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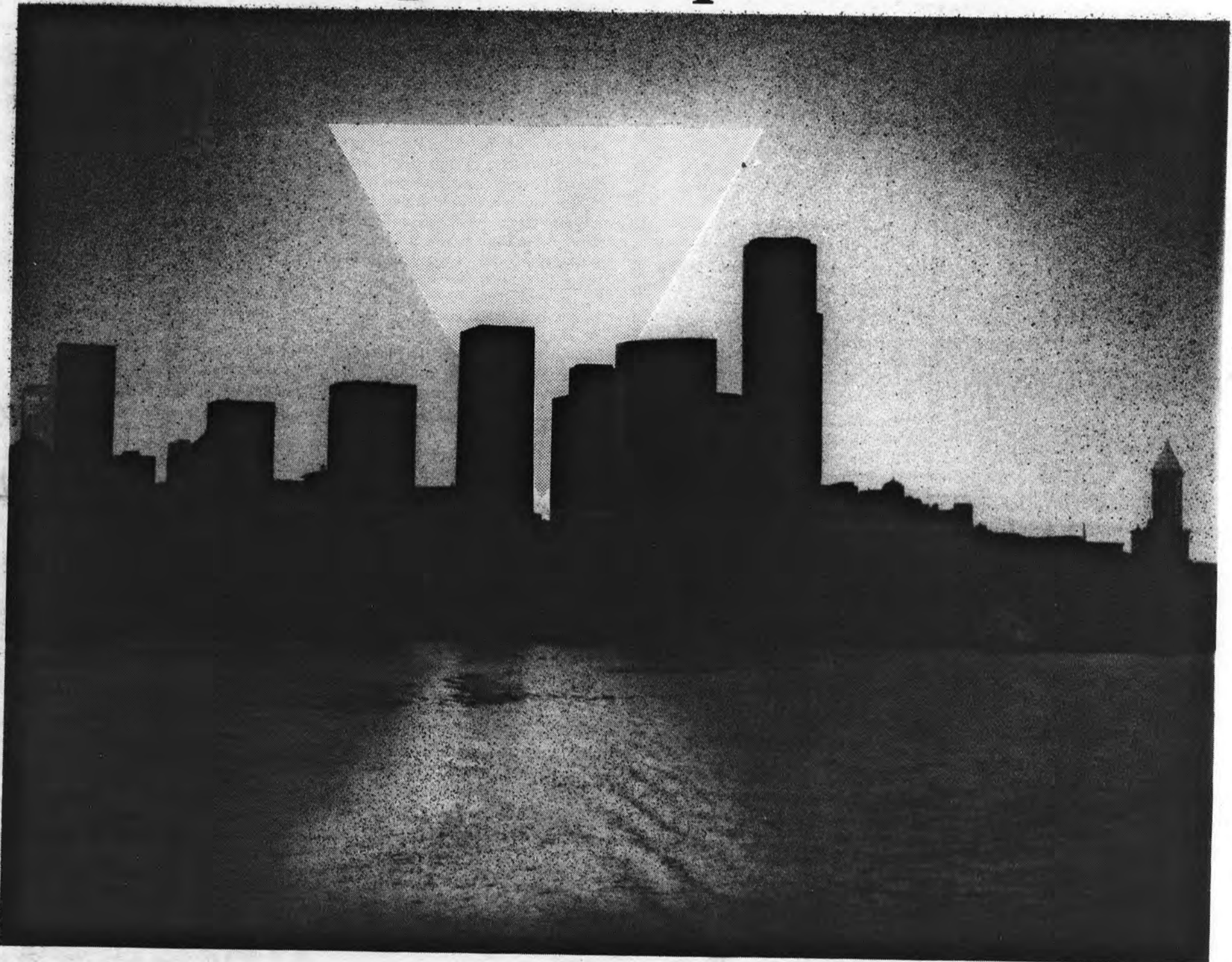
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NORTHWEST

# Passage

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## *Lesbians/Gays: History and Pride*



**CAUSES OF CRIME • A NEW ANARCHY**

**THE INJUSTICE OF JUSTICE • SEATTLE'S JAZZ**

**NICARAGUA UNDER SEIGE • CANADA'S BIG MOUNTAIN**

**THE DIRTY WORLD OF PUREX • A LETTER FROM GERMANY**

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# Northwest Passage

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# Letters

## WWIII Preferable to RCP Regime

Dear NWP,

The events leading up to No Business As Usual Day on April 29 confirmed for all time and beyond any doubt that World War III would be preferable to an RCP regime. Starting as a decentralized organization advocating hit-and-run street theater, NBAU degenerated into one more assinine attempt by the sons of Stalin to maneuver unwary dissidents into Swami Baba Vakian's calcified mind set.

Face it. NBAU's hopes of paralyzing America with ragtag bands of the dissolute and disaffected were, at best, founded on fuzzy idealism. Once such hopes were wedded to the RCP's moronic brand of rhetoric ("Raise high the banner of proletarian gullibility!") they became ludicrous. Who wants to join Baba Vakian in his pantheon of fake revolutionary martyrs? Nobody! What is this crap about "Stop World War III no matter what it takes?" Just an invitation to run around downtown screaming, provoking the cops, and mystifying the good citizens. Anyway, it must have worked; there were no unusual manifestations of WWIII on April 29.

Fellow individuals, do you ask why this writer is so aggravated? It's only because some fourth-rate dupe of the RCP called me up the night before NBAU to demand that the Auntie Fascist Marching Band toe the party line. I swear on Lenin's left nut that nobody in AFMB ever has or ever will do anything disciplined solely for the sake of discipline. It's bad enough that NBAU had no hope of matching its claims. It's worse that the RCP got a chokehold on the thing and started jamming its ideological baggage down people's throats. But the worst thing is that their overzealous cadres accused those of us who weren't interested in their shit in the first place of betraying the revolution.

A few lessons from NBAU or any other coalition involving the RCP, the RCYB, VVAW, or the defunct Revolutionary Union: 1) Anytime a Stalinist group works "with" another organization, their ultimate goal is to bend the host organization to their parasitic purposes; 2) The purposes of such Stalinists range from silly through suicidal to genocidal, depending both on how badly Stalin's latest avatar is mutilating history and on how much power is at the big jerk's disposal;



Now playing at a demonstration near you...

3) Once such Stalinists have entered a given coalition or front they will gravitate toward positions of authority and responsibility. Once in place they will proceed to load the agenda and agitate for democratic centralism which will stifle dissent. Please bear in mind that old Iron Joe Stalin himself never had any higher position in the Russian party or government than party secretary. From there he was able to manipulate appointments and material to accomplish his ends.

Don't let these things happen to your group. Insist that key personnel discuss their political affiliations and philosophies. Don't let the Stalinist virus poison your political life. It's downhill to the GULag from there.

—memo, alto sax, AFMB

## Revlon America

Dear NWP,

Americans love to cosmetize. Now they are seeking to cosmetize the terrible effects of unemployment with what I call the Revlon Law, i.e., criminalizing panhandling. Within poor and minority communities, those who lose out in the exact competition for the very limited number of jobs are relegated to the statistics of the unemployed. But what does this say for how their survival needs are met? How are they to cope with food, shelter, and housing?

Those who are ineligible for cosmetizing welfare programs are reduced to two options, begging & stealing. In a system whose unbridled aim is profit, whose unplanned economy, unlike

socialist countries, is geared to maximum exploitation of resources and labor to achieve maximum profit for Corporate America, those teeming masses who are the victims of this laissez faire, unplanned economy of free enterprise wherein there is no right to work law, are now being denied their first option, undignified though it may be, begging. The ultimate aim of our Revlonesque Government, in behalf of their Corporate Masters, is the cosmetization of the Corporate work and consumer areas by jailing the victims of this tragic travesty. Are they seeking to only fine those who are penniless? It is obvious that this law deprives the destitute of the first option and that this law is repressive and designed to be so.

What options does the government have? Enact a right-to-work law and do away with the welfare system. Instead of funneling giveaway money with no government returns into such programs, let the government erect factories and income-producing programs that will employ those embroiled in joblessness and will pay for itself and not rely upon taxing the middle class and workers. Why not stop exporting jobs to Japan, Korea and Taiwan? Why not crack down on the overcharging of taxpayers and consumers by corporate America? Why not crack down on the overpricing of the Government by Defense contractors?

That is the real eyesore for Revlon America to cosmetize!

—Husayn 'Umar Sayfuddiyn

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# The Unity of Anarchy

# EDITORIAL

**A**pril, 1985 may turn out to be a flash point in a new period of progressive action. Energies were released, old methods revived, new ones tried, and cynicism taken down a peg or two. This is not wishful thinking or naivete about the future. If Reaganism isn't brought to its knees, if the revolution doesn't "happen," few will be disillusioned for the simple reason that most have no illusions to begin with. The progressive movement can and should live without illusions. This is strength to the world; this should be its strength to itself.

To be sure, as the movement gains momentum the old scenarios will repeat: the right will mostly ignore it until it becomes a clear threat, then react with militancy; the liberals will "sympathize with the ideas, but disagree with the methods"; the left will squabble about who and how to organize. But the old scenarios may be missing a new and critical fact: in April, anarchy—that misunderstood and mistreated tradition—moved from the periphery toward the center of the movement.

The primary reason is obvious. The need for peace and justice is so fundamental to human individual and social life that it cannot be finally squashed, intellectualized away, or overly organized. The demonstrations and actions of April are direct expressions of that positive, constructive drive for a safe, just, humane world.

And just as obvious: that need is being assaulted by a U.S. foreign and domestic policy of almost unprecedented cruelty. The poor, the Nicaraguans, the minorities, the Grenadans, the elderly, the South Africans, the environment, the El Salvadorans, the handicapped: all, and others, are being kicked by U.S. military boots marching to an unnecessary war.

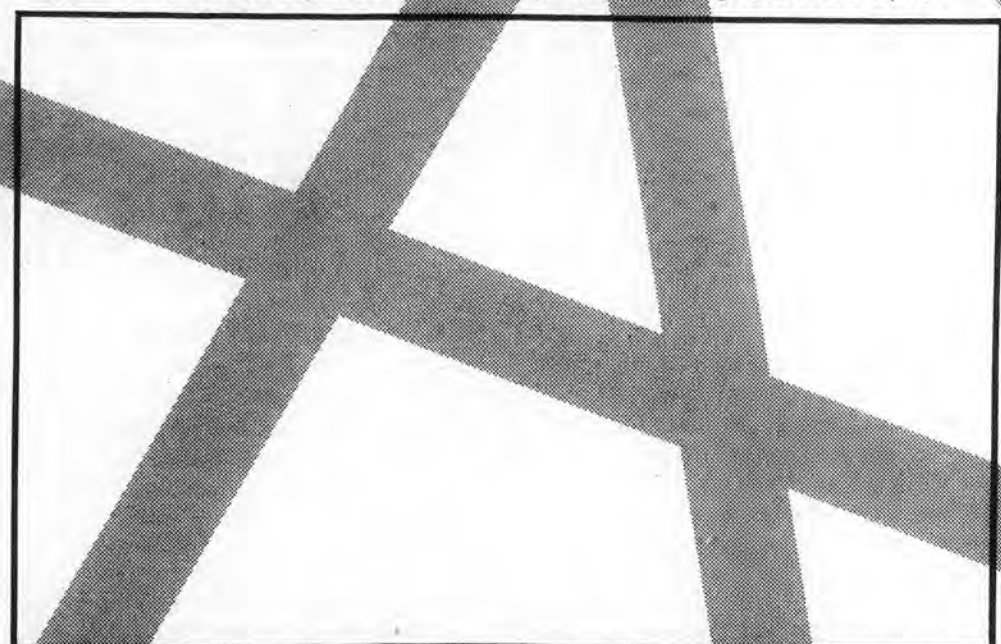
We are wrong if we think this policy is the outcome of some unfortunate psychological quirk, some misinformation, some temporary error. "Bitburg" didn't represent Reagan's "insensitivity" or "lack of understanding of history." It was a coldly calculated, smart political move to strengthen the NATO Alliance as a direct threat to the Soviet Union. The Bonn and Lisbon speeches confirm it unequivocally. It is the heating up of the cold war that justifies U.S. intervention abroad and attack upon the powerless at home. Reaganism doesn't give a shit what the Jews or the Vets or the handicapped or the elderly or the Blacks think, because it knows perfectly well that the break-up of the liberal Democratic coalition that loosely held these groups together in an illusion of power means that the dividing is complete and the conquering can proceed. It knows perfectly well that

the rooms of pluralism can be locked and the heat turned off.

But in thinking that this will effectively freeze the opposition may be Reaganism's fatal flaw and anarchy's unique opportunity. Those dispossessed groups can come together in new forms of alliance and coalition that do not look to the Democratic party, or any political party, as model.

**Item:** April 20 sees the largest mass demonstration in Seattle in years for "Peace, Jobs, Justice." People in the march know exactly why they're there, know exactly what it will accomplish. Ideas, but no illusions.

**Item:** April 22—seventeen arrested at Boeing Headquarters for reminding Northwesterners that next to the sheep of "employment opportunities"



lies the wolf of war.

**Item:** No Business as Usual day. The mainstream press can't cover it all. Acts of protest against Reaganism, corporate profiteering and the military escalation towards world war occur in major cities throughout the U.S. Locally: Vietnam Veterans Against the War—Anti-Imperialism stages guerilla theater at Seattle Central Community College and the University of Washington. Anti-apartheid rally at UW closes down the Administration Building for two hours. Teach-in with films, lectures, discussions at Seattle University draws over 200 participants. A cable is mysteriously padlocked at the intersection of 4th & Stewart. A post-nuclear fashion show takes its travelling exhibit to corporations with headquarters in downtown Seattle. Lobbied by the VVAW-AI and the Revolutionary Communist Party, students from Garfield and Summit cause disruptions at six locations throughout the city. At the Federal Building and police station four are arrested, one woman for drawing a peace sign on the ground.

