe Center, 1810 N.W. 65th. For
info on registration/fees, call 782-0505.

WOMEN'S PROGRAMS at Seattle Central
Community College: a series
of five lectures for winter quar-
ter. SCCC, 1701 Broadway, room
BE 1110, noon, Wednesdays; free,
open to the public. 587-3854

(on-going)
ANTIOCH UNIVERSITY Community Edu-
cation Program. Workshops and
lectures, Jan. 11, 12, 25, 26
(see Calendar listings for spec-
ifics). 1165 Eastlake Ave. E.
For fees/registration info,
call 343-9150.

"SIZWE BANZI IS DEAD." This power-
ful play by South African playwright Athol
Fugard is performed by The Group Theatre
Company, beginning Jan. 17 through Feb.
10, at 3940 Brooklyn Ave. N.E. 643-4327

Seattle Nonviolent Action Group (SNAG)
pickets the Federal Bldg., 2nd & Madison.
to prevent U.S. invasion of Nicaragua.
MONDAYS, Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28, 9 a.m.-
5 p.m. (and daily Monday thru Friday).

Jan. 17
Paul Taylor Dance Company presented by
Discover Dance. UW Meany Theater. 8pm.
For ticket info call 625-5385. Thru 1/19.

Jan. 16.
Conference Workplace Fund Raising and
Other Creative Ways to Raise \$. Jan. 16
(5pm) thru Jan. 19 (5pm). Early reg. \$100;
After Jan 2 \$120.

Botanical Illustrations exhibit thru Jan. 20
in the Members Room Gallery at the What-
com City Museum of History and Art,
Bellingham, WA. 121 Prospect Street.
(206)676-6981.

PICKET! PICKET!
South African Consulate, 836 Hillside Dr.
E., Madison Park area....
SATURDAYS, Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26 at noon.
SUNDAYS, Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27 at 1 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Visual Arts Committee for the Nat'l
Women's Studies Association Conference,
June 19-23 at the U of W. 1985 juried
exhibition of feminist art. Open to women
artists residing in AK, Vancouver, BC,
WA, OR and ID. Send SASE to Visual
Arts Committee, NWSC, Women's Studies
Department, C254 Padelford, GN-45, UW,
Seattle, WA 98195. Nancy Halbrooks,
364-3172.

Visiting Nurse-Home Health Care will
provide Health Maintenance services to the
area's frail elderly beginning Jan. 1, 1985.
Write 1111 Cornwell Av., Bellingham, WA
98225; call 734-9210.

wednesday

thursday

friday

saturday

9

Anyone interested in April 20 Nat'l Demonstration Against Intervention in Central America meeting at American Postal Workers Union Hall, 2450 6th Ave. South corner of S. Landers St. 7:30-9:30pm. 2-8659. (See 1/23)

WORLD LAW AND ORDER. Bill Hanson World Peace Through Law Section, Washington State Bar Ass'n; and Jill Severn World Affairs Council. KUOW-FM, 7:30 p.m. (See "Quest for Peace" in ON-GOING)

teenth

Against US Intervention In El Salvador screening of "Americas in Transition" and "Class that went to war." theories presented by SAJSIES. W. WA. HUB Aud. 12:30; 7pm. Admission FREE.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: The New Law. Susan Crane, Director of the abused Women Project at Evergreen Legal Services, will discuss implications of a recently passed state law. (See "Women's Programs" in ON-GOING)

3rd
♀♀♀♀

ABORTION RIGHTS. Radical Women discusses recent abortion clinic firebombings in Atlanta, Maryland and Washington, DC, and national efforts to combat right-wing violence against women. Freeway Hall, 3815-5th N.E., 7:30 p.m. Dinner for \$5 at 6:30 p.m. For childcare, rides, call 632-1815 or 632-7443. Wheelchair accessible.

FRIDAY 4th
The World at War: Genocide, no. 120. KCTS-TV Channel 9. Part 20 of 26. Recalls the most chilling and horrible episode of the war—the round-up and "resettlement" of Jews. 9pm.

11th

thurs 10
TO BAN OR NOT TO BAN. Ruth Hood of Puget Sound SANE, and Ken Kirkpatrick of International Peace Petition. KUOW-FM. (See "Quest for Peace" in ON-GOING)

THE TAO OF PSYCHOLOGY: Synchronicity and the Self. Explanation of how Jung's concept of synchronicity ("meaningful coincidence") can be linked to the Eastern concept of the Tao; by Jean Shinoda Bolen. 7:30 p.m. \$7. (see Antioch University listing in ON-GOING)

17
WOMEN AND REVOLUTION. Radical Women reviews the writings of Crystal Eastman, turn-of-the-century socialist-feminist and founder of the American Civil Liberties Union. For time, place, etc., see listing on Jan. 3. (17)

JAN. 25
Violent Femmes
Richard Peterson @
Gorilla Gardens, 5th +
Jackson. 7:00, 10:30pm
\$8, \$9. 324-2077.

JAN. 17
Sizwe Bansi is Dead, a play by Athol Fugard. The Group performs at the Ethnic Cultural Ctr, 3940 Brooklyn NE. Thru Feb. 10. 543-4327.

Saturday January 5th



"HELP FREE AFGHANISTAN." A fundraiser for medical aid to Afghanistan, sponsored by the Afghan Help Organization; featured speaker, Dr. Robert Simon. Sherwood Inn, 400 N.E. 45th St., 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres, tea & coffee will be served. \$5/person. 883-7526

5th

Miss You. KCTS-TV Channel 9. Locally produced documentary provides a candid look at the lives of juvenile prostitutes.

the 25th

jan 25
Main Stage Winter-Spring International Music Series begins. Kevin Burke, wizard of the Sligo Fiddle Style. @the Moonraker, Langley, WA. \$5; \$6 at door. Mail order from Main Stage Productions, Box 615, Clinton, WA 98236.

24th

Annual Meeting Seattle Draft Counseling Center. 5504 21st Ave NE. 7:30pm. Call SDCC for more info, 789-2751.

fri 25
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT FOR NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS. Workshop led by Kay Sohl. 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Cost: \$65. (See Antioch University listing in ON-GOING)

24-26

Inuit Throat Singers, Aya-a Singers and Drum Dancers. From the Canadian Arctic. Intricate weavings of guttural, rhythmic and melodic patterns about community life. Washington Hall Performance Gallery, 153 14th Ave. Call 325-7901 for times and ticket info.

12th

Motherlode. Live in concert. Second Saturday University Baptist Church. 8:30pm. 647-0741.

THE GODDESS IN EVERYWOMAN. A workshop led by Jean Shinoda Bolen; teaching women to find their inner power through discovering the archetypal goddess figures within. 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Cost: \$50. (See Antioch University listing in ON-GOING) 12

wednesday 1/23
U.S.I.E.S. present 2 films:
"Salvador: Another Vietnam"
"U.S. Techniques of
Genocide in Vietnam."
W HUB. 12:30; 7pm. Free.