The students are taking politics seriously ("We are the future, not the bomb") and rejecting condescending attitudes toward their youth or punkness: culture is politics.

**Item:** April 30—In San Francisco, anarchists and squatters perform mobile tactics to disrupt the corporate scene in the downtown financial district.

**Item:** May 5—Over 33 activist, gay/lesbian, Jewish, political, and religious groups sponsor and support "Days of Outrage" to protest Reagan's Bitburg obscenity.

**Item:** May 7—On three days notice a coalition of eight activist groups stage a protest that draws 300 to a symbolic defiance of the embargo of Nicaragua. Chanting "Embargo South Africa, not

Nicaragua," bananas and "coffee" are unloaded at Elliott Bay and taken to the Federal Building. Fourteen sit-in at the lobby and maintain a vigil throughout the night.

**Item:** May 9—Eight citizens groups sponsor a public hearing to protest Reaganomic budget cuts. 120 sign a 20-foot high "letter" to Reagan. Timing is keyed to maximize pressure on the current budget discussions. Further protest is planned.

**Item:** May 10—Pledge of Resistance, a predominantly religious coalition that has trained hundreds to perform civil disobedience if the U.S. invades Nicaragua, "escalates" its position to protest the embargo. Over 60 sit-in at the Federal Building. A minor controversy arises when the organizers ask some members of Seattle Non-Violent Action Group (SNAG) to leave because they have not been "trained" for that particular civil disobedience. Five members from SNAG eventually do leave, but discussion led by SNAG achieves two important results: the Pledge of Resistance opens its rules to a larger population, and the whole group approves a

resolution to maintain an on-going occupation of the Federal Building. Non-violent escalation is likely.

**Item:** May 16-17—100 people sleep over night in a "shanty town" on the UW campus to dramatize the plight of blacks in South Africa and to demand divestiture of \$6.3 million in University funds from companies doing business in South Africa. Beginning at 8am Friday, activists hold an all-day demo and vocally protest outside the Administration Building, where the UW Board of Regents votes on divestiture.

Should we work to bring all these groups and actions into one large movement: Should we devote significant energy to self-organization? Authoritarian leftists of various degrees who believe in the need for leaders, hierarchical parties, tight organizations, and strict ideological lines, would answer—yes. Their argument runs: since the opposition is characterized by those things, then we must respond likewise or we will not be able to counteract their power. Theories of decentralized power are nice, but you can't defeat real power with theoretical power. The argument is strong and backed up by a radical tradition out of Marx and Engels. But it has problems.

First, historically (but not necessarily), centralization to achieve specific political goals has led to totalitarianism. It's virtually impossible to get a sunshine clause written into political platforms to ensure that a party will self-destruct once the goal is achieved. Concentration of power in organizations or leaders perpetuates itself, though not inevitably; most probably.

Secondly, it's difficult to trust leaders defending the concept of 'leadership.' It always sounds self-serving.

Thirdly, autonomy and self-determination are more basic human attributes than conformity and subordination, though the latter can be very strong psychological drives.

And fourthly, in 1985 in the U.S. the idea of one big political party or coalition may be the abstract theory that is far from the reality of a pluralist and "individualist" past. The shortest path to stopping Reaganism and the right may be the non-authoritarian path of many loose and temporary alliances.

It just could be that the progressive movement will achieve its ends by promoting diversity: banging on missiles and knocking on doors; marching and mailing; vigil and confrontation; citizen hearing and die-ins; arm bands and defiance. Either/or replaced by both/and. That's anarchy.

Erin Moore and Bruce Kochis



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## Women's Funding Alliance

Seattle's Women's Funding Alliance is part of a newly formed international network of "Women's funds," organizations that raise funds and disperse them to women's and girls' projects nationwide. This past April, in Washington, DC, the women's funds held their first conference and agreed to form a national network. "The potential of women's funds is enormous, both as a way to raise some desperately needed money and as a way to change attitudes about women," said Dyan Oldenburg, director of the Women's Funding Alliance.

Oldenburg noted that while women own much wealth, men have traditionally controlled the institutions that disperse money to charities. More than three-fourths of foundation trustees, for example, are men. As a result, women's and girls' projects received less than 3 percent of the money given away by foundations in 1983, and "women's causes" received a mere .2 percent of the money given away by corporations in 1980. This low level of support for women contrasts sharply with need: two of every three poor adults in America are women.

Just six years ago, there were only four "women's funds." There are now 23 in 14 states and at least three in other countries, including The Netherlands and France. Some funds are already raising large chunks of money: Womens Way in Philadelphia raised nearly half a million dollars; The Women's Foundation in San Francisco is raising \$480,000 this year. Seattle's Women's Funding Alliance recently received \$27,000, which it disperses to member organizations such as Aradia, the Lesbian Resource Center, Seattle and King County Rape Relief and the Welfare Rights Organizing Coalition.

Some of the women's funds are federations of local women's organizations, and give all or most of their money to their members. Others are community foundations, giving grants to a variety of organizations that apply for funding. The women's funds raise money in a variety of ways: major gifts from individuals, grants from foundations and corporations, and getting employees to have gifts deducted from their paychecks. The Women's Funding Alliance has used this approach, pointing out that United Ways give women's and girls' charities less than 60 percent of what they give men's and boys' charities.

For more information contact The Women's Funding Alliance, 119 S. Main St., Suite 330, Seattle, WA 98104; (206) 467-6733.

## Minority Playwrights' Festival

The Group Theatre's first annual American Minority Playwrights' Festival—the only one of its kind in the nation—opens this month with workshop productions of winning plays, cold readings of runners-up, a public forum on the making of a play, and a featured main stage production. More than 250 scripts were submitted in response to the Group's nationwide, year-long search. A jury of local theater and academic professionals evaluated the scripts and selected two winners: "Going to Seed," by Rosanna Yamagiwa Alfaro of Cambridge, Massachusetts, and "The Stalking Horse," by Ed Shockley of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Alfaro and Shockley will be brought to Seattle for the first 10 days of June for an intensive one-week rehearsal of their scripts, working with a director, a dramaturge and professional actors. "The Stalking Horse" will be presented

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on June 7 and 9, and "Going to Seed" on June 8 and 10, at the New City Theatre at 8pm for \$4 each performance. Six other scripts will be read on June 11, 17, 24 and 25 at The Ethnic Theatre, all at 8pm and free.

Opening the American Minority Playwrights' Festival will be a free public forum, "The Making of a Play," on June 2 at 2pm at The Ethnic Theatre. Lee Romero, Jorge Huerta and Ruben Sierra will discuss the process that began with Romero's poetry and developed into the play, "I Am Celso," which will premiere at The Ethnic Theatre on June 6-30. For more info on performance times and ticket prices, call 543-4327.

## Boeing the Top Military Research Contractor in Fiscal Year 1983

Of the top 10 businesses doing military research for the Pentagon in fiscal year 1983, Seattle's own Boeing Corporation ranked first with \$1,703.5 million in contract awards. Of that, \$1,279.1 million was for work done in Seattle. During fiscal year 1983, the Pentagon awarded \$16.3 billion in military research, an increase of 9.5 percent over 1982. Of the total spent on military research, 49.1 percent was awarded to private businesses, and the remaining was awarded to educational and nonprofit institutions. But Boeing topped every contractor, private or educational.

Source: RECON Publications

## Seattle Sues for Release of WIC Funds

Five states, four Congressmen, three WIC participants and seven local agencies—including the Seattle-King County Public Health Department—have filed a lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Office of Management and Budget. Funds appropriated by Congress for the USDA Women, Infants and Children Supplemental Food Program (WIC) in fiscal year 1985 are being withheld, and the suit requests a temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction to release the funds. The USDA and OMB have attempted to cut program spending by spreading 10 months of funds over 12 months.

Each month the Seattle-King County Public Health Department WIC program provides food vouchers and education to 9,350 low-income women and children designated at nutritional risk by medical professionals. Pregnant and nursing women receive health screenings, health care referrals and nutritional education. In King County the program boasts a 55-70 percent improvement rate for participants who entered the program with anemia, growth failure, obesity and inadequate diets. The Public Health Department was told that 755 children will have to be cut from the program this month because of the federal spending cuts. At the end of February, 900 women and children were waiting to get on the program in King County. Using 1980 census data, the Public Health Department currently can fund only 37 percent of those eligible for the program.

## ANOTHER NUCLEAR TRAIN

Preparations are underway for greeting the next nuclear train, which will probably arrive in Washington in July. A vigil is being prepared (call 328-3595 for more info) and a phone tree has been set up to notify those interested when the train makes its move. (call 779-7028 or 243-9366 to



## REGENTS DO NOT DIVEST

The University of Washington Board of Regents washed their hands of the blood of Bantu Stephen Biko, Siphon Mutsu, Andries Raditsela, and at least 53 other victims of police racism in South Africa. Add to that the thousands killed in riots, the millions forced to relocate, and the repression of twenty million Blacks' right to self-determination and human dignity.

The Regents voted to divest of one company—NCR, an investment of \$250,000, less than four percent of the \$6.3 million they use to support the racist regime. There was little discussion. Three of the 35 people representing the public who were allowed to attend the vote were forced to leave the room when they tried to voice their objections to continuing

## OPINION

UW investments in South Africa. The vote was unanimous. The Regents chose not to divest.

The moral depravity of their actions is compounded by the grossest cynicism and hypocrisy: ostensibly overseeing an institution of argument and evidence, the Regents turned their backs on human thoughtfulness and hugged the stupidity of their own wishful thinking. Simply, every argument against divestment has been completely discounted by people that know: from Nelson Mandela to Bantu Stephen Biko to Dennis Brutus to Desmond Tutu to the university's own expert, Aldon Bell, Professor of History.

If the students of the university think they're getting an education, they're right: an education in racism, cowardice, and the profit motive.

—Bruce Kochis



Dorinda Henry of Students Against Apartheid

photo by Erin Moore

be included on the phone tree). For those interested in doing civil disobedience in an attempt to stop the Nuclear Train, training sessions are requested. One was held in May and another is scheduled for June 14-15, from Friday evening to Saturday evening. Puget Sound Agape, organizer of the civil disobedience effort, says that the training sessions are "required for cd folks," and also strongly recommended for at least a few support people per cd person. For more info on the training sessions, call 328-3595 or 692-7053.

The first nuclear train, the White Train, came our way in February, and those arrested on its tracks are preparing for their trial sometime in June. Puget Sound Agape reminds those interested in resisting the nuclear train that "train arrivals, like disarmament, are an ongoing process." In other words, sitting on the tracks is only the tip of the iceberg.

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## Training for Organizers Offered

Two training sessions are being offered in June by The Center for Third World Organizing. "Systems for Effective Organizing" will be held in Portland, Oregon on June 7-8 for a fee of \$75. This session will address three levels of structure: personal, staff and organizational. Through workshops and consultations, topics covered will be board member selection and development, recruitment and maintenance of volunteers, office management systems and division of labor.

"Training in Community Organizing for Third World Activists" will be held in the San Francisco Bay Area on June 23-27 for a \$250 fee, which includes meals and lodging. Topics to be included: theories and models of organization, resource mobilization/fundraising, alliances and coalitions, campaign development, community research, community cultural values, history of struggle in third world communities, international case study, leadership development, field activity and state power and organizational development.

For more information on the Portland session contact Lupe Guajardo, 1715 NW Couch St., Portland Oregon 97209; (503) 223-6436. For more information on the Bay Area session contact CWTO, 3861 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Oakland, California 94609; (415) 654-9601.

## Calyx Announces Issue on Women and Aging

*Calyx*, a journal of art and literature by women, has announced a special double issue for fall 1985 devoted to women and aging. Submissions are sought for poetry, fiction, essays, interviews, reviews and art relating to the theme of women and aging. Work by women over 55 and interviews of older women artists and writers are especially sought. Make a query before submitting work; deadline is August 1.

Founded in 1976, *Calyx* has a tradition of outstanding special issues: the Fifth Anniversary International Issue, 1981 (work by women from 28 countries in 13 languages—the only multi-language anthology of its kind in the U.S.); the Photography Issue, 1982; and Bearing Witness/Sobreviviendo, the Native American/Latina Anthology, 1984. In addition to this year's Women and Aging Issue, *Calyx* is planning an Asian American Women Issue for fall 1986.

*Calyx* also plans to begin publishing books in 1986. *Calyx* provides a forum showcasing women artists and writers from a wide spectrum of women's experience, especially work by women of color, working-class women, lesbians, and politically active women. For more



information or to submit to the Women and Aging Issue, write to *Calyx*, P.O. Box B, Corvallis, OR 97339.

Matagalpa Painter Nieve Andina Arnesto, from CALYX Volume 7 Number 3

## Northwest Ground Water Conference

A conference sponsored by the U.W.'s Institute for Environmental Studies headlined "Northwest Ground Water: The Invisible Resource—A Hidden Crisis?" is slated for June 14-15 in Tacoma. Ground water is used for drinking, irrigating, manufacturing and cleansing by much of the population. Idahoans rely on ground water for 88 percent for their water needs, Oregonians 56 percent and Washingtonians 44 percent. The conference will bring

together interested officials and citizens from Idaho, Oregon and Washington, from both the wet side and the dry side of the mountains.

Participants will include elected representatives, educators, geologists, urban planners and health officials as well as tribal leaders from the Yakima, Colville, Umatilla and Nez Perce nations. Environmental groups, such as Friends of the Earth, will also be represented. Topics to be covered during the conference are: ground water rights and ownership, governmental roles, tribal roles, case histories of ground water management, and recommendations

being considered. On Friday evening, June 14, at 8pm, a special program on ground water, geology and radioactivity will feature information and perspectives not only on Hanford but on Idaho Falls as well.