Friday 1/30
U.S. sponsoring

Malala: The Gathering and Inter-My Lai Vets" 12:30; 7pm
FREE!!!

New Year's Eve on the 31st

All night Dance Party
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or rides call 3 days in advance
#s 632-1815, 632-7449, or 632-5009

19th

Citizens Tribunal on US Government Involvement in Central America, sponsored by Nat'l Lawyers Guild and others at Plymouth Congregational Church (6th Ave. and University). Eyewitnesses, experts and citizens will present a judgement on the subject. 8:30am-4pm. \$3 donation. For more details call 324-3500.

26th

Financial Management for Non-Profit Organizations. Time: 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. See 1/25 for further info.

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World Briefs



SICK TREES AND A SICK SEA

West German authorities are finally exhibiting public concern over what is shaping up to be a major ecological catastrophe in the forests and on the North Sea coast of the Federal Republic.

At the end of October, Minister of Agriculture Ignaz Kiechle announced the preliminary results of a government inquiry into the condition of the forests of West Germany: half of the country's trees are visibly damaged or dying! The portion of damaged woodland area has soared from 8% in 1982 to 34% last year to 50% this year.

All types of trees are dying: not only the most populous spruce and fir, but also increasing numbers of pine, beech, and oak. The entire country has been affected, but the damage is worst in the most heavily forested southern states of Baden-Wurttemberg and Bavaria where, respectively, 66% and 57% of the forests are sick or dying.

The government report also admitted what scientists and most of the public have long been claiming: that air pollution, not forestry management practices, insects, or fungi, is the primary cause of the rapid decline of the trees.

Legislation is pending in the Bundestag which would require installation of catalytic converters on new cars, drastic reductions in lead and sulfur dioxide emissions from industrial smokestacks, and would impose a national speed limit of 100 kilometers per hour (about 60 mph). Even if these measures become law, it is already too late to save the sick and dying trees and the chances of improved health in the next few generations of trees are slim.

Meanwhile, an international conference was convened last month in Bremen by officials of eight North Sea nations in response to growing concern over the condition of the North



Sea. Delegates discussed an impending eco-disaster in one of the world's most prolific fishing areas.

From the mouth of the Rhine to the mouth of the Elbe, the waters of the southern coast of the North Sea have become brown, foul-smelling, and full of garbage. Last year, more than 15,000 sea birds washed up on German beaches covered with oily slime, although not a single oil tanker accident had occurred.

The big polluters aren't tankers, but freighters, which flush impurities from fuel and oil into the water, dump garbage overboard and sometimes lose toxic freight overboard in storms.

Also increasing are the effects of pollution on fish. Large quantities of

heavy metals are being carried by the rivers into the North Sea. One result is that half of the eels, a popular food fish in the Elbe fishery, now contain unacceptably high levels of mercury. Commercial fishermen are routinely throwing away as much as a third of their catch because they are netting fish with visible skin diseases, sores, or deformed skeletons.

Scientists aren't ready to declare the North Sea dead yet, but the effects of the heavy concentrations of pollutants in the coastal areas are spreading and within a few years, are expected to have a devastating impact on fish populations farther out to sea.

Sources: *Die Zeit, Der Spiegel*

No Navy at Nanoose

The Canadian Forces Maritime Experimental and Test Range (CFMETR) located at Nanoose Bay on Vancouver Island has been targeted by peace activists who have recently formed the Nanoose Conversion Campaign. Seeking to end weapons testing by the U.S. Navy at Nanoose, more than 300 people rallied in November outside the gates of CFMETR. Site of an underwater weapons testing range, CFMETR plays a major role in the U.S.'s anti-submarine warfare program and first-strike strategy. The protestors endorsed a resolution—calling for nonrenewal of the Canada-U.S. Nanoose agreement in April 1986, halting of weapons testing at CFMETR, and conversion of CFMETR to peaceful purposes—and delivered it to the base commander as well as various elected officials and the local MP. For information, contact the Nanoose Conversion Campaign, Box 1981, Parksville, B.C. Canada V0R 2S0.

Last year 50 nuclear test explosions were reported. Many of them caused serious health problems for those living "downwind" from the testing areas.

Underground nuclear testing in Nevada by the U.S., in the U.K. and in Siberia by U.S.S.R. frequently vent gases and debris into the atmosphere.

Underground test shafts will remain radioactive for 24,000 years. Though thousands of feet underground, they contaminate aquifers and ground water with tritium, strontium and plutonium.

French nuclear tests have destroyed the island atoll of Moruroa. A meter-wide crack has been opened in the fragile coral foundation of the atoll. Surrounding waters are now too radioactive for swimming.

Chinese atmospheric tests send clouds of radioactive fallout high into the atmosphere around the world. This practice was ended by signatories to the Partial Test Ban Treaty of 1963.

Nuclear testing is a crucial component in the race toward more accurate and destabilizing nuclear weapons. Military officials maintain that "battlefield confidence" in new weapons designs demands they be proven by nuclear testing.
—Greenpeace Northwest

Hunter Faces Deportation

Belfast-born Robert Emmet Hunter is facing trial this month in Los Angeles on federal charges of making false statements on his U.S. visa application. Hunter grew up during the turmoil following "internment" and Bloody Sunday (1972). At 16, he was arrested on an explosives charge and spent 3½ years as a political prisoner.

After his release, Hunter came to the U.S. in 1978. He learned trade in construction; currently he is 27, married, and the father of one child.

When he stands trial on Jan. 15, he faces a possible prison sentence of five years, plus possible deportation to Ireland—which could mean another sentence there, or worse.

The Robert E. Hunter Defense Committee requests support; for information write to: RHDC, 1133 N. Hudson Ave., Pasadena, CA 91104, or call (818) 798-5718.

(Information from the Dec. 1984 issue of the *Irish Northern Aid Committee Newsletter*, 1133 Mission St., San Francisco, CA 94103)



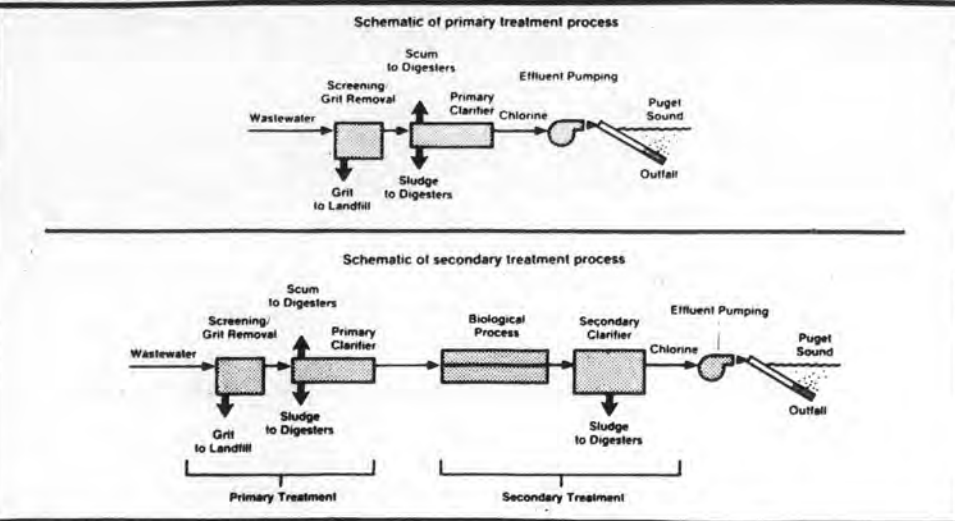
STOP MIDNITE DUMPING

Stopping in broad daylight next to a South End manhole, a truck driver illegally dumps nearly 1,000 gallons of roofing tar into a Metro sewer line.

The blob soon hits Metro's Renton Treatment Plant and jams bar screens there. Fortunately, swing shift workers detect the tar and quickly divert it to a holding area before it clogs efficient, high-powered pumps and shuts down the plant. Two days later, workers begin making repairs after cleaning up the sticky mess. They dispose of 29 drums of material that could have jeopardized the adequate treatment of millions of gallons of raw sewage. The clean-up costs more than \$10,000.

That was just a few weeks ago. Three times in one week last summer, someone illegally dumped so much chromium into the sewer system that it could have put Metro's West Point Treatment Plant out of commission for months. Fortunately, crews detected those discharges in time, too. The chromium could have destroyed the bacteria necessary to process sewage and rid sludge of its potentially harmful organic matter.

Each time, Metro sent investigators into the field to find the offenders — so far without luck. Often Metro is



able to catch violators, but sometimes not.

Metro regulates the discharge of oils, acids, gasoline, solvents, heavy metals, and other hazardous chemicals into the sewer system. These materials can upset the treatment process, endanger Metro personnel, corrode or block lines feeding the treatment plants, or pass through the system and endanger the environment and public health.

Metro advises companies on how to avoid the discharge of dangerous ma-

terials into the sewer system and describes which materials can be discharged safely. The agency also must approve the pretreatment equipment each business selects to meet discharge regulations.

For a brochure on Metro's industrial waste program call 447-6747 or 447-6743 from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays. Or write to Metro Industrial Waste Program, 821 Second Ave., MS 'H', Seattle, 98104.

— Metro press release

Housing Options from Charlie and State

Last November, Seattle Mayor Royer proposed a Housing Preservation Ordinance and a Downtown Housing Maintenance Ordinance. The HPO and DHMO are the products of combined efforts by the city's Dept. of Community Development, Dept. of Construction and Land Use and Law Dept., as well as People for Downtown Housing and other community groups. The key provisions of the HPO are to regulate and license the demolition of residential structures, to provide replacement housing for units to be demolished, to establish a low-income housing replacement fund, and to protect tenants and provide relocation assistance.

The DHMO establishes minimum maintenance standards for rental housing in the downtown area, and establishes a downtown housing maintenance fund. Royer noted that 15,800 low-income units have been lost in the downtown area since 1960, and the city has a goal of preserving the remaining 7,311 units.

A year ago, the state Housing Finance Commission approved \$548,000 in low-interest mortgage loans for the Sixteenth Avenue Townhouses at 16th & Yesler in the Central Area. Financing of the 32-unit condo project developed by the Central Area Public Development Authority will allow first-time purchasers and low-income families in the Central Area an opportunity for home ownership.

— NWP

Too Hot to Handle

The federal Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 mandates state involvement in site selection for disposal of the nation's high-level nuclear wastes. But that hasn't stopped the DOE from dragging its heels in response

to questions about liability, transportation and emergency response. According to state Representative Dick Nelson, the state legislator has been "in direct contact with DOE for a year and a half. DOE has been very unresponsive. It would cost at least \$5 million a year to keep an emergency response team trained and ready. So far, we've been unable to get any commitment from the federal government to pay for it."

State Senator Al Williams noted, "When the proposed [Hanford] dump is opened in 1998, it will be taking in about 200 truckloads of nuclear waste a week. As it stands right now, we wouldn't have much control over how it comes into the state. Clean-up and compensation for just one accident could run into the hundreds of millions of dollars, and I know the state of Washington couldn't afford that."

The two Seattle legislators have been appointed to the Legislature Working Group for the National Conference of State Legislators, which hopes to pressure the federal government into answering questions about nuclear waste repositories. The list of potential sites will be narrowed to five early in 1985, with the final selection to be made in 1990 for a 1998 opening.

Labor History Papers Call

The 1985 Pacific Northwest Labor History Conference is slated for June 21-23 at PLU in Tacoma. Papers of about 3,500 words (about 30 minutes' presentation time) are currently being solicited for the conference, on the theme of "Working People Organizing." Deadline for submitting papers is March 1. The conference's program committee will make presentation confirmations by April 1. Send papers (typed in suitable form for duplication for distribution at the conference) to Pacific Northwest Labor History Conference Committee, c/o Pierce County Central Labor Council, 3049 S. 36th, Suite 201, Tacoma, WA 98409.

renegade OWLs

"Ballot Clutter" Ruling Opposed

After the 1976 elections, the Washington state legislature assessed the unexpected popularity at the polls of the renegade OWL party (Out With Logic, On With Lunacy). The OWLs won an unprecedented 5 percent of the vote, and Olympia didn't like it. The result: the 1977 amendments to Washington election laws that require "minor" parties to compete for votes with "major" parties in primaries to get on the ballot in general elections.

The Socialist Workers Party challenged these rulings in 1984, charging that the restrictions "are a totally unjustified burden on diversity of political participation and expression." Judge Jack Tanner ruled against the SWP, which appealed his decision in



early December. The ACLU said the suit "vitaly affects not only the constitutional rights of 'minor' party adherents but the rights of all voters to choose their political officeholders from among candidates representing a diversity of political viewpoints."

Lisa Hickler at the SWP office thought that the oral argument at the appeal went well and expects a decision from the three-judge panel in the next few weeks. The SWP has successfully challenged a similar law in Michigan, so they are optimistic here.

Of course the judges may respond to the ambient political pressure and find against the Party. Despite their ultimate faith in the central role of class struggle, they feel it is important to fight to maintain electoral forums for the oppressed and the dissident.