The fee is \$40 before June 3; \$60 after. For more info contact IES, FM-12, UW, Seattle, WA 98195; (206) 543-1812.

## Puget Sound Workcamp Announced

From August 4-25 an international workcamp will take place on Puget Sound under the auspices of Volunteers for Peace. The workcamp will be hosted by the Squaxin Island people of southern Puget Sound and by the Makah people of Neah Bay. This is the first workcamp hosted by Native American communities. Work in the Squaxin fish hatcheries and landscaping tribal land is planned, as well as helping the Makahs prepare for their annual Makah Days celebration.

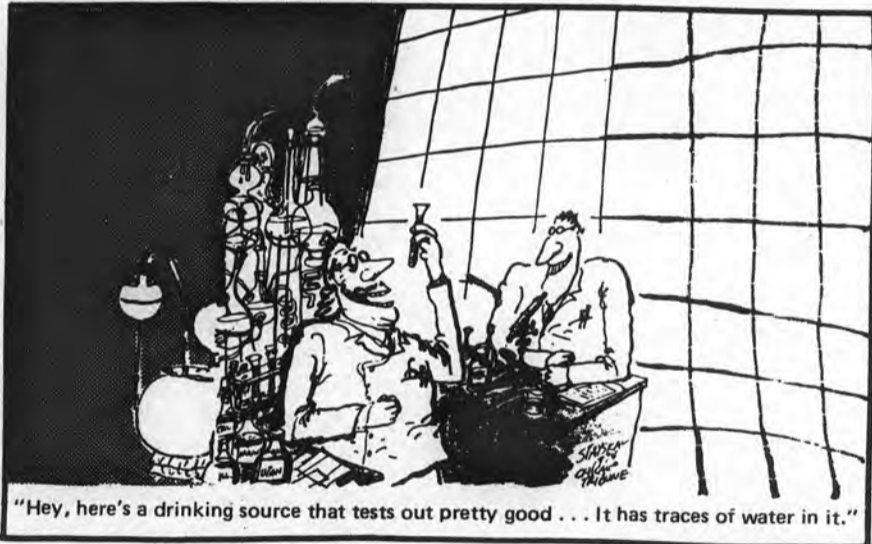
International workcamps provide a cheap form of international exchange for people of many countries who live together for two to three weeks in exchange for work. This year there will be 16 such workcamps in the U.S. Volunteers for Peace is one of several national organizations developing workcamps around the country. For more info contact Volunteers for Peace, 2401 Muirhead, Olympia, WA 98502; (206) 352-4182.

## 11th Annual Indian Treaty Council Conference

The Northwest Indian Women's Circle will host the 11th annual conference of the International Indian Treaty Council, at the Evergreen State College on June 23-29. Since 1974 the IITC has sponsored annual conferences, each held in a different Indian nation. Member nations of the IITC meet to decide the direction of the coming year's work, to share information, and hear addresses by international guests.

The first IITC was held on the land of Standing Rock Sioux Tribe in 1974, with 97 tribes and nations from across North and South America represented. The IITC issued the "Declaration of Continuing Independence," and resolved to take the case of native peoples before the world community to inform it of the 371 existing treaties as well as violations of these treaties. In 1975 the IITC received status at the United Nations as a Non-Governmental Organization, with the ability to participate in the UN.

In this year's conference, the Northwest Indian Women's Circle plans to include such issues as the Black Bass Lacey Act, the Salmon Scam on the Columbia River, Initiative 456 passed the state legislature, and domestic violence, a major part of ethnocide. For more information contact NIWC, P.O. Box 8051, Tacoma, Washington 98408.



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## Big Mountain Relocation Battle Heats Up

The forced relocation of Navajos from their traditional homelands shared with the Hopi nation in the Four Corners area of the Southwest is being increasingly resisted as the deadline approaches. The original act of Congress called for removal of the Navajos by July 1986, but Native American activists expect Reagan to take action early in June 1985. Activists from across the country have been coming to the Big Mountain area for the past two years to attempt to halt the relocation.

Support is urgently needed; here is what you can do. Contact your representative and/or senators every other week by phone or mail, and send copies of your correspondence to the Big Mountain Legal Defense/Offense Committee (BMLDOC). Educate your community about this issue; a slide show is available from the Berkeley Support Group (1412 Cypress St., 94703), and the BMLDOC Newsletter is available from the BMLDOC (124 N. San Francisco St., Suite B, Flagstaff, AZ 86001). Form a support group in your community (there are more than 12 nationwide), or join the one in your area. Send donations to the BMLDOC for legal costs, lobbying and staffing, as well as food and clothing for people on the land.

The May 1985 issue of the BMLDOC Newsletter notes that "Relocation has not gained the same attention as Central America intervention or South African divestment. . . Unlike Central America and South Africa, this atrocity is being perpetrated in our own backyard." Source: BMLDOC Newsletter

## Soviet Military Spending Slowdown Reported by CIA

A recent CIA report states that the growth in Soviet military costs actually slowed down in the mid-70s, just at the time when U.S. military spending began to grow rapidly. According to the new CIA report, Soviet military costs grew on average 4 to 5 percent per year before 1976, but after 1976 the rate dropped to about 2 percent per year. As one analyst noted, the new CIA estimates "cast doubt on the proposition that Soviet defense spending grew throughout the 1970s at a relentless and rapid rate"—a major justification for the Reagan administration military buildup.

The new CIA figures are also reminders that defense decisions must be based on an objective analysis of U.S. security needs. Substantial overspending on the military has now



Inspired by the recent Philadelphia bombing

become a threat to economic security, which is of course directly related to national security. Far too much of present and planned military expenditure is now going to large weapons systems with no real foreign policy or useful military mission. Some expensive and destabilizing weapons such as the MX missile are actually detrimental to national security. Source: Report from Mike Lowry, March 1985.

## UE Begins National Negotiations With GE

During the last three years, the General Electric company has experienced a growth in profits and worker productivity unparalleled in its history. A comparison of 1984 performance with 1981 shows that profits increased by 26 percent and net profits by almost 40 percent. Total profit amounted to \$9.1 billion.

Despite that astonishing figure the total GE workforce decreased by almost 20 percent during the same period. In short, GE's profit per employee doubled during these three years and net profit per employee increased a staggering 70 percent. Yet GE workers enjoyed no increase in their standard of living even remotely comparable to this profit bonanza.

Company profits rose three times as fast as the rate of inflation, profit per employee rose five times as fast, and GE workers are not satisfied that their wages have just managed to keep pace with their increased cost of living. GE shareholders and corporate executives received much larger returns as the company reached new levels of profitability: Chairman Welch's salary increased 63 percent, and dividends to stockholders increased 30 percent, between 1981 and 1984.

GE workers are currently negotiating through their union, United

Electrical Workers, for higher wages for their labor and an improved standard of living for their families. Negotiations began May 14; the current contract expires June 30. Source: UE release, by James M. Kane

## Arms Sales: Reagan Outsell the Soviets

By the end of Reagan's first term, he had sold more weapons abroad than any other president. Reagan's \$57.2 billion in arms sales was a 49 percent increase over the amount sold by Carter. Every area of the world showed an increase. Reagan did reduce the proportion of arms sold to the Middle East, while greatly increasing the proportion sold to European and Pacific nations.

Arms-sales spokesman James Buckley defended "a qualitative shift in the kinds of countries with which we will be concluding sales. They will include a larger number of developing countries which desperately need more effective means of defending themselves" by claiming a U.S. need "to develop cooperative relationships so that, in times of crisis, we may be able more effectively to project our own power. . ."

In carrying out this part of his arms sales policy, Reagan sold weapons to 15 Third World nations that had never before purchased U.S. arms. An additional six nations that had not been regular customers were brought into the U.S. arms-sales network, for a total sales to new customers of \$132.7 million.

On May 7, 1984, the Congressional Research Service disclosed that the U.S. was the largest supplier of weapons to the Third World, having sold more than twice the amount of arms that the Soviet Union provided. Sen. Mark Hatfield (R-Ore.) said, "This study raises some serious questions

about the role of the U.S. in the Third World and our short-sighted policy of indiscriminately selling arms to whichever countries have the resources to purchase them. What we fail to realize is that those resources come at the direct expense of economic development and meeting human needs."

Source: RECON Publications, by Chris Robinson.

## Michigan Students Protest Military Research

More than 14 months after their arrest for protesting military research on campus, seven members of the Progressive Student Network (PSN) at the University of Michigan were retried on May 9. They were charged with trespass while sitting-in at a university laboratory that works on high-powered diodes for the Phoenix missile, a long-range air-to-air weapon soon to be equipped with nuclear warheads. Their retrial follows a mistrial in March due to a hung jury.

In 1967, protests of military research and training programs for the Vietnam War resulted in the 1968 decision by university regents to adopt guidelines for classified weapons research (most of the weapons work done at that time was classified). These guidelines prohibit the university from doing any research, the main purpose of which is to destroy human life or incapacitate human beings.

After many universities adopted stricter guidelines for weapons research, the Pentagon began breaking their projects into smaller nonclassified components. In 1981, the amount of Pentagon-sponsored research at the U. of Michigan began to increase, and now amounts to more than \$6.5 million, most of it on nonclassified projects. Students and faculty began organizing against this nonclassified research, and the Michigan Student Assembly and the Faculty Senate Committee adopted research restrictions in the spring of 1983. The regents voted against these guidelines.

Since that time, PSN has been working to stop military research at the university, with vigils and leafletting. Feeling much support but seeing little action, PSN began doing nonviolent civil disobedience. In November 1983, PSN shut down for 48 hours a lab doing nonclassified research into technology for the cruise missile. This sit-in resulted in the arrest of seven students.

Legal defense rests on demonstrators' claim that the protest was an act of social responsibility, not a crime. PSN continues to work to get the university to extend classified guidelines to cover nonclassified research, to develop a better mechanism to enforce the classified research guidelines, and to recognize student and faculty demands that weapon research be stopped.

Source: PSN release, by Andrea Walsh

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**ARIZONA, NEW MEXICO  
 Farmworkers Co-ops**

The 10,000 member Arizona Farmworkers Union (AFW) is involved in a unique project under which growers contribute to a special union fund for economic development in central Mexico, where most of the AFW's members live.

The goal behind the project is simple: If there are sufficient jobs back in their own country, many Mexican migrant workers will no longer be forced to travel to the U.S. for work.

In 1977, the AFW organized the first open strike in the U.S. by undocumented workers. Improved wages and working conditions were only part of the problem for its members, who are forced to leave their families to harvest the citrus fields in Arizona for eight to nine months a year.

In its second contract with the Arrowhead Ranch northwest of Phoenix in 1978, the union insisted on a contract provision calling for ten cents per dollar per worker to go to a special union fund for economic development projects back home. Two years ago the union's Arrow-

head contract raised the development funds payment to twenty cents per hour per worker.

Over the years, the union has sent more than \$5 million in money and goods to help set up cooperative projects in central Mexico that range from a tortilla factory to a pig co-op.

In Arizona, the union's efforts have helped hike wages from less than \$12 a day to more than \$60 a day for the average worker. But by raising wages, creating sanitary indoor eating, bathing and sleeping quarters for all the workers, the union began to see another imperative for their Mexican projects.

As wages went up and conditions improved, more locals began to take jobs in the fields. In addition, Phoenix and its suburbs have steadily eaten away at the once expansive citrus orchards of the Salt River Valley as fast as urban areas have gobbled up farmland elsewhere, reducing available jobs.

The AFW maintains a staff of 12 in Mexico and still solicits memberships, but the deteriorating economic situation in Mexico has reduced the number of



Illustration by Vaughn

union contracts and the number of workers under contract. Still, the union has been able to maintain a growing number of cooperative projects in Mexico for AFW members. These projects include: A 28-village irrigation project in which water is stored in nearly 100 reservoirs fed by springs; a 20,000 tree, 4500 acre peach orchard expected

to produce harvestable fruit in three years and a full harvest in five; a pig co-op; a chicken co-op; co-op vegetable and bean fields; two general stores; a sewing co-op; a honeybee co-op and a warehouse; a tortilla factory; and cooperatively built homes.

SOURCE: *Interpress*

**BULGARIA: Ethnic Turks Killed**

Bulgarian security forces killed more than 500 ethnic Turks between December, 1984, and late February, 1985, according to Amnesty International.

The killings apparently occurred during implementation of a program designed to impose Bulgarian names upon ethnic Turks by issuing them new identity cards.

Amnesty has received conflicting reports on the circumstances of the killings. Some reports indicate that members of Bulgaria's Turkish minority organized armed resistance to the program of changing names and that people on both sides of the conflict were killed. Others, however, allege that Bulgarian security forces entered villages where ethnic Turks live and shot residents who refused to accept the new identity cards.

SOURCE: *Amnesty Action*



Gabi Ross

**COLOMBIA: Of Bishops,  
 Banks and Burger King**

The archdiocese of Bogota has investments in the U.S. multinational fast food chain, Burger King, and owns a quarter of the shares in the Banco Internacional, a Colombian subsidiary of the U.S. Citibank, according to a series of articles in the liberal Bogota daily *El Espectador*. Citibank, one of the largest U.S. based multinational banks, is one of the lending institutions to which Latin American governments owe billions of dollars.

Commenting on the revelations, the Colombian monthly *Solidaridad* said in its February issue: "The church has condemned the international imperialism of money, but now it forms an alliance with it."

Meanwhile, some 100 priests of the Bogota archdiocese have written the Archbishop Mario Revollo Bravo expressing their "surprise and concern" at the revelations which, they say, have "scandalized the faithful."