NO BUSINESS AS USUAL

The Call to Act is urgent and precise: "In the spirit of practical politics we now call for a coordinated day of national action against war, a day of 'No Business As Usual' on April 29, 1985... Now it is time to unite and say no. The governments must be stopped from launching world war, no matter what it takes."

To call a general strike, you must first have a grievance. The grievance is a U.S. government which talks about limited nuclear war and strategizes about "winning".

Nearly 100 people from the anti-war movement met in December in Berkeley, California for a NBAU organizing conference. What the people who gathered want is direct action. They want to unite the left movement and encourage significant numbers of Americans to protest escalating militarization. They want to turn some heads, outrage the government and corporate community and send them a message of social unrest, and do it April 29. Stop World War III is the rallying cry; tactics are up to the individual, the affinity group, the local congregation, chapter, or union."

"Only mass actions of civil disobedience will do," said Clark Kissinger, writer on militarization and Revolutionary Communist Party leader, in a keynote address to the conference, "Stepping outside the bounds of 'loyal and acceptable' dissent is the only way."

San Francisco anarchists and people active in the War Chest Tours campaign pointed out that the idea of NBAU is not new: European activists have initiated such actions as Stop the City in London's financial district. A major intent of this American NBAU is to send a message of solidarity to the European activist community.

The strength of a national day of NBAU lies in a diversity of participants and in a diversity of decentralized, bottom-up type actions. Said one activist: "There is a need for different tactics for different cities. We need to get people to ask what is business as usual and why should we try to stop it."

"Direct action is a creative act," said Kate Champa of Providence, R.I. and Plowshares, a signator of the Call and member of the national NBAU response committee. "Decentralized action leaves choice of language up to the individual." Champa's vision for NBAU is that "people will wake up April 30 realizing and believing their actions made a difference."

During the conference, the politics and language of the Call to Act was questioned, namely its emphasis on world war rather than ongoing wars of intervention in Central America or other specific issues. Participants agreed to adopt an amendment to the call that condemns intervention in Central America and encourages a no-business-as-usual approach to protesting the U.S. invasion of Nicaragua. A line was added to the national call that "does not encompass all the politics of all involved." Local calls can be issued, and will be sent to the media and used for networking along with the national call.

In the interest of national networking, people reached consensus (one person stood aside) that there be a national clearinghouse for NBAU (at the risk of centralization) and a national response committee. The clearinghouse will function as an information network and refer inquiries to local response groups, who will be relied upon for local outreach and media contacts.

For a copy of the call or more information, contact NBAU national office, 3309 1/2 Mission St. No. 127, San Francisco, CA 94110 (415) 550-8506. In Seattle call 431-1180.

— Erin Moore

PRISON BREAKS

Presumptive Sentencing: Legal Racism

by Ed Mead

Historically speaking, the rise and fall of prison populations in capitalist countries has been directly connected to the ups and downs of the so-called business cycle. At present we are in the midst of economic bust (notwithstanding the current administration's proclamations to the contrary). More people are presently unemployed than ever before in U.S. history and, correspondingly, the nation's prison population is at an all-time high. This increase has put a strain on the system's ability to absorb so many inmates.

The state's response to overcrowded prisons has been to construct more institutions, on the one hand, and—because there is not enough money available to build as many as they would like—to reform sentencing laws in an effort to target specific types of criminals that officials deem as being the most dangerous. In practice it is the conservatives who stress the need to construct more prisons, while the liberals focus on implementing sentence reforms. Between the two of them the job gets done.

In January 1981 Washington state had 2,384 beds for medium-security male offenders. Since then 1,616 more beds have been completed or are under construction. The two 500-man prisons planned for Clallam Bay and Grandview will bring the total to 5,000 beds—doubling what was available just a few years ago. The Clallam Bay prison will cost at least \$43 million, and Grandview's price tag starts at \$30 million (not counting 2.5 times that much in interest) or approximately \$100,000 per bed. Each new prison, including the 500-man facility recently opened at the Monroe Prison complex will cost \$12 million a year to operate. Each will add 350 employees to the already bloated corrections bureaucracy. In 1970 the state spent 6.4 percent of each social and health services dollar on corrections; today that figure is 12.3 percent and rising.

Both Democratic and Republican governors have vigorously pushed for more and more prisons, and both administrations are supportive of what they call sentencing reform. The Sentencing Reform Act (RCW9.94A) was passed by the legislature in 1981, and in 1983 it adopted sentencing guidelines that went into effect on July 1, 1984. The new law establishes fixed or determinate sentences, the severity of which are supposed to be set according to the seriousness of the offense and the prior record of the offender. The judge could impose a sentence harsher or more lenient than that established by the guidelines, although his/her doing so would be subject to judicial review on appeal. Those sentenced before the effective date of the Act are to have their terms "adjusted" to meet the new guidelines by the Parole Board. This process of adjustment is to take four years, after which the Parole Board is supposed to be abolished.

The new guidelines work on a sentence range that varies for each category of crime. Aggravated murder, for example, would carry a term of life without the possibility of parole (if the death sentence was not imposed). Murder one carries a minimum of about 23 years and a maximum of 40 years, depending on the seriousness of the individual's offender score and prior record. In way of contrast, the average number of years served by first-degree murderers released from custody in 1981 was 12 years, 11 months.

In essence, the new guidelines reduce the sentence for nonviolent offenders and increase the amount of time everyone else will serve. And of course it goes without saying that it is minorities and the extremely poor who are most often forced into the use of violence in connection with their crimes, making the new law racist and class-biased in its application. It should also be noted that only about 40 percent of prison populations are incarcerated for nonviolent offenses, and that under the new law this percentage will significantly decrease, making prison an even more violent and dangerous place to be.

The state Association of Prosecuting Attorneys likes the new sentencing law, saying that "if the Legislature takes the responsibility [for sentencing], they...are

going to build a lot more prisons." And well this should be a darling of the repressive prosecutors, as they are the ones who determine what you will be charged with. Rich offenders (and poor ones who "cooperate") will be charged with minor crimes, while black and poor prisoners will continue to have the book thrown at them.

The liberals stand behind the new law as well. The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, the Washington Council on Crime and Delinquency, and the American Civil Liberties Union have all praised the new approach to sentencing. The only vocal criticism has come from a former director of the Washington Bar Associa-

Prisoners as a whole can expect no significant benefits from the new sentencing law.

tion, who objects to the law on the grounds that anything that "impacts against total judicial discretion is abhorrent." The director of the Associated Council for the Accused also argued against the new sentencing law, saying the standards "look only at negative factors."

California went to determinate sentencing in 1977. Now they are building more prisons than ever before. Their inmate populations have skyrocketed way over the rated prison capacities. The liberals claim that the reason for this increase is that the California legislature passed too many subsequent amendments. Increasing the ranges and standards in sentencing guidelines is very easy to do every time there is a sensational crime of some sort—it gives the public the illusion that something is being done.