SOURCE: *Latinamerica Press*

**Three Blacks Die in South  
 African Police Custody**

A third Black has died recently at the hands of the South African police. Mohamed-Allie Razak, 28, died of a gunshot wound to the head. Police claimed the wound was self-inflicted when Razak grabbed a gun at police headquarters during interrogation, put it to his head, and pulled the trigger.

Earlier Sipho Mutsi, 20, died of head injuries suffered during a similar interrogation. The police claimed he went into "convulsions."

Andries Raditsela also died recently from similar head injuries. Razak's political affiliations weren't known, but Mutsi and Raditsela were political organizers of dissident Black groups.

Fifty-six people, mostly from the leadership of the Black freedom movement, have died in police custody since the government has sponsored detention without charges in 1960. The most celebrated case was the murder of Bantu Stephen Biko by police during interrogation in 1979. Biko was a leader of the Black Consciousness Movement that has contributed significantly to the present activism for Black self-determination in racist South Africa.

—Bruce Kochis

Sources: *Seattle P-I, New York Times*

**THIRD WORLD: Mega-Dams  
 Spell Eco-Doom**

Giant hydroelectric projects will have been responsible for the starvation of millions of people by the end of this century, according to authors of a study entitled *The Social and Environmental Effects of Large Dams*.

British environmentalists Edward Goldsmith and Nicholas Hildyard have visited dams all over the world and have unveiled their findings in the first of what is to be a three volume study. Their verdict is clear; millions will starve because the big dam projects will have taken away their land, desertified it, and destroyed the forests.

There will be 113 dams over 150 meters high by 1990. And they are getting larger — the reservoir for Ghana's Volta Dam covers an area almost the size of Lebanon.

The electricity output is getting bigger too; China's Sanxia Dam will provide 25,000 megawatts, the equivalent of 25 large nuclear power stations. And the area the irrigate also continues to grow. Since food and energy are scarce commodities in the Third World, it's not surprising that dam-building is a boom industry.

Nevertheless, Goldsmith and Hildyard are unequivocal in their condemnations. "Large dams are inevitably iniquitous on a number of counts," the study says, and they admit that their aim is to spark a campaign to cut off funds to all large scale water development schemes.

The major negative effect of large dam building emphasized in the study is the resettlement of people. Compensation is usually inadequate and the replacement land poor. Often whole societies are torn apart and self-suffic-

ient ways of life destroyed. Millions are affected. In the Philippines alone, proposals to build 40 new dams in the next 20 years could affect the homes of over 1.5 million people.

Huge tracts of land are submerged under reservoirs. Zambia's Kariba Dam flooded 510,000 acres of forest.

Wildlife is lost. In northern Malaysia, the Temenggor Dam threatens the survival of 100 mammal species and 300 species of birds.

The study also points to interference with fish migration, enormous water losses from reservoirs and irrigation channels as a result of evaporation, and claims that hydroelectric projects can also contribute to the spread of malaria by creating breeding grounds for mosquitoes in inundated areas.

SOURCE: *New Internationalist*

**Free Speech on Trial in Toronto**

A Canadian schoolteacher was the first person in that nation's history to go on trial for the offense of attending a demonstration. Brian Burch was sentenced last September to 18 months of probation after being convicted of Creating a Disturbance By Shouting. The terms of his probation included the removal of Burch's right to participate in any public demonstration or assembly for six months.

In December, Burch violated the terms of his probation at a demonstra-

tion against Pentagon arms buyers held at the Toronto Convention Center. He was arrested, held overnight, released on bail and stood trial this April for his right to attend demonstrations. His defense has raised the argument of whether a court order can take away constitutionally guaranteed basic rights. Activists in Toronto have come to Burch's support in an attempt to overturn what is seen as a dangerous precedent in taking away an individual's right to protest.

Burch's local of OPSEU (Ontario

Public Service Employees Union), as well as The Anti-Intervention Coalition, The Against Cruise Testing Coalition, The Industrial Workers of the World (of which Burch is the Toronto delegate), and The Non-Nuclear Network Prison Support Collective have launched the Toronto Free Speech Campaign on Burch's behalf. For more info write them at P.O. Box 1031, Adelaide St. Str., Toronto, ON M5C 2K4 Canada.

—Kris Fulsaa

# Welcome Home, Anti-War Movement

by Gerry Condon

"Welcome Home, Vietnam Veterans" trumpeted the lead editorial of the *Seattle Post Intelligencer* on Tuesday, May 7. On that day in New York City, 25,000 veterans of the Vietnam War finally got their tickertape parade. And on that day in Seattle and other cities nationwide, thousands of people protested against Reagan's embargo of Nicaragua. It was hard to fight the sense that a circle was being completed. Wasn't the embargo the political equivalent of the Gulf of Tonkin incident in Vietnam, establishing a pretext for war? Were the veterans, who were lied to, chewed up and spit out, being rehabilitated just in time to send another generation to their deaths?

Or is it the Vietnam War itself that is being rehabilitated? The tenth anniversary of the U.S. withdrawal in Vietnam Laos and Kampuchea is producing a torrent of review, analysis, reminiscence and justification. It is not surprising that the U.S. military defeat, at the end of one of our longest wars, should generate a concentrated effort to revise the history both of the war and the domestic effort against it.

Founded on lies, the U.S. war against Vietnam required constant distortion of reality to pacify the population here. The concentration of camps into which South Vietnam civilians were forcibly moved were called "strategic hamlets" by Lyndon Johnson's policy advisors. A skirmish in the Gulf of Tonkin between the U.S. and North Vietnamese naval forces was provoked by the U.S. as a pretext for Congressional passage of unprecedented presidential war powers and used to justify the beginning of the war against the North Vietnamese civilian population.

Slowly, but steadily, our small movement against the Vietnam War grew, countering government propaganda with teach-ins, demonstrations and accuracy at predicting the eventual outcome of the conflict. Eventually we embraced millions, and made an important contribution to ending that war. This movement was made up of many strands: students, the Black Power movement, Puerto Ricans, Chicanos, Native Americans, workers, women and ultimately, decisively, GIs.

When U.S. soldiers in Vietnam refused to "take that hill," when they went to "frag" (assassinate with fragmentation grenades) some of their own "gung ho" officers then the military knew it was time to "bring the boys back home." And when the Vietnam Veterans Against the War threw their medals over the White House fence and took their place at the head of massive anti-war demonstrations, then the politicians realized they'd better get out with their country — and old fashioned patriotism — still in one piece.

But old fashioned patriotism — "my country right or wrong" — will never be the same. The dreaded "Vietnam Syndrome," the reported reluctance of the vast majority

of the U.S. population to opt for more military intervention, has perhaps become a permanent feature of our collective consciousness. (Recent polls show 70% of the American people oppose our government's efforts to overturn the Nicaraguan revolution.) Only after years of marching in the streets did this percentage of Americans oppose continuing military intervention in Southeast Asia.

But we are not waiting for an invasion of Nicaragua to make our opposition known. The trade embargo against Nicaragua is tantamount to an act of war. It is also a slap in the face of the U.S. people who had just forced Congress to repudiate military aid to the CIA's "Contras." So it was most appropriate and very encouraging that in the cities around the country, people mobilized and protested immediately.

But it was more than merely protest. It was civil disobedience. At least a thousand people were arrested in at least seven cities for non-violent sit-ins, and, in some cases, block-

*The anti-war movement... is broad, it is savvy, it is militant, and it is ready.*

ing the doors of Federal Buildings. Many of these protests were organized by the Pledge of Resistance which has been working for over a year to prepare for significant resistance in the event of a major U.S. escalation in Central America. Pledge of Resistance, whose constituency includes many progressive church people, is to be applauded for taking this initiative and for seeing Reagan's embargo as a major escalation of the U.S. war against Nicaragua.

Here in Seattle, a series of rallies and civil disobedience actions has been organized by both the "Pledge," as people call it, and an ad hoc Seattle Coalition Against the Nicaraguan Embargo. On Tuesday, May 7, hundreds of protestors greeted a 24-foot sailboat at Colman Dock, and symbolically breaking the embargo, unloaded its cargo of Nicaraguan coffee and bananas, carried them to the Federal Building at Second and Marion, and presented them to a Central Area food bank. After a lively rally, 15 people entered the Federal Building just before its 5:30 closing time, and planned to stay until arrested.

But for whatever reasons, city and federal authorities decided to avoid such a confrontation, if possible. Instead, the group (I among them) stayed all night, and received considerable media attention. On Friday over 50 people organized by the Pledge of Resistance spent the entire night camped out in the Federal Building lobby. Since no arrests have yet occurred in Seattle, the Pledge is now attempting to establish a permanent 24-hour presence on this federal property. Protest banners reading:

"Embargo South Africa, not Nicaragua" are visible, and literature is available in the lobby. The Pledge will continue to organize weekly Friday afternoon rallies, and offer training sessions in non-violent civil disobedience for those who wish to participate.

Another very positive sign for the movement against U.S. intervention is the active participation of many veterans, including Vietnam-era vets. All around the country, vets are organizing and speaking out—especially to the young people who are being forced to register for the draft, or who face the "poverty draft" of unemployment.

Several area veterans have visited Nicaragua as part of national delegations organized by Veterans Against Intervention in Central America (VAICA). Puget Sound VAICA has joined with the veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade (which fought against fascism in Spain) in raising money to buy ambulances for Nicaragua, and local anti-war vets are becoming a regular presence at meetings and rallies against intervention in Central America and apartheid in South Africa.

We are organizing veterans to spread and reinforce the the "Vietnam Syndrome." It's ironic and cynical that the powers-that-be are trying to use veterans to rehabilitate one unjust war, and pave the way for another. It seems that all we saw during that whole week of Vietnam reminiscences were veterans and refugees.

But I also saw the anti-war movement, then and now, and it is broad, it is savvy, it is militant, and it is ready. I'm afraid that "Welcome home, Vietnam vets" may mean "Welcome home, Vietnam war," for some. But as a veteran and a war resister, I want to say "Welcome home, anti-war movement."

For more information contact: Veterans Against Intervention in Central America, P.O. Box 10516, Seattle, 98101, (206) 634-2053; or Pledge of Resistance, 225 70th N., Seattle, 98103, (206) 789-5565.

The Northwest Coalition for Peace, Jobs & Justice, which sponsored the April 20 March & Rally, is hosting a 10th Anniversary Benefit Celebration & Dance on Sunday, May 26 at 8:00 pm at the Boilermakers Local 104 Hall (formerly Avalon Ballroom), 1019 Stewart St. in Seattle. Donations are \$3 advance, \$4 door. For more info: 842-2392.

Ed. note: Gerry Condon was trained to be a Green Beret medic. He refused orders to Vietnam in 1968 and fled to Canada and Sweden, where he worked with other anti-war GIs from exile for six years.

## Infant Mortality North and South

by Melia Franklin

Why is it that black communities from Cleveland, Ohio, to Jackson, Mississippi, to Oakland, California have infant mortality rates as high as — or higher than — many Third World countries? A nation's infant mortality rate is more than just a measure of infant deaths (the number of babies per 1000 who die before their first birthday). It is a measure of a government's priorities. A high infant mortality rate reflects a government's failure to provide affordable, comprehensive and, above all, accessible health care for all its people.

The real issue is not the lack of resources but the allocation of those resources. In the U.S. as well as Third World countries, diversion of public funds to "national priorities" such as defense at the expense of public health and nutritional programs produces one predictable result:

was one of the highest rates in Latin America and about the twentieth in the world. Most infants died of causes that could have been controlled by basic public health measures. The leading cause of infant mortality was dehydration due to bacterial diarrhea.

The Sandinista government, upon gaining power, declared that health care was the right of all people and the joint responsibility of the state and the community. Maternal/child health care was set a top priority. Oral rehydration centers were set up to fight dehydration. Health education campaigns conducted by organized literacy workers brought the message of oral rehydration and new eligibility for health care to the countryside.

The literacy campaign coupled with the oral rehydration program paid off. By the end of the first year of

communities in Oakland have IMRs more than 50 percent higher than the county average.

CFIM demanded that Oakland officials take responsibility for high rates of infant death, and advocated: 1) a countywide perinatal (before and after birth) health plan; 2) an expanded nursery at Highland Hospital—the primary public provider for Oakland—that would include 24-hour pediatric care; and 3) a program to increase community education and outreach on the importance and availability of prenatal care. CFIM's demands were endorsed by the Health Care Services Agency, marking the county's first major commitment to fighting infant mortality. But turning the "paper promises" into real programs took nearly a year of organizing: meetings, press conferences and grassroots actions leading to small but

*In Nicaragua, the Sandinista government dramatically reduced the rate of infant deaths after one year in power. In black communities across the United States, infant mortality rates have remained as high as those in Third World countries for the last 20 years.*

unnecessary infant deaths. Many Third World countries do face limited resources, but the U.S. has the medical, technical and financial resources to virtually eliminate unnecessary infant deaths.

Recent disclosures of glaring disparities between the rates of infant death in the U.S.'s black communities and those in white communities have brought the issue to national attention. A 1983 survey of infant mortality rates (IMRs) in 45 major U.S. confirmed the worst suspicions about the ever-widening "infant mortality gap," which has remained essentially unchanged over the last 20 years. In 32 of the 45 cities, black IMRs were more than 50% higher than white IMRs; in 15 of the cities black IMRs were more than 200% of the white rate. In Jackson, Mississippi, the black IMR was 240% of the white rate.

Other people of color are also affected. Many Latino communities have been found to have IMRs similar to black rates. The IMR for Native Americans in California is higher than for any other reported group except blacks. And one can only imagine the IMRs for refugees and undocumented workers.