Since Alaska implemented its presumptive sentencing law, for example, it has raised the ranges in the guidelines every year. Texas, New Jersey and Alabama have all seen population explosions soon after the adoption of determinate sentencing laws. In the 1977 issue of *Corrections Magazine*, it was concluded with regard to determinate sentencing that there was an initial drop in populations once such laws were passed, but then there was a steady increase following the initial reduction, and this increase surpassed all expectations. The liberals respond by citing such examples as Minnesota, Michigan and Iowa, where population increases have been slight since the adoption of the new sentencing policies, but they are still talking about increases and not reductions.

Those who claim that the new sentencing laws are more just have their heads stuck in the sand. How can it be more fair to transfer discretion from the supposedly

impartial judge to a clearly biased prosecutor? Furthermore, one cannot talk of justice in this context without looking at the broader social picture. To a large degree, crime grows out of the despair and alienation of the poor from the social, economic and political fruits of capitalist society. Without meaningful opportunities—jobs, education, recreation, health care, etc.—it makes no sense to talk about what is just. It is the system itself that is wrong.

Prisoners as a whole can expect no significant benefits from the new sentencing law. And if the experience of other states teaches us anything, it is that soon the legislature—fueled by some sensational crime and right-wing pressure—will start the process of increasing the already excessive ranges and standards contained in the sentencing guidelines. Those right-wing forces are organized and strong, while prisoners and their loved ones are divided, unorganized and weak. And since prisoners appear to lack the will necessary to overcome these weaknesses, the long-range outlook is for more and more people serving more and more time. The proportion of minorities making up prison populations will rise as well, just like the percentage of violent offenders, and the prisons will become even more brutal and dangerous places to live and work.

Ed Mead is serving a life term at Washington State Reformatory at Monroe for activities he participated in during the '70s as a member of the George Jackson Brigade.



BUILDING BRIDGES, NOT JAILS

On November 26, Ted Smith and Scott Renfro painted a rising sun—a "symbol of hope"—on the new Whatcom County Jail in Bellingham. They then chained themselves to the building, to protest what they termed "the lack of hope that society presents to that portion of the population that has been, is or will be passing through the doors of this and other penal institutions."

Renfro, having taken a tour of the new jail, said, "I feel it is indeed a penal institution. It is designed to punish, not to rehabilitate. Millions of our dollars have been spent on this facility, yet it offers no long-range solutions to the crime that exists in our community." Ted Smith gave several reasons for his part in the civil disobedience, among them some statistics from the National Coalition for Jail Reform:

6,200,000 commitments to jail are made each year.

80 percent of those awaiting trial remain in jail because they cannot afford bail.
600,000 mentally ill people go through the jail system each year.
500,000 youngsters under age 18 go through adult jails and lockups each year.

The suicide rate for adults in jail is 16 times greater than for the general population.

Both men made several requests/commitments regarding their incarceration for civil disobedience. Both refused to post bail and both will fast. Renfro also refused to pay fines or remove the "symbol of hope" they painted on the jail. To send letters of support, character references or donations, write to Ted Smith and/or Scott Renfro, P. O. Box 835, Bellingham, WA 98227

never mind the nightmare

by Jesse Bernstein

Never mind the nightmare. Give me a minute away from it.

Four days in bed listening all the time to the radio—the news, then the Christians, then the news, again. And, thinking of my own possible futures, in between. Nightmare.

But, never mind the nightmare. There is yet love in me. When you lay in bed for days without eating, hardly drinking water for fear of puking up bile, you sleep in two-hour dashes, at odd moments. When Alison lays sleeping next to me for eight hours I watch her, maybe half an hour at a time—with the Christians, then the news coming out the dull face of the radio, on the other side of the bed from her. And, I know it: there is yet love in me.

And, when I am finishing a letter to a friend—I have got to the end and am thinking, "Sincerely?" "Yours truly?" "Love?" And I wait to see if there is the warm thump which does the deciding, I know there is yet love. Especially when I feel the thump and type modestly, "Yours truly."

Back to Alison's face. Back to the Christians and the news. Sometimes it's like that: a little war in the bed. But, when her face wins for a while, the nightmare shadow fades back into the closet where the radio sits. Lately she looks and smells and feels wonderful, just out of the ocean. On the other side it's the dim poison—less and less getting in, the needle slipping out of my vein. That's when she's winning, her and her ocean. Yet love.

Then my neck gets sore and I lay my head back on the pillows. Bombs blowing up in Arab restaurants in London; more money for the Contra torturers creeping back, looking for their old snake-pit, cutting off balls, raping twelve-year-olds to death, gouging out eyeballs, digging for the brains. . . trying to attack the hearts—the hearts that're still winning with the imprints of sleeping, loved faces on pillows in sickbeds faraway. Impossible screams leaking, roaring out, blasting what's left, yet, in a sheath of pain—of the love.

Never mind the nightmare. She wins.

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Dancing: the Body Political

by Jennifer Hall

Seems like every person I've met in my six years of living on Capitol Hill is some kind of dancer. During my first few years in Seattle, I attended dance performances all the time. Nothing inspired me more than watching finely tuned human machines in action. But as I got more into leftist politics, I found that I was going to fewer dance concerts and listening to more "women's music". I still loved dance, but it just didn't seem to make it as "political art". At least, not in Seattle.

A couple of weeks ago I ran into Kathy Yragui. I hadn't seen her much since I'd "gotten radical", and I was

personal accounts from the Seattle Veterans Outreach Center, Kathy Yragui, choreographer, began to get her dancers together.

A Wall of Silence was performed Dec. 7 and 8 in the East Hall of the Odd Fellows building on East Pine Street. It was the third piece in an evening of dance performances and video entitled "Walk the Line".

"Walk the Line" premiered three new dance pieces by two very talented dancer/choreographers, Cindy Williams

what's happening in Nicaragua."

The lights came up a little as the dancers, Yragui, Susan Davis, Doug MacAdams, Katherine Meezur and Delilah Beth Zamichow, marched out in battle fatigues. As they marched, they chanted a call-and-response with Seattle actor Barry Press. (Press stage managed the entire evening's performance. He'd also worked with the dancers, directing their monologs.) "Where are you going?" — "We're going down the garden path." — "Why are you going?" — "We're only

you imagine having to sit on your feelings for 15 years?" I found it hard to sit on my feelings for the rest of the show.

A few days after the performance, I talked to Joel Malesty, VietNam Veterans Leadership Program Director, about "A Wall of Silence" and about the VVLP.

The VVLP is in existence to re-integrate VietNam veterans into society. One of their major tasks has been to find housing for veterans on the streets. They have been doing a lot of public education in the three years that they've been in existence. (VVLP



Louie Raffloer

pleased to see her wearing a button that said, "Women, don't agonize, ORGANIZE!" She looked very beautiful and glowing as she handed me a flyer for a dance piece she had just choreographed. Scanning the flyer, I was surprised to note that the show was endorsed by the VietNam Veterans Leadership Program. "How did you get the VVLP endorsement?" I asked her.

Kathy told me that her piece, "A Wall of Silence", was about the VietNam war. She'd conceived of it at the Seattle Center, while viewing the photo-mural replica of the VietNam Memorial in Washington, D.C. (The mural replica, consisting of 140 panels of names of people killed in the VietNam war, was brought to Seattle by the VietNam Veterans Leadership Program. The exhibition was entitled "Coming Together Again".)

She said that her first reaction to the mural was "total disbelief". As she watched people pointing to the names of their loved ones, she wondered, "Where was I during all this death? It hit me like a ton of bricks. Why did all these men and women die?"

Kathy contacted Joel Malesty, director of the VVLP. She asked for his guidance in obtaining information about VietNam. Through his referrals, she met Bruce Williams-Burden, a VietNam vet who agreed to a taped interview and offered his letters home from the war to be used in the show. After compiling more information and per-

and Helen Thorsen. A video by Thorsen, "The Puppies That Ate Seattle", was also shown. I was impressed by Williams' piece *Cinerama*, which featured perfectly choreographed acrobatics on folding theater seats. Helen Thorsen performed with Alan Sutherland in a piece called *Tether*, about the "age-old battle of the sexes". The costume they wore was a work of art. The two were enmeshed in webbing made of torn-up sheets and they were "tethered" together with a thick, knotted sheet. I thought that Cindy Williams and Helen Thorsen were great. I wouldn't hesitate to catch their choreography again. But Kathy Yragui captured most of my kudos that night.

A good part of the audience, including several VietNam veterans, had come to see *A Wall of Silence*. I was feeling skeptical. I couldn't imagine four young American dancers being able to illustrate the horror and genocide of a war that had happened when most of them were tykes. I was afraid that it would end up being another somewhat embarrassing attempt at approximating human pathos. I was wrong. *A Wall of Silence* grabbed my guts and squeezed. It brought tears streaming down my face. It brought the audience to its feet.

It began in darkness, with the recorded voice of Bruce Williams-Burden, breaking as he talked about high school students who "don't even think about El Salvador. They don't even care about

18 years old, and we don't know any better." (Seattle City Cantabile Choir director Fred West wrote the very powerful vocal orchestrations for the piece.)

The dancers danced death and desperation. What was amazing to me was that they so obviously *felt* what they were dancing. Kathy Yragui's rhythmic choreography was, without a doubt the evening's best. Doug MacAdams was hauntingly believable in the delivery of a monolog taken from the letters of Williams-Burden. He looked just like the fresh-faced, square-jawed, all-American, scared kid he was portraying. Delilah Zamichow was equally poignant as a young war nurse, wondering how she could let herself get close to anyone, when at any moment they might be killed.

I have never seen anything more gripping and real. I thought, "Jesus Christ, this piece should be expanded! They should be playing it in high schools!" (Kathy told me later that she wants to expand her piece into a full-length evening's performance. She also has plans to perform soon at a high school in Bellevue.)

I talked to VietNam vet Leroy Arnold during the intermission. Arnold thought that it was about time for someone to do a dance piece on the war. "It's like they're dancing our feelings! For years we had to sit on those feelings, but finally people are talking about them. It's been almost 15 years since I got home. Can

was started with federal funds. Their funding ran out in September 1984.) "Coming Together Again," the mural replica, was brought to Seattle to bring buried feelings about VietNam to the foreground. "And that's exactly what it did for Kathy," said Malesty. "I don't think it's strange for someone to create a dance piece about the war. I've never heard of anyone doing it before, but it seems natural. The war affected the lives of every man and woman in America. We're all veterans of the VietNam war."

My attitude about dance and politics has come full circle. Now I feel that dance can become a powerful tool in political work. If VietNam can be danced, why not Nicaragua and El Salvador? What can evoke and illustrate emotions better than the human body?

There are so many dancers in Seattle... surely we have in our magical city the seeds of a political dance movement. And as the movement sprouts and flourishes, Kathy Yragui will assuredly be at its forefront.

Seattle VietNam Veterans Leadership Program T-shirts are available for \$5 from: VVLP, 810 - 3rd Ave., Suite 260, Seattle, WA 98104.

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OXYMORONS

by Leslie Batchelder

When I first heard of Norman Durkee and his musical extravaganzas in which each audience member is provided with a personal set of earphones for the performance, I was intrigued.

Last Friday night I found myself at Washington Performance Hall taking in the novel set for Durkee's new binaural opera, *Oxymora*, which included two albino peacocks, a ten-foot-high cylindrical fish tank, and a gangster-era black Mercedes, all with my own set of headphones hanging on the back of my seat.

The initial impact of Durkee's binaural soundtrack was dizzying and confusing to my ears and brain.

The term binaural means that the listener can hear something different with each ear. This gives the listener the impression that she is hearing in 3D.

My ears and brain soon adjusted to Durkee's techno-tricks, which are accomplished with the help of a highly sophisticated synthesizer, a replica of a human head with microphones implanted in the ear canals, into which the performers speak, and of course the headphones worn by the audience.

Oxymora (the plural of the Greek



word for contradictory expressions like "loud silence") is composed of the adaptations of excerpts from the diaries of Japanese court ladies in 1000 A.D.

The diaries, accompanied by numerous descriptive sounds such as waves breaking on a shore, seabirds crying, or strange snapping sounds, were both engaging and enchanting. They were sometimes lyrical and mournful as in the story of a lost child, sometimes zany and bizarre as in the tale of a creature called "unruly hair".

The diaries are contrasted with music from Germany in the 30s a la Kurt Weill (of *Threepenny Opera* fame).

What could be more contradictory?

The only disappointing note (or should I say notes) in the work were the musical ones, which were unfortunately not particularly original or imaginative — in fact, they sounded somewhat generic.

The performance was dominated by Durkee's wonderful sense of humor which many have called strange, but I call astute. He prefers to laugh at the seriousness with which the court ladies take themselves and at all the manifest pitfalls of human existence. I am



Man with fan: Norman Durkee.

Van De Ven

among those who regard a sense of humor among the bare essentials for survival.

I must admit, there is one other minute detail that did bother me in all this. There is something really scary about a guy who in one interview, speaking of his binaural technique, stated, "I wanted to control the audience. I didn't want to be subjected to a lousy hall, or the sound being different everywhere I went."

I realize Mr. Durkee that you are thoroughly enamored with technology,

especially considering that your credits are mainly television commercials, but I'm not so sure where it's all leading, nor whether it's a good idea to have a show controlled by machines.