### A Third World Success Story: Nicaragua

Before the overthrow of the Somoza regime in 1979, Nicaragua's IMR ranged from 120-300 deaths per 1000. This Page 8/Northwest Passage/June 1985

Nicaragua's new health program, 80 percent of all Nicaraguan women were receiving prenatal care, and infant mortality due to bacterial diarrhea dropped by 75 percent. Over four years, the infant mortality rate dropped by one third.

The formula for Nicaragua's success is alarmingly simple: in the face of a U.S.-sponsored war and scarce resources, a commitment was made to improve the health of women and children, and the government mobilized the resources necessary to realize its goals. The U.S. government has not made the same commitment. There is only one "formula" available to force local governments to respond to the problem of infant mortality: organize.

**A Different Story in the U.S.: Oakland's Example**  
Recent organizing by the Oakland-based Coalition to Fight Infant Mortality (CFIM) spurred local government officials into action. CFIM's community-based Investigative Team (I-Team) began a massive educational campaign. They uncovered an infant mortality problem in Oakland that echoes the national pattern. Predominantly black East Oakland has an IMR of 26 per 1000, two and a half times the national average and seven times higher than nearby Piedmont, an affluent, predominantly white enclave surrounded by Oakland. Most other minority com-

significant victories.

One of CFIM's goals—the perinatal plan—is slowly taking shape. HCSA launched a Perinatal Outreach Project to encourage early pregnancy care and to provide referrals for low-income women and teenagers. Despite these accomplishments, the county has yet to implement many more of CFIM's recommendations. Collaboration between community groups and health agencies has been forged, the fight against infant mortality in Oakland has begun, and the community is ready for the next round.

### Ways to Reduce Infant Mortality

The key to reducing IMRs anywhere lies in the allocation of resources, both human and material. Work by organized volunteers in Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala, Egypt, India and Haiti has cut infant mortality rates in half in some places. By educating people on basic health, sanitation and prevention skills, volunteers have helped Third World women save their infants' lives despite scarce resources. Government legal action to stop the distribution of infant formula, along with media campaigns encouraging breast feeding and explaining its benefits for babies, have helped reduce infant deaths in

Continued on page 17



# Embargo Means Occupation

by Bob Quinn

When Ronald Reagan ordered a total embargo on trade with Nicaragua April 31, reaction around the country came very quickly.

More than 1000 people have been arrested since May 7 when actions against the unilateral decision first began in Massachusetts, California, Connecticut, Vermont and New York.

In Seattle, two actions have taken place so far at the Henry M. Jackson Federal Building as part of the national reaction. The actions, led by Veterans Against Intervention in Central America on May 7 and by the Seattle component of the nationwide Pledge of Resistance May 10 have not led to any arrests. Instead, 14 and then 66 supporters of the Nicaraguan people's right to self-determination spent the night inside the building staging a sit-in.

According to Steve Ratzloff, the chair of Washington's Pledge of Resistance, the fact that there have been no arrests so far in Seattle is largely because "the people in charge of the building's security are trying to minimize the impact we have."

Ross Buffington, Public Affairs Officer for the GSA, said the local policy was to "react to the situation as it

develops." As long as the protesters maintain the present level of action, there will be no arrests. He suggested that the hands-off policy of the Federal Protection Service was to "allow the protesters their First Amendment rights of free speech and assembly." He had no comment when asked if the protesters were at the point of breaking the law. Also no comment on what actions would provoke arrest, though he conceded that attempts to block doorways would be sufficient grounds.

In Ratzloff's opinion though, the actions taken by the group are still having an impact even if no arrests have been made. "After all," he stated, "we are still in the building, the news media is paying attention to us, and our point is getting across to the public. The fact that we spent the night together and were never arrested has merely given us more time to ask ourselves how we can be more effective in the future."

Ratzloff stated that this was just the first of a series of actions which will be taking place in the coming months, though specific plans have not yet been set.

As of Saturday morning however, the group occupying the federal building's lobby had decided to maintain a

continual presence within the building as a means of reminding the public and federal employees of the actions being carried out in their names by the Reagan Administration.

The embargo and the effects it will have on the Nicaraguan people are, one of the demonstrators said, still unknown quantities. "No one can really say for sure how it will hurt their economy. All we can say for sure is that it is another attempt by the administration to take away the Nicaraguan people's right to self-determination. And since they are doing it in our name — the name of the people — we feel we must say 'No!' in the strongest way possible."

Prior to the imposition of the sanctions, the United States had been the Central American country's largest trading partner. In 1984, the Nicaraguans had imported \$109.8 million in American products which ranged from farm machinery and insecticides to paper products like toilet paper while exporting \$58.1 million in goods to this country. That represents about 17% of Nicaragua's total exports.



Dick Mark, ILWU Local 19, supports the defiance of Reagan's embargo.



"Coffee" and bananas headed for the Federal Building.



Over 200 participate in "Seattle Coffee Party."

Photos: Louie Raffloer

## An Illegal Case

by Ed Mead

At a May 2 ceremony honoring one hundred Cuban military advisors who were leaving Nicaragua later that day, Nicaraguan Defense Minister Umberto Ortega angrily denounced the United States economic embargo imposed on his country. The departing military advisors were part of an eight hundred person contingent of Cuban soldiers invited to Nicaragua to help resist the U.S. inspired aggression against the tiny Central American nation.

Ortega thanked the Cuban troops for their assistance, and said the one hundred advisors were being returned in a unilateral gesture aimed at showing that his country was serious about implementing the Contradora Peace Plan for the region. He also made it clear that if the situation ever called for it, more Cuban advisors would be invited to return, and stressed that the departure of the contingent in no way diminished Nicaragua's strong ties to Cuba.

Ortega went on to say that events in the last few days have made the situation in the region very dangerous. First, he mentioned the acquisition of portable anti-aircraft missiles by the anti-Sandinista Contras. He accused the C.I.A. of providing the missiles, and he said that such a weapon in the hands of terrorists is a danger to the whole region. He went on to point out that the economic embargo was part of the Reagan Administration's attempt to destroy the Nicaraguan people, and was the first step in what would eventually become an American armed intervention. In Defense Minister Ortega's words: "... (T)he

goal of this economic/commercial step is not simply to administer a blow to the underdeveloped, poor and difficult situation our country is facing, but it is fundamentally directed at creating better political conditions to increase American aggression in the Central American region."

Ortega said this step in the U.S.'s "global interventionist plan" was adopted against the wishes of the U.S. Congress and American public opinion. He called the diplomatic note communicating the details of the American embargo to the Nicaraguan government "insolent." The note was delivered to the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry at 1:40am the previous morning by the U.S. ambassador to Nicaragua. Ortega likened the note to the earthquake that shook the country in 1972, causing extensive damage.

Ortega said that no matter what the U.S. does the Nicaraguan people will not cry uncle or be defeated. At this point it is unclear just how serious a blow the U.S. embargo will be to the already strained Nicaraguan economy. Nicaraguan officials are now studying the details of the restrictions in an effort to determine their full extent and effect.

The Soviet Union's reaction to the news of the trade embargo against Nicaragua was an angry one. Calling the restrictions "punitive measures," the TASS News Agency said the embargo on trade was purely a means for President Reagan to vent his pathological hatred of the Sandin-

ista regime of Daniel Ortega. In a TASS commentary it said the embargo announcement was purely a device being used in Washington to prepare the way for an armed invasion of Nicaragua, a move which it said would threaten the security of Central America.

The Soviets suggest that Reagan's failure to get the U.S. Congress to fund the counter-revolutionaries has led to this alternative plan. A plan similar to that used in preparation to the U.S. invasion of the tiny island of Grenada. The Soviet Union denies that Nicaragua constitutes a security threat to the United States and has developed close links with the Ortega government. President Ortega of Nicaragua was in Moscow where he was seeking Soviet economic aid at the time that the trade embargo was announced. The Soviet government has since announced that it will continue to fulfill its internationalist duty by providing arms, goods and credits to Nicaragua.

The American embargo also got a cold shoulder from the United States' trading N.A.T.O. partners during the recent economic summit conference in Bonn. Not only did the leaders of the Western European countries refuse to support Reagan's Nicaraguan policies, but the peoples of those nations demonstrated in the streets against him and those policies as well. Anti-Reagan demonstrations in

Continued on page 17

by Jennifer Hall

The generally agreed upon starting date for the Gay Liberation Movement is June 29, 1969, the day that police raided the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar in Greenwich Village, N.Y. Raiding gay bars was a common form of police harassment of gays. The general procedure was to arrest bar patrons and take them to police stations where they would be either released immediately, or charged on technicalities. The Stonewall Inn-cident was to have been another usual raid—the police weren't expecting anyone to fight back.

A lesbian woman was the first to strike out, kicking, hitting, and biting her harassers. The police managed to load her into what they intended to be the first vanload of "queers" arrested that night. The police had another thing coming.

Enraged gays and lesbians began throwing stones, bottles, pennies at the police. The rest of the people inside the bar managed to get out, trapping two policemen inside. The door was blockaded. Someone squirted lighter fluid through a window into the bar and threw in a match, starting a fire.

Aid cars arrived on time to put out the fire and rescue the policemen, but the flames of anger would not be extinguished. Three days of rioting ensued. As Blacks had done in the civil rights movement, and women in the women's liberation movement, gay people started to fight for their rights.

Ramone Wells, d.j. at Tugs and founding member of Northwest Dance Music Association. She is a naturalized U.S. citizen from Costa Rica.

*"Where I come from, homosexuality is not tolerated. I knew I was different, but I couldn't show it. It wasn't until five years ago (at age 30) that I fully came out. That's why Gay pride Day is so important to me. It's so wonderful to see thousands of people like yourself in the same place. This is the one day of the year it can happen."*

*"One reason that I came to live in the United States is the Bill of Rights. Homosexuals are entitled to the same constitutional rights as anyone else. I don't like the way the right is trying to take away gay rights. The repressiveness of these people reminds me of my home. Homosexuals eat, go to the bathroom, pay taxes just like anyone else. The only difference is that we choose people of the same sex as partners. We are burdened by the hatred of fundamentalists who are themselves oppressed. They are trying to take away our freedom, but we won't let them. That's what I came to the United States for—Freedom!"*

Gay rights groups including the militant Gay Liberation Front were organized across the nation. In Seattle, the movement had a somewhat subtler start. The Dorian Society was formed (shortly after Stonewall in 1969) to serve primarily as a luncheon group for gays and lesbians who worked downtown. The society evolved into the now defunct Seattle Gay Alliance.

Throughout the early 70s, the Gay Liberation and Lesbian Feminist movements in the United States and abroad grew in size. Seattle witnessed the founding of gay and lesbian feminist newspapers, *Seattle Gay News* and *Out and About*. The Gay Community Center (now closed), the Lesbian Resource Center, and the Seattle Counseling Service for Sexual Minorities were a few of the services that formed to meet the needs of an increasingly vocal, open, proud community. The Dorian Group (now Washington State's largest gay/lesbian civil rights organization) was founded in the fall of 1975. In June of 1976, the Gay Community Center organized Gay Pride Week and produced Seattle's first Gay Pride March.

By all appearances, gay men and lesbian women were making great strides in their fight for equality and freedom. But they would not be unchallenged. Fundamentalists were flourishing even back in the "liberal" Carter era. Indeed, Jimmy Carter's sister, evangelist Ruth Carter Stapleton, was of a mind that homosexuals could be "saved." Stapleton's religiosity was exceeded by "Hurricane Anita" Bryant's sexual fascism. In late 1977, Bryant launched a campaign in Dade County, Florida to lift ordinances prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual preference, and implement initiatives banning gay teachers. Not content to limit her battle to Florida, Bryant traveled around the country lecturing to fellow bigots and attempting to establish "homosexual rehabilitation centers."

Two of Bryant's biggest supporters in the Seattle Police Department were officers David Estes and Dennis Falk, who was then the highest unpaid official of the Washington State John Birch Society. In early 1978, Falk and Estes began circulating petitions to get Initiative 13 on the November ballot. The initiative was intended to remove portions of Seattle city ordinances prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual preference. A big supporter of the initiative was Lloyd Cooney of KIRO broadcasting, who helped out by broadcasting frequent pro-13 editorials.

Realizing the need for immediate action, Dorian Group founder Charles Brydon helped to organize the Seattle Citizens to Retain Fair Employment. The group had a lot of support from within the city government. A more radical group, Seattle Citizens Against Thirteen (SCAT) was organized through the Gay Community Center. SCAT organized anti-13 marches (with events that included: "K-I-B-O, Homophobia's gotta go," and held several rallies, street parties, vigils, and a "13 is a bad number" right arm of the John Birch Society) appeared on walls around Capitol Hill, Seattle's most popular neighborhood.

The battle took a dramatic turn two months before the election when Dennis Falk shot a black youth in the back, killing him, in Rainier Valley. Anti-13 support was garnered from the black community. The tide of public opinion was turned.

On November 7, 1978, Seattle voters said no in a big way to Initiative 13. Votes were tallied with roughly one-third for and two-thirds against. Similar initiatives were turned down in San Francisco and passed in Dade County.

Seattle's night of celebration included a candlelight march attended by 1500 people and a victory party in the Eagle's Ballroom. Newly elected City Attorney Doug Jewett attended the party. "How sweet it is!" said Jewett addressing a jubilant crowd. "Let's hope Seattle never sees another Initiative 13!"

November 7, 1978. A victory. Twenty days later the sweetness of the victory was overshadowed by the brutal assassinations of San Francisco's first gay supervisor, Harvey Milk, and S.F. mayor George Moscone.