I can hear your arguments already. "How ridiculous! Humans control computers, not vice versa." However, in light of, say, the changing nature of school children addicted to TV, I'm not so sure. What's so great about having everything predictable and ruling out all possibility of mistakes? We need humans!

THE BROTHER FROM ANOTHER PLANET

You read about how everyone in Seattle loves filmmaker John Sayles. I could never quite figure out why. His basement-budget "Return of the Secaucus Seven" was clever for sure. But then the guy came out with "Lianna," a sort of sensitive man's look at lesbian love, followed by "Baby, It's You," a dull, white look at hetero romance.

I wondered at his great notices and thought "Oh, well. Seattle loves an underdog." But now, Mr. Sayles has earned my love with "The Brother From Another Planet," and Passage Readers, you've got to catch this flick. It's about this black alien (Joe Morton) who crash lands at the Ellis Island immigration center in New York. From there he goes to Harlem and meets all sorts of fine people. The Brother doesn't speak. He's got three toes on each foot. He can fix anything—from video games to sore knees—with just the light from his hands. He makes some good friends in Harlem, like Fly, Smokey and Odell in Odell's bar. They're a little suspicious of him at first. But then he fixes their video game. They fix him up with Sam, the social worker who fixes him up with a place to stay and a job (fixing video games, of course.) Things get uptight when white alien bounty hunter types (John Sayles and David Strathairn) come after the Brother. But even with these screeching slavers after him, he manages to fall in love, get a Rasta tour of Harlem and avenge the drug overdose death of a young brother.

Sayles and Strathairn are effective as nerdy pig aliens. Their synchronized movements and screeching are a trip.

Joe Morton is pure poetry in motion. I kept feeling like I was falling into his huge, emotive eyes. (So it was especially disconcerting to me when he kept popping one of them out.)

What else can I say, GO SEE IT! Oh, I know there's some of y'all out there saying, "Forget it. I've never forgiven John Sayles for 'Lianna.'"

Come on, folks, forgive and forget. Take my word for it. Sayles is much better at aliens than he is at lesbians.

—Jennifer Hall

Personals

Here We are in our fourth month of publishing Passage Personals! And, wow, what a learning experience it has been! For one thing, we've learned that *People* get *pissed* when you don't have a *policy* for your *personals* column. Well, live and learn, folks. Guess it's time to spell things out:

The Passage Personals Policy

Space for personals ads in the *P*assage can be bought for the nominal fee of: **\$3.00 for the first 20 words and 20 cents per additional word.** Mail forwarding from *P*assage boxes will be rendered **FREE OF CHARGE!** Prisoners can still run ads AND have their mail forwarded for free!

The paper cannot be responsible for the safety of our advertisers, so we won't publish phone numbers or street addresses. If you want to use a post office box, that's fine.

We reserve the right to not publish ads that are offensive to our collective members.

We ask that ad writers limit themselves to 100 words or less because of our own space limitations.

So, leftist lovers, go for it! Even with a set policy, the *P*assage offers the least restrictive personals options in town. Witness the testimonial from a satisfied advertiser: (Letters, page 2.)

My cross-country skiing partners don't understand me. I DO fall down a lot, but I make up in enthusiasm what I lack in expertise. I'm looking for partners with cars and tire chains. Just bought my own skis! Come swoosh with me! Reply *P*assage Box X-Ski

Don't wanna own you, don't want you to own me. Lovin's not a question of property. Woman, 27, firm and ripe, not looking for a macho type. I'd like to meet a man who's strong and smart, and if you're political, well, here's my heart. Reply *P*assage Box Kind Heart

Talented pianist with an amiable penis. Searching for a songstress who won't give me a wrong stress. Reply *P*assage Box Fingers

Passage volunteer seeks soulmate/penpal for her lonely younger brother in Connecticut. A woman 19-25 who's bright, loquacious, witty, an idealist rather than an ideologue, might be qualified to correspond with this handsome, intelligent, and eminently charming young man. (Big sister reserves the right to screen all applicants.) Write *P*assage Box Brother

The Total Woman: By day, dressed to the teeth, I work for my meager wage in the world of High Finance. By night, clad in army fatigues, I spread subversion on Seattle's streets and plot the overthrow of corporate monoliths. I'm a poet, an artist, and a free spirit; I'm fertile, emotionally generous, and make a hell of a marinara sauce. My interests include Zen Buddhism and subatomic physics. Men 25-35 — handsome, radical, virile, and not easily intimidated, write to *P*assage Box T.T.W.

White male age 25 in good shape, sandy blonde hair. Looking for woman 18 on up, for friendship or other. Write to: Brian Young, P.O. Box 777 — Monroe, WA 98272

New to Seattle. Leftist intellectual male, 28, with a secure job. I love poetry, the theatre and good conversation. I'd like to meet creative, intelligent women friends. Reply *P*assage Box Poetry

Help! I'm drowning in a sea of estrogen! Laissez faire radical woman needs to meet lots 'o fair, (preferably muscular, handsome, and THEN some) radical men to help her exercise her biological imperative(s). Reply *P*assage Box Laissez Faire

Single Woman seeks married businessman for discreet relationship. Send business card to *P*assage Box 91

Classifieds

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Royer is seeking applicants for a Task Force on Lesbian/Gay issues that will advise the mayor on issues related to the lesbian and gay population in Seattle, including a review of services and information. The Task Force will consist of 11 people including a mix of gender, ethnicity, persons representing lesbian/gay organizations, and independents (not representing organizations) from the lesbian/gay community.

To apply for the Task Force, send a letter of interest and a resume to the Mayor's Office, 1200 Municipal Bldg., Seattle, WA 98104. Organizations wishing to be represented should send a letter of application with a list of names and resumes of potential candidates. All applications must be received by 5pm January 11.

Interviews for finalists will be the weeks of January 14 through 25. Appointments will be announced the week of January 28. The first meeting will be held in early February.

Call Metro Commuter Pool, your rideshare matchmaker, at 625-4500. It's FREE!

Central Area Motivation Program (CAMP) provides numerous programs and services for the poor, including food, clothing and tool banks, energy assistance and advice, workshops and more. Call 329-4111.

Cathartic Harmonics—women's singing support group now forming. Call 382-9803.

FOR SALE

Heavy metal desk—no, really, it's very heavy and it's made out of metal—\$40 as is. Call NWP, 323-0354.

The 1985 Labor History Calendar is an excellent educational, organizational and fundraising tool, featuring photographs and significant dates in labor history. Available for \$4 each, with quantity discounts and consignment terms also available. Order from Pacific Northwest Labor History Association, P.O. Box 25048, Northgate Sta., Seattle, WA 98125.