Two years later Ronald Reagan was elected president. Jerry Falwell and the Moral Majority were up and coming. In addition to normal day to day struggles (i.e., poverty, child custody battles for lesbian mothers and lesbians of color, harassment, "queer bashing," discrimination against and disunity with the gay community) the gay community faced a resurgence of the radical right.

1980 also marked the beginning of an unparalleled tragedy. Physicians were at odds to explain mysterious cases of Kaposi's Sarcoma (a rare form of cancer, characterized by leg lesions and often accompanied by massive infections) that had been recently diagnosed in some gay men. The men were found to have suppressed immune systems. Researchers dubbed the disease "Gay Related Immune Deficiency Syndrome." Incidence of the disease increased. Some of its victims were women, intravenous drug users, natives of Haiti, and hemophiliacs. The disease was now called "Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome" (AIDS).

Larry Lefler worked with Harvey Milk in the early 70s.

*"One thing I learned from working with Harvey is that you can't exclude anybody. Issues like housing, fair employment... these aren't just gay issues; these are human issues. We've got to work together."*

*"If we get 5000 people out (on the March) we're saying to elected officials, 'Hey! This is 5000 votes!' We know we have to work hard to get a Fair Employment Ordinance in King County. Once we've got it, we'll have to fight to keep it. Houston had a Gay Rights ordinance. When it came up for review, gay people didn't show up to vote and they lost it."*

*"Seattle has come a long way in terms of gay rights. Look at Charlie Royer and Norm Rice (mayoral candidates). Both of them support Gay Rights. For the first time we can choose a mayor for the same reasons as everyone else."*

*"Complacency is a luxury we cannot afford. We've got to make a strong showing on Gay Pride Day. This is the one day in the year that gays, whether they're political or not can come out to show their support."*

*"We also need the support of straight people. This is not just a gay march. This is a march to celebrate diversity. We need people out there with their kids on their shoulders, cheering us on."*

Over the next few years, AIDS reached epidemic proportions. By 1983, the federal Center for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta, Georgia had reported 631 deaths among the 1361 reported cases. Three quarters of the victims were gay men.

AIDS was still referred to as a "gay disease" and a "gay plague" by those who would use it against the gay community. Fundamentalist preachers screeched from pulpits and television screens. The popular "700 Club," a late night prayer/talk show issued a statement: "The wages of sin is death, and people are dying. The Bible teaches us that it is a sin to be a homosexual. AIDS was predicted in the Book of Revelations. AIDS is the wages of homosexual sin."

Twenty-three hundred scientists, health care workers, and clinicians attended a recent International Conference on AIDS in Atlanta (April 14-17). U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Margaret Heckler arrived late and delivered a speech which was interpreted by

# Lesbians/ A History To Be



Larry Lefler and Carol Sterling, Freedom Day Committee co-chairs.

many gay and lesbian conference members as attacking the gay community. Heckler used references to "wars" and "battles" to explain that the "general public" had to be protected from the at-risk population.

An ad-hoc caucus of over 100 gay and lesbian conference members drafted a response to Heckler. The statement was endorsed by the World Health Organization and read at a press conference that next day. The caucus pointed out, in part, that "gay men, hemophiliacs, intravenous drug users, Haitians and people with AIDS are also among the general public, and failure to acknowledge this is a denial of our basic humanity"

"Secretary Heckler has stated on many occasions that AIDS is the nation's number one health priority; yet her department has requested fewer financial resources to deal with a growing and indeed overwhelming problem. In fact, the Reagan Administration is proposing to spend \$11.9 million less on AIDS in fiscal year 1986 in the face of an expected doubling of AIDS cases!"

As of May 6, 1985, the CDC has reported 10,050 cases of AIDS in the United States, including 105 cases in Washington State. Of these reported cases, approximately 49 per cent have died. The King County AIDS Project reports that an average of two new cases are reported each week in King County. Research is conflicting. There's a question as to whether HTLV 111 (the supposed AIDS virus isolated by Robert C. Gallo of the National Cancer Institute) is really the AIDS virus. One study suggested that AIDS could be transmitted through saliva (as well as blood, semen, feces), but that study has yet to be duplicated. A controversial blood test is soon

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Cookie Hunt, publicity chair Freedom Day Committee.

# ans/Gays: To Be Proud Of



Photo: Louie Raffloer

Cookie Hunt edits *Out and About* and co-founded Women's Coalition to Stop the Green River Murders.

(on the right wing)

"Being a lesbian in publishing, one of my biggest concerns is censorship. It seems to me that if the right gets their anti-porn legislation, they'll soon use it to crack down on lesbian publications. The crackdown will be primarily economic, since most of us have no funds to fight court battles.

"Prisons already ban most gay publications. We have to fight for our right to publish.

(on Paul Barden)

"Paul Barden fought for the 'Bounty Bill' (to offer financial incentive to people for turning in prostitutes) while the Green River Murders were going on! He obviously thinks prostitutes are worse than murderers."

psychologist who is on a national anti-gay crusade. The two were generally disruptive until ACLU director Kathleen Taylor suggested that they "go hold your own press conference somewhere else!" The two did just that on the sidewalk outside the Dorian office.

Cameron said that because of AIDS, "Gays should be quarantined and put into camps immediately." He repeated this statement at the March 11 hearing of the FEO at the Council office.

150 gay men and women appeared to testify at the March hearing, only to find they were outnumbered two to one by fundamentalists who read statements condemning gays as immoral and lewd.

Ed Estes described his own experience attending the hearing in the March 22 issue of the *Seattle Gay News*: "There will always be a special feeling of love and respect among the gay women and men who had the courage to show up on that dark day and endure what turned out to be a 14-hour long marathon of bigotry and hate. After surviving that day, I think I understand the special bond that must have been shared by the people at Pearl Harbor, or in the London Blitz, or at the Alamo. Not for a long time have so many (all those thousands of you who weren't there) owed so much to so few."

The council reconvened on March 15 and voted to return the ordinance to committee for study and possible revision. This constituted a victory for Barden who had goaded fellow council members, saying that they wouldn't get re-elected if they voted for the ordinance.

Barden recently invaded the privacy of the gay community by providing the King County Hearings roster to the fundamentalist Full Gospel Businessmen's Association. The FGBA used the roster as a mailing list. Invitations were issued to gay men to attend a luncheon with "reformed homosexual" Calvin West. Several letters protesting Barden's actions have appeared in the *Seattle Gay News*.

Aisha works at *Tugs*, a popular downtown dance bar.

(on the '84 split)

"The split was hard on the community. I feel that it's important to be able to argue and disagree, but we've got to stay together to work things out.

"A lot of people feel that homosexuals are in the minority because we tend to relate to people within our community. Gay Pride Day is the one day of the year we can all come out and the media plays it up. We have to make a statement that we're everywhere, always have been, always will."

(on being a Black lesbian mother)

"The black came first. Then I'm a woman. Then I'm a lesbian. My own experience wasn't bad. I grew up, got married and had two daughters. Maybe growing up in Philly was hard, but not like it would've been in Managua. I believe in unity. My friends are black and white and straight and gay. I believe that sisterhood is a question of attitude. Not sexuality or color."

The AIDS crisis, the fundamentalist upsurge and the anti-gay sentiments expressed at the FEO hearings have all contributed to a feeling of urgency within the gay community. June 23-30 is Gay Pride Week in Seattle.

On Sunday, June 30, the 1985 Lesbian/Gay Pride Parade March will leave at noon from 18th and Cherry Streets to march down Broadway to Volunteer Park, where a Freedom Rally will be held. Freedom Day Committee organizers hope the event will be the largest Gay Pride celebration in Seattle's history.

Photo: Jennifer Hall

Last year, the 1984 Gay Pride event was split while still in the planning stages. A small faction (including Dorian Group president Jim Holm and Brenda Weathers of the Chemical Dependency Program) disagreed with the rest of the Freedom Day Committee about which issues should be represented. The majority of the committee wanted to have a wide range of progressive political issues covered, including eclectic feminist issues. Weathers and Holm felt that only specifically gay issues should be represented.

The split resulted in some confusion. Two separate marches were held. The largest, most political event was the original Freedom Day Committee's March and Rally. Two thousand people (mostly women) attended.

Things will be different this year. The Freedom Day Committee has adopted the motto "Unity Through Strength and Pride." Brenda Weathers and Jim Holm have returned to the fold.

"We see that unity is essential," said Brenda Weathers. "After going through the King County Hearings together, we realize we can't afford to be split."

Christopher Smith, Stonewall Committee co-chair explained that 1984 wasn't the first time that controversy had occurred within the ranks of Gay Pride event participants.

"1980 became known as the 'year of the shirt,'" said Smith. "Gay Pride Day that year was pretty unpolitical. It was mostly an event for men by men and no issues were addressed. At the rally men took off their shirts. The women protested that they couldn't have their shirts off and demanded that the men put their shirts back on in solidarity. The men refused. Now that was a *real* split!"

Carol Sterling, emcee at last year's Freedom Rally and a primary organizer for *Blood Sisters*, a lesbian blood drive in support of gay men with AIDS.

(on Blood Sisters)

"*Blood Sisters* started in San Francisco. This is the first time we've done it in Seattle. Lesbians have felt anguished over AIDS. We wanted to do something to help. We're traditionally a low income group but we're also a low risk group for diseases. We don't have money, but we've got blood.

"The response from the straight and gay communities was incredibly supportive. The people at the Blood Center were great. I cry when I read some of the thank you notes that gay men write on their contribution checks. We need gay men and they need us. They need our politics, and vice versa."

(on gay leadership)

"We know how well organized the fundamentalists are. They've got money and time on their hands. It's easy for them to get large groups to Olympia. We've got to have leadership now; we can't allow the right to divide us. We've got a lot of energy, but it has got to be directed."

Concerned about the alienation brought on by the shirt issue, Radical Women called a meeting. Most of the women at the meeting expressed extreme dissatisfaction at what they perceived to be gay men's unwillingness to support lesbian issues. Several stated that if the men had been willing to address the problems faced by lesbians, they wouldn't have cared about the shirts. As a direct result of this meeting, the Stonewall Committee For Lesbian and Gay Rights was formed.

In recent years, the Stonewall Committee has fought to block a police precinct on Capitol Hill; defended abortion rights; and continued to be active in planning Gay Pride events. Chris Smith recalls Gay Pride Day 1983 during the peak of the AIDS crisis as being "one of the most rewarding, most intense events I've ever worked on. We made sure that Human Rights issues were represented. That's the way it will be this year. Especially now that we see the right wing knocking at the door." Smith pointed out that the Dorian Group has endorsed this year's Freedom Day Committee and says that the Committee is considering meeting year round instead of just a few months out of the year, because "We're building a movement, not just having a parade."

To find out how you can help the 1985 Freedom Day Committee call: Larry Lefler, 343-5838; Cookie Hunt, 782-3148. Carol Sterling will have information about the Gay Pride Week Blood Sisters Blood Drive; people can donate blood if they are not in a high risk group. Any help with the blood drive would be appreciated. For further info see June 1 Seattle Gay News supplemental issue.

# Canada's Big Mountain

by Jill Bend

The north of Saskatchewan is scarred and poisoned. The poison spreading out from northern Saskatchewan is radiation from the mining of uranium ore, the "death rock" - safe in its natural, undisturbed state but deadly cancerous when torn out of the ground.

Over long years, the environmental movement in Saskatchewan has been trying all options (petitions, marches, inquiries, reports, etc.) to stop the devastation of the north by the nuclear industry, yet it has continued unabated and is escalating. Now a call to resist has been issued directly by the indigenous community -- "the people whose history in this land is rooted deeper than any uranium mine."

Like the Black Hills in South Dakota and Big Mountain in Arizona, northern Saskatchewan is being used as a "national sacrifice area." It is the number-one target area in Canada, for energy equals money and power. Energy also means corporate development, land theft, relocation of native communities, industrial pollution, military involvement and genocide. The corporate profiteers have long been aware of the value of those resources and their problem has been to exploit the region in secrecy and without opposition. To expose their operations and physically resist is our strongest weapon against this triangle of exploitation. The people of the Black Hills and Big Mountain are standing firm against these land rip-offs. And northern Saskatchewan is the third corner of this exploitation. The strategy is to connect the hands and spirits of resistance between these three "sacrifice areas" and show the world, especially the international anti-nuclear network, that the source of nuclear mis-power lies with uranium torn out of the earth in these sites once considered "barren and worthless," fit only for "Indian land."

## YELLOWCAKE IN SASKATCHEWAN

Exploration, mining, and milling of uranium ore in Saskatchewan has occurred since the 1940's. The uranium used in the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima came from north Saskatchewan. At first, uranium was sold primarily to NATO and other military experimenters, but it was anticipated that it would also be a source of profits to energy/power corporations. All details of their uranium operations were kept under wraps.

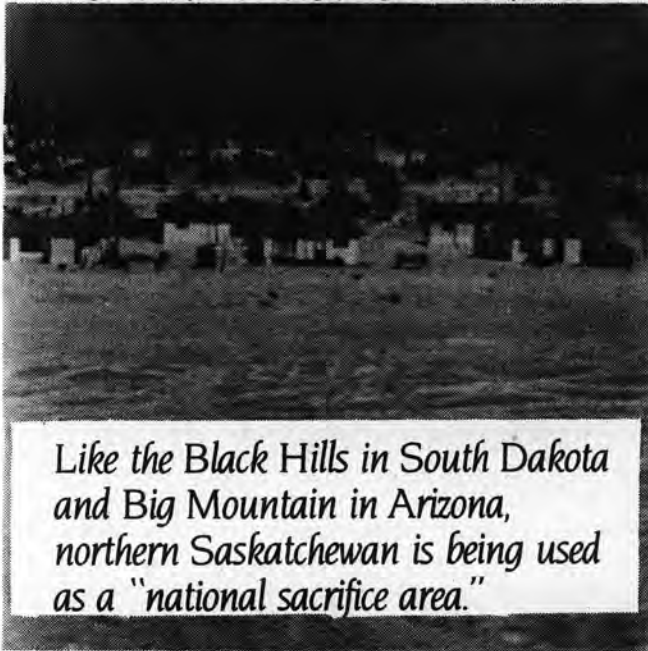
The mining of uranium produces dust particles of radium that when swallowed are absorbed by the intestine and carried to the bone marrow causing leukemia or bone cancer. The mined ore is then processed to produce yellowcake. The wastes, called tailings, are discarded directly onto the land in huge piles that continue to seep radon gas into the ecosystem, even long after the mines are closed. These areas are then abandoned. The highly carcinogenic radon is easily transported by the wind over long distances and, inhaled, causes lung cancer. Yellowcake is used commercially as the fuel for nuclear power reactors with a waste byproduct called plutonium, the most lethal of substances - its military use is in nuclear weapons.

The issue is more than just environmental; it is also economic and political. Uranium cartels, corporate global ownership of resources, and government co-operation are the forms of powerful economic/political control. Witness that uranium sales contracts, even those of publicly accountable crown corporations, are confidential information, inaccessible to scrutiny even with the Freedom of Information Act. The Atomic Energy Control Board of Canada has no system of accounting for the amount and location of yellowcake production and distribution, since they consider it a non-strategic material. But without it there would be no weapons industry.

Long after the military use had been exploited, uranium became fuel for the energy industry. Although industrial

accidents have restricted the promise of wealth in nuclear power, machines continue to dig deeper and wider into the land of northern Saskatchewan. The province has nurtured this industry which exports uranium to a dozen different countries. During the 70's mines flourished; some of the world's richest uranium deposits were found at the Athabasca Sand Basin, a huge region encompassing one-seventh of the total area of Saskatchewan. The Rabbit Lake uranium mine has dumped its wastes into Wollaston Lake since operations began in 1975. Eldorado Resources, a federal crown corporation, owns much of the territory including the mines around Uranium City, which closed in 1982 due to depletion of the resource. They left behind them permanently contaminated land and water - three lakes are dead, huge piles of waste rock and mine buildings remain to release radiation into the air, land, and water. The animals and water that have sustained the native communities are now killing them. Those who worked in the mines are dead or dying from cancer, and passing the mutations on to their children.

But now that the Uranium City mines are emptied, Eldorado has been searching for new sites. In 1983 they purchased the Rabbit Lake mine from Gulf Minerals. By 1984, Canada was the world's premier exporter of uranium. The annual production of yellowcake has doubled since 1983. The north of the province has been divided into four regions with uranium mining and milling forming the economic base for each area, with major roadways built directly to the mine sites. All unsettled Native land claims are being ignored and the question of Aboriginal title is non-existent. The strategy used by the corporations to get their plans through is "joint development"



*Like the Black Hills in South Dakota and Big Mountain in Arizona, northern Saskatchewan is being used as a "national sacrifice area."*

structure." The "co-operators" are the Saskatchewan government, the federal government, the international uranium cartel, and the several Indian bands from the Saskatchewan Indian Corporation (SINCO). Copying the Council of Energy Rich Tribes (CERT) in the U.S., SINCO gets co-operation from the Natives, who, for example, operate the trucking firm that transports the yellowcake from the mines to the terminal. These representatives of the Native community are said to "represent the people's interests."

Another deposit zone, at the Key Lake site, had been considered the world's largest uranium mine until the recent discovery of the Cigar Lake deposit which dwarfs all others with its 115,000 tons of uranium at an average 10% grade. The Cigar Lake ore body is so "hot" that Resources is there again, developing the Collins Bay B-zone the bay which is a part of Wollaston Lake. This is also the deposit which is six miles north of Rabbit Lake on Woll-



photos by Jill Bend

aston Lake. This ore body extends 500 feet offshore under the bay which is part of Wollaston Lake. This is also the site of an upcoming standoff. The Wollaston Lake band has been opposing the mining of uranium since 1972 and the expansion of further mine sites in their backyard. A community of 700 people live there by hunting and fishing. In July of '84, the Lac La Hache band issued an open letter on behalf of the residents asking for support:

*"What I'm really concerned about is the kids in the future. If the water is contaminated & not fit to drink & the fish are not fit to eat, what are the children going to live on?... We will not agree to have the Collins Bay mine opened. This mine concerns everybody because Wollaston Lake flows everywhere, north, south, east, & west."*

Nor is the issue at all confused with the question of employment since only five local people have permanent jobs at Rabbit Lake and five at Collins Bay.

The indigenous people were colonized and forced onto reservations of the most barren land. Now this land is discovered to be rich in resources and these same people are forced into the mines, to be poisoned on the job. Or poisoned in the home by drinking the water or eating the fish. Or forced to relocate so that land acquisition can proceed without hitch. Water is life but the nuclear industry is killing it. It's a matter for all people to realize this kind of exploitation is the beginning of the end. The end of life, or positively, the beginning of the end of land exploitation if people act to stop it. The reality of what the military and industry are doing isn't subtle, and people can't be subtle about responding. The most outrageously dangerous political moves are happening throughout the world in remote areas like northern Saskatchewan.

The Collins Bay Action Group, a coalition of the local Native communities and anti-uranium groups, is calling for everyone to attend a Northern Survival Gathering at Wollaston Lake, Saskatchewan from June 9 - 14, 1985, followed by, starting June 14, a rolling blockade aimed at stopping all traffic carrying chemicals in or out of the uranium operations at Rabbit Lake, six miles from the Collins Bay mine. All individuals are asked to come self-sufficient and, if possible, organized into affinity groups. No firearms, drugs, alcohol, or violence permitted. If you cannot be at the blockade, contribute by spreading awareness in your area and fundraising. Contact Collins Bay Action Group, Box 8536, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan or the Uranium Resistance Network, Box 3183, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 3X6 (604) 254-7923. Send petitions of support to the Lac La Hache Band, Wollaston Lake, Saskatchewan S0J 3C0.

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# PUREX Must Be Shut Down

by Tom Buchanan

## The Danger at Hanford

In the rolling basalt hills, populated by jackrabbits, sage brush and a desert ecology, the Department of Defense laid claim to over 570 square miles of territory in 1941 for a center that produces destruction. 44 years later, in 1985, this Hanford Military Reservation, half the size of Rhode Island, is still making war on the health of the surrounding environment.

By 1945, three Hanford nuclear reactors, the world's first and most crude, were pumping the waters of the Columbia to cool its nuclear chain reactions. By 1955, the number had climbed to seven. These reactors were hurriedly designed and built for one purpose: to supply the plutonium raw materials for one bomb, named "Fat Man" — the second weapon the United States unleashed on Japan, over Nagasaki, killing, like the first bomb, over 100,000 Japanese citizens. Since those early days, there has been enough headlong nuclear production by at least twelve nations of the world to produce the equivalent of four tons of TNT for every person on the surface of the earth.

PUREX. It's not a clorex plant. It's an acronym standing for Plutonium-Uranium Extraction process. It's the seventh in the series of Hanford plutonium reprocessing plants where irradiated fuel rods from a uranium nuclear reactor are chemically broken down to draw out plutonium, PU-239.

The plant has a spotty career. Production at PUREX was begun in 1956 after the previous chemical reprocessor, REDOX, was shutdown. PUREX, with its new ammonium chloride-nitric acid dissolver process, operated from 1956 to 1972 — each year PUREX would take over 1000 tons of highly irradiated fuel from the N reactor on site near the north bend of the Columbia and produce one ton of plutonium-oxide. Four times every year, 4000 slugs of specially enriched uranium are loaded into the N reactor. After over three months of chain reaction bombardment, a majority of the uranium decays to neptunium and then to plutonium. After the N reactor, the highly radioactive irradiated fuel rods are shipped by huge casks on rail to the holding ponds full of water to cool for 90 days. During this process, many short-term, highly radioactive isotopes decay to less harmful levels. Still left behind are over 150 radioactive isotopes, unstable and sending out deadly gamma, beta and alpha particles. From the cooling pond, the irradiated rods go to the PUREX plant and the radioactive waste cooling pond water goes into high level military waste tanks.

Not many people have been inside the PUREX factory. Digging into newspaper accounts, DOE testimony, technical manuals that have been declassified, and eye-witness accounts, here's a description of the world's dirtiest factory. No windows in this concrete plant that is about five stories high and 1100 feet long (over three football fields in length). One long canyon with a thick concrete wall shields the workers from the highly toxic vats in the canyons. Running parallel to the canyon is a huge conglomeration of piping, tubes, valves and control lines. It was in the act of replacing some of this piping during the first week of May, 1985 that several workers were severely exposed to plutonium that escaped.

First, the irradiated fuel rods are placed in a highly corrosive solution of ammonium chloride and nitric acid to remove the zirconium cladding surrounding the uranium fuel slugs. The chemicals, now radioactive, along with the zirconium metal are dumped as radioactive waste; and the slugs creep down the canyon. Next the plutonium is slowly separated from the uranium slugs by a highly unstable chemical concentration of boiling nitric acid and huge quantities of water. This acid-water solution is run through a tank where it meets a kerosene solution (also chemically unstable and the place for many accidents). The kerosene carries off the plutonium and uranium and leaves much of the deadly radioactive byproducts, the chemicals, and huge quantities of water behind as wastes. Through successive water-kerosene reactions down the canyon, the plutonium is separated out from the uranium by remote control.

The final output of this dirty world is plutonium oxide, PuO<sub>2</sub>. This plutonium oxide comes out of the "N Cell" area (where they take the product out) as a powder, then it's through piping into cans the size of peach jars. Then it's fed through more piping to large drums for shipment. This output section in PUREX is the site of more accidents since plutonium is still very unstable and in volatile powder form. Here's how John McPhee described the powder:

"It has the consistency of flour. Dust. Yellow-green dust. (This is from the nitric acid process.) Because of its fine consistency, it has a peculiar locomotion. Spontaneously, it seeps. It moves around. It spread like lampblack. Drop a little of that in an air conditioning system and the whole company will die".

The drums of plutonium powder leave the PUREX area on their next step in the nuclear chain to Los Alamos where the powder is converted into metal. The metal is then shipped to the Rocky Flats Colorado area, where it's processed into plutonium "triggers" for thermonuclear weapons. Then onto the Pentex plant in Texas where the triggers are fitted onto larger enriched uranium warheads. Finally, these warheads are either loaded onto a train that used to be white, or very probably military aircraft with no markings whatsoever, and shipped to military loading bases such as Bangor, Washington to be fitted onto the newest military first strike system, such as Trident I or II submarines.

Each step along this plutonium trail leaves footprints — trace amounts of radioactive dust. That plutonium dust is so radioactive that if there is one particle on half a human hair, it could contaminate an entire auditorium of people. But without a doubt, the dirtiest step on the trail is back at the beginning: the PUREX reprocessing facility.

### DEADLY TRAILS

Standing on the northside of the Columbia, in the grapefields famous for their Eastern Washington wine, sighting with a pair of binoculars, one can see the 200 foot stack of the PUREX plant. Pick any day during the week, and possibly many times during that day, one can sometimes see the brownish-green nitric acid plume rising off the

*The final output of this dirty world is plutonium oxide, PuO<sub>2</sub>.*

smokestack. If, on that same day, you had an alpha particle radiation monitor located say, six miles downwind across the Columbia, you might be chilled to the bone. That plume of nitric acid smoke, dangerous as we learned it to be in high school chemistry, is not even on the same scale of toxicity as sightless plutonium particles ten microns (one micron equals one micrometer) or less in size that may be blowing with the nitric acid gas.

As the alpha particle monitor starts to measure increased dosages of plutonium dust in the Eastern Washington air and soil, it measures our demand that the DOE stop the radiation plumes that are killing us slowly. Twenty years after accumulated exposures, people are dying of remature aging diseases and cancer because of the waste effluents in the air and water from Hanford. Most recently, Sam Milham, a Washington state Department of Ecology technician monitoring the health of Hanford workers, says that between 1982 and 1984 there was a 31% increase in cancer rates that can't be accounted for by increased age. Milham states that, "The cancer types were pretty much across the board".

Ted Merrill, Public Health officer of Grant County, just north of the Hanford Reservation, has added up all the accumulated doses of plutonium releases from the PUREX plant. He estimates that there are the equivalent of 88,000 cancer deaths in plutonium dust that has been released into the atmosphere in Eastern Washington. The only reason that 88,000 people haven't died is because the population is sparse.

In a study released last spring in Spokane, the HEAL organization (Hanford Education Action League) has documented over ten times the plutonium particulates in the Spokane soil than the average level of plutonium fallout due to world wide nuclear weapons testing. This startling finding directly contradicts Hanford's Mike Lawrence who maintains that "all the plutonium particles disperse before they reach the reservation boundaries". Six miles from the PUREX smoke stack. Of course if all the plutonium which Mr. Lawrence says "dispersed" before hitting the boundaries and dropped on the soil inside the reservation like he suggest, the Hanford site would be so radioactively toxic that it would be uninhabitable.

The insidious nature of this very fine plutonium particulate dust is that once in the atmosphere or on the ground, it's there forever, and worse, it can recirculate. On a windy day, for example, plutonium has now been found resuspended in the air. People will then breath the particles into their lung tissues. Particles of plutonium now have been found to enter the food chain in leafy plants at much greater levels than earlier suspected.

Our confidence in the Waste Operation management at

Hanford begins to slowly erode when independent studies confirm contradictions in DOE's dogma. In October, 1984, PUREX was shut down for one month due to a loss of 10-13 kilograms of plutonium powder. Over six pounds of plutonium are still unaccounted for. Where did it go? Did all that plutonium powder go up a stack during accidents that are classified because of "national security"? Was that plutonium stolen and sold on some international terrorist market? What happens to our confidence in the safety and rigor of their waste operations?