PRISONERS

I'm 27 years old, 6'½" tall, weigh 185 pounds, blue eyes, brown hair. I would like to correspond with anyone. Rick Dody, 351325, BETO 11, Palestine, TX 75801.

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of Elyse and Treagan Curtis, last known to be living in Sacramento, California, please contact Mike Lockney, M4847, Drawer R, Huntingdon, PA 16652.

OPPORTUNITY

Political activists: post-election depression? Let down now that the excitement is over? Get back in the swing with issues like energy, toxics and fighting corporate greed. Washington Fair Share is hiring fulltime paid activists. Hours 1:30 to 10:00 pm M-F. Call 329-9764.

PUBLICATIONS

The Signpost Press, Inc. announces the 49th Parallel Poetry Contest. For entry info write c/o Greg Boos, 119 N. Commercial, Suite 440, Bellingham, WA 98225.

A subscription to the Anit-Authoritarian News Network is \$10/year (or exchange with newsletters, magazines, journals, zines, etc.) and provides news, articles, letters, poetry, graphics and more. AANN, P.O. Box 915, Sta. F, Toronto, ON M4Y 2N9 CANADA.

RAIN publishes information to help people make themselves, their communities and regions more self-reliant and self-governing, with the latest developments in energy, food, shelter, economics, bioregionalism and more. Donations are being accepted at 3116 N. Williams, Portland, OR 97227.

HUMOR

This column is presented as a public service to our readers. The Northwest Passage accepts no responsibility for Mr. Schrub's views or the accuracy of his historical recall.

MISPLACED ITEMS IN THE AIR (MIAs)

by George Schrub, Committee to Intervene Anywhere

Today I would like to misdirect your attention to a problem we have been creating in the well-known problem area of MIAs — Misplaced Items in the Air. To begin with, we had a little problem — or should I say an opportunity — last season when a Korean Air Lines photographer — excuse me, pilot — strayed a few hundred miles off course over the Kamchatka Peninsula, which the Soviets claim is part of their territory. (They don't mention that they seized it from Japan in 1945.) So the Soviets met and talked it over, and then the rulers of their regime's clique decided that logically, coldblooded murder would be the best way to implement their lofty goals.

The Korean Air Line, which is really the correct line, also had lofty goals. You see, they were not aware, at the time, of a Soviet missile test scheduled on Kamchatka for the day of the fateful flight, although U.S. reconnaissance planes cover the area 24 hours a day. The KAL was also blissfully unaware of the existence of strategic command bases on Kamchatka, since KAL agents—I beg your pardon, pilots—are not allowed to know anything they're not allowed to know. The pilot simply wished to offer his passengers something a little more than the competing airlines. A view of an exotic area. But of course the Soviets don't believe in competition, at least not on a commercial level, so they shot the innocent 007 down. Afterwards, they tried to justify this act by saying that the plane's radar pattern resembled that of an F-105 "spy" plane, that the pilot ignored warnings and communications attempts—in other words, they generally tried to use logic to subvert our lofty goals.

More recently, we had the case of a downed American helicopter. So one of our boys was in his helicopter, you know, boys will be boys, and he was flying a routine preplanned, pre-ordained legitimate non-military defensive mission as part of peaceful war exercises planned jointly with the Honduran-American peace constabulary. And the Nicaraguoid puppet army shot him down. Just like that. And then they said he was flying in a sensitive border area. Seriously, if they're so sensitive about it why don't they move it to some place with more callouses?

Then in February, four U.S. soldiers were killed and six injured when their helicopter crashed in Honduras. This was not the result of hostile action, but we are looking into the possibility that the Nicaraguites are happy about it and would like to have been responsible.

Now going backwards in history—which is my favorite past time—we find that in 1964 the North Vietcong were also kind of sensitive, in this case about what we might see in their sea, specifically the Gulf of Tonkin. Now we had a vessel out there engaged in routine, defensive

George Schrub is the nom de guerre of Dave Lippman, San Francisco-based inciteful songwriter.



...AND I WANT AN M-16 THAT SPITS NUCLEAR DEATH DOWN ON THIRD WORLD PEASANTS, AND A STAR WARS DEATH SATELLITE WITH THE LASER BEAMS OF DOOM..... AND A ZARTAN PARANOID SCHIZOPHRENIC DOLL TO CUDDLE AND CALL MY OWN!!

G.I. Joe and the Forces of Democracy have a new subversive fiend to battle this Christmas. It's the "Zartan the Enemy" doll, labeled a "paranoid schizophrenic" by its maker, the Hasbro Toy Company.

A clip and save file card that comes with the Zartan doll, one of over 40 dolls in Hasbro's G.I. Joe series, describes Zartan as being an "extreme paranoid schizophrenic. Grows into various multiple personalities to such an extent that the original personality becomes buried and forgotten."

The doll also turns blue in sunlight, has long hair, and dresses up like a leather punk.

Vice President of Hasbro Industries Donald M. Robbins said that the company regretted the schizophrenic label, the mistake slipped past the company proofreaders, and the error should never have occurred.

The description prompted complaints from many mental health experts, including the Indiana Mental Health Association, which complained that the Zartan doll misrepresented the mentally ill and should be pulled immediately from all store shelves.

The toymaker pledged to make an unspecified donation for mental research.

— Vaughn

exploratory work such as every nation with a world fleet and interests in other people's countries conducts. And we were shipnapped. They claimed we were staring at their private parts. But of course their scheme backfired, as it provided President Lyndon with the opportu-

ity to impress upon Congress some of the finer points of the subtle workings of the Southeast Asian Mind. And so, being rather sensitive themselves, the Congress passed a resolution on the Gulf of Tonkin, annexing it. Now when the North Vietnamese didn't fully understand that resolution and give it their support, of course we had to explain it to them, gently but firmly, which turned out to take a while. I don't think they understand that situation to this day, but as long as you don't, that's all I really care about.

Earlier on there had been the case of Mr. Gary Powers, Esq., who got off course in 1952 and suddenly found himself and his plane over the Soviet Union, where he was viciously shot down by Chinese-trained Soviet anti-aircraft gunners who pointed the finger at Eisenhower, shouting "You too, you too!" They cynically claimed our man was involved in espionage, or, worse yet, that he was spying. That's ridiculous. Why would we want to look at a bunch of obsolete military installations? (Of course in 1952 they weren't obsolete yet. But we knew, through our excellent surveillance networks, that they would become so.)

So, as we've already explained many times in a sensational fashion, MIAs are the major foreign policy issue we face. If the Irano-Lybioid-Sandinite subversive delinquents can't get their little countries out from under our democratic civilian-military aircraft (and those of our twisted alloys), and persist in shooting them down, we will be forced, with a heavy heart, to shoot down at them. Then, if they relent, we will see to it that their country is relent to the highest bidder. And perhaps we'll fix their airport, as well. Lord knows, we may need it.