### WATER DISCHARGE

One Waste Management engineer, Stephan Stalos, reflects on his experience at the Hanford site, "When I went to work at Hanford in 1974, I expected to find magic technology. Instead I found that Hanford is fundamentally waste thrown in the soil, run by people who don't know much." The amount of water used to cool radioactively hot reactor cores, to clean up accidents, to wash down chemical spills, to mix and dilute radioactivity is staggering. Investigative journalists from Spokane, Tim Conner and Larry Shook, have estimated from DOE's and Battelle Institute's (the corporation that studies environmental impacts, contracted by Hanford) records that the total flow from the Columbia for a full day and one-half is used to cool and take wastes away from the N reactor every year. The volume of the Columbia flow is enormous. Every second, 115,000 cubic feet of water flow by the shores of the Hanford Reservation. The DOE is relying on this river to dilute their radioactive waste problems.

At present, one of the most unsettling occurrences to the environment is taking place on the shores of the United States largest river. Quantities of radioactive tritium, iodine 129, and technicium are leaching into the Columbian waters after travelling six miles through the underground aquifer. All these radioactive isotopes are genetically damaging. They all concentrate and accumulate in human, animal and plant tissue. They all can travel up the food chain. So a Columbian River salmon, circulating hundreds of gallons of water through its system can concentrate iodine 129 in its fatty tissue 5000 times the original concentration in the water. When we eat that salmon, we ingest that same concentration of radioactive iodine and it heads for the thyroid gland. At some point, cancerous tumors can develop from the thyroids being exposed to that tiny amount of radioactive iodine.

How did these radioactive isotopes travel so far underground in such a dry military reservation where it only rains 3-7 inches per year? Scientists originally guaranteed that it would take around 200 years before the radioactive nuclides from the PUREX plant would migrate that six miles to the Columbia. What happened?

During the first sixteen years of operation, PUREX has wasted over 50 million gallons of radioactive water. One half of that quantity of water is so highly radioactive that it's being stored in the more than 150 huge military waste tanks, each holding a million gallons of waste water. The rest of the water, still radioactive and chemically toxic, was released into "soil columns" to percolate underground and slowly creep toward the Columbia. The chilling evidence now shows that since the PUREX has been reopened, huge quantities of dumped waste water are pushing the radioactive water already underground faster to the Columbia. More radioactive isotopes travel to the shores and into the once pristine Columbian waters.

The DOE denies this. They have been recently quoted as saying that there is no radioactive content to the Columbia. This is patently false. What they are really maintaining is that the radioactivity reaching the Columbia is being diluted by the vast Columbian waters. This part is true, but the reconcentration of radionuclides kills their argument. And as long as PUREX is dumping radioactive water into the soil, more will arrive on the Columbian shores. An Oregon State University study completed in 1978 found radioactive zinc and chromium from Hanford in fish from the Pacific Ocean along the continental shelf as far north as the San Juan Islands and south as far as the south end of Oregon.

We must be more cautious in this nuclear age. Misinformation, bad timing, a relatively small international incident, could set off a chain reaction of events that would incinerate our planet in a nuclear holocaust. But here in Washington state every day we have the potential for an accident so disastrous as to foul our Columbia and the Pacific Ocean forever. We should observe the dead pigeons around the PUREX plant, the Eastern Washington deer with radioactive thyroids, and the ducks along the Columbia with eggs containing 5000 times the radioactivity of the water.

It's past due: PUREX MUST BE SHUT DOWN.

Tom Buchanan is project director of the Hanford Nuclear Weapons and Waste Campaign for Greenpeace Northwest. For more info or to volunteer your help, call 632-4326



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Sat. 1:00pm to 9:00pm

# calendar

## monday

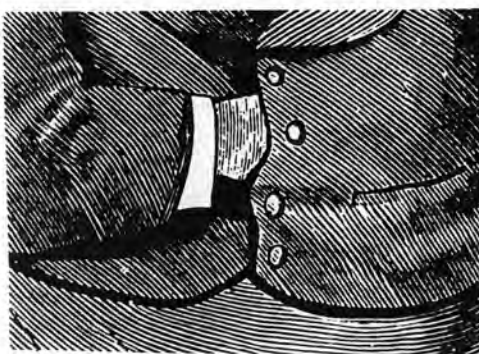
### MONDAY - 3 -

"BALKAN SPY" — a black comedy about paranoia; made in Yugoslavia. (Part of 10th Seattle Int'l Film Festival). Market Theatre, 1428 Post Alley, Seattle. 9:30 pm. \$5. Children under six not admitted/over six at full price. 323-4978.

"DIARY FOR MY CHILDREN" — a movie about the Stalinist years in Hungary; made in Hungary, 1982; directed by Marta Meszaros. (Part of 10th Seattle Int'l Film Festival). Egyptian theatre, 801 E. Pine, Seattle. 7:00 pm. \$5. Children under six not admitted/over six at full price. 323-4978.

### MONDAY - 17 -

"HOMOPHOBIA: THE HIDDEN OPPRESSION—TOOLS FOR PERSONAL AND INSTITUTIONAL CHANGE": Women's Funding Alliance Workshop; \$25/members and donors, \$40/general. Limited number of partial scholarships. Childcare by registration. 467-6733.



## tuesday

### TUESDAY - 28 - MAY

"THE PHYSICS OF STAR WARS," a brown-bag lecture by Prof. Edward Stern of UW Physics Dept., sponsored by "Target U.W." UW, HUB rm. 209A, Seattle. 12:30 pm. Free.

"PROSPECTS FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST": Carol Jensen of A.F.S.C. speaks. University Friends Meeting, 4001 Ninth Ave. N.E., Seattle. 7:30 pm.

"BREAKING THE BANK": FRONTLINE documentary on the 1984 Continental Illinois Bank crisis, and other bank failures in recent years. T.V. Channel 9. 9 pm.

"NOVA: THE FOUNTAINS OF PARADISE": a probing look at Sri Lanka's Mahaweli Irrigation Project. T.V. Channel 9. 8 pm. Repeats 5/29.

### TUESDAY - 4 -

"TWENTY YEARS LATER": a documentary of peasant Brazil. Filming began in 1964, stopped by military coup, resumed in 1984. (Part of 10th Seattle Int'l Film Festival). Market Theatre, 1428 Post Alley, Seattle. 7:00 pm. \$5. Children under six not admitted/over six at full price. 323-4978.

JIM LYON, a solo concert of jazz and folk music. Presented by The Rising Star Series of Seattle Central Community College. B.E. rm. 1110, SCCC. Noon. Free.

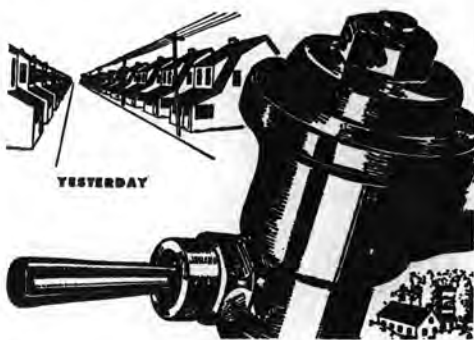
### TUESDAY - 11 -

"READINGS OF NEW PLAYS": "cold" readings of six scripts selected by The Group in the 1st Annual American Minority Playwrights' Festival. The Ethnic Theatre, 3940 Brooklyn N.E., Seattle. 8:00 pm. FREE. 543-4327.

"A RADICAL REMINISCENCE": Jack Miller, the last surviving member of the IWW at the Everett Massacre will be speaking at the next meeting of the Socialist Party. Join in singing old radical and labor songs. 2422 4 Ave. W. (Queen Anne Hill), Seattle. Potluck, 7 pm/meeting 7:30. 632-5098.

### TUESDAY - 18 -

ABORTION RIGHTS DISCUSSION: Radical Women participation in abortion clinic defense committees and recent Congressional hearings in Wash., D.C. Violence toward clinics will be the topic of discussion Multnomah County Central Library, 801 S.W. 10th Ave., Portland. 6:30 pm. Wheelchair accessible. (503) 249-8067.



## wednesday

### WEDNESDAY - 29 - MAY

SEATTLE CENTRAL AMERICA NETWORK: general meeting to discuss future plans. UW Ethnic Cultural Center, N.E. 40th St. & Brooklyn Ave. N.E. (S.W. corner), Seattle. 7:30 pm. Childcare sometimes. 324-3342.

"NOVA: THE FOUNTAINS OF PARADISE": see 5/28.

"SHIVERS": movie of a boy at a Party indoctrination camp in 1955; made in Poland in 1981 under Solidarnosc, banned under martial law. (Part of 10th Seattle Int'l Film Festival). Market Theatre, 1428 Post Alley, Seattle. 9:30 pm. \$5. Children under six not admitted/over six at full price. 323-4978.

### WEDNESDAY - 5 -

"THE RIVER WITHOUT BUOYS": movie about the Chinese Cultural Revolution, made in China in 1983. (Part of 10th Seattle Int'l Film Festival). Egyptian Theatre, 801 E. Pine St., Seattle. 9:30 pm. \$5. Children under six not admitted/over six at full price. 323-4978.

STAR WARS AND OTHER ADVANCED WEAPONS SYSTEMS: Ira Kalet speaks at forum sponsored by Washington Architects for Social Responsibility (W.A.S.R.). A.I.A. Chapter Headquarters, 1911 First Ave., Seattle. 7:30 pm. FREE.

### WEDNESDAY - 12 -

AUDIENCE DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP: Julie Anderson, Director

AUDIENCE DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP: Julie Anderson, Director of Marketing and Audience Development from ACT, will lead the workshop. Learn how to use direct mailing, advertising, and telemarketing to attract and keep a loyal audience. This workshop is free to paid members of the Network. Tukwila Community Center. 7:00-9:30 pm. \$10 non-member fee includes membership privileges. 454-3639.



## thursday

### THURSDAY - 30 - MAY

BILLY BRAGG and YOUNG FRESH FELLOWS: English solo acoustic/semi-electric guitar. "Bob Dylan meets the Clash." All ages welcome. Mountaineers Bldg., 300 3rd Ave. W. 8:30 pm. \$7.50/adv., \$8.50/door. 281-7775.

"PEOPLE'S WAR" and "AND THAT IS WHY THE STATE IS TO BLAME": films presented by SAUSIES (Students against U.S. involvement in El Salvador). UW HUB, room 200AB. 7:00 pm. FREE.

"MIDNIGHT CONFESSIONS": a dance theater concert by Lee Anne Hartley & Dancers. Evergreen Theatre Conservatory, 1508 11th Ave., Seattle. 8:00 pm. \$6. 328-8382/525-5251.

"A MIND ON MOVE" by Christian Swenson and Helen Walkey. An evening of dance intertwined with spoken text and stories will be featured in the On the Boards' third event of 1985 Northwest New Works Series. Features these two Seattle performers and original music by Seattle composer Norman Durkee, and Seattle vocalists Thomas Eckert and Thersa Clark. Washington Hall Performance Gallery, 153 14th Ave., Seattle. 8:00 pm. \$6/Thurs., \$7/Fri., Sat. Repeats 5/31 and 6/1. 325-7901.

"OUR WAY TODAY": This Native American Festival, sponsored by SCCC's Native American Student Organization will feature Johnny Moses, tribal leader and the Red Moon Dancers on Thurs., and The Nation Singers from the Plains tribes on Fri. (2-3:30 pm). Seattle Central Community College, 1701 Broadway, Room BE 1110. 9:00 am-6:00 pm. FREE. 587-6924. Repeats 5/31.

### THURSDAY - 6 -

"I AM CELSO": world premiere of a stage adaptation by Jorge Huerta and Ruben Sierra; directed by Huerta, performed by The Group Theatre Company. (Part of American Minority Playwrights' Festival). The Ethnic Theatre, 3940 Brooklyn N.E., Seattle. 8:00 pm/7:00pm on Sundays. \$10/\$8 day of performance. Repeats Wed.-Sun through June 30: 7-9, 12-16, 19-23, 26-30. 543-4327.

"CHARGED G.B.H. and FRIGHTWIG": punk from England. "World's premier speed metal punk bands. Frightwig is an all-women band from S.F. Guerilla Gardens, 5th Ave. & Jackson, Seattle. 7:00 and 10:00 pm. \$7/adv., \$8/door.

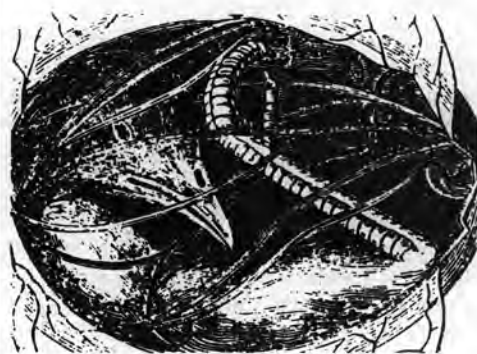
"NO PASARAN ('84)": a documentary film about Nicaragua; and "FRONTLINE: A NEW LOOK AT THE VIETNAM WAR": films presented by SAUSIES. UW HUB, Room 309A. 12:30 pm. and 7:00 pm. FREE.

### THURSDAY - 13 -

"UPWARDLY MOBILE HOME": a musical comedy of New York's experimental theatre company Split Bridges; presented by The Women's Theatre. Sat. performance will be signed for the hearing impaired. Broadway Performance Hall, Broadway & Pine. 8:00 pm. \$6/Thurs., \$8/Fri. & Sat. Childcare for Thurs. show (329-4474). \* 789-3805. Repeats 6/14, 6/16.

### THURSDAY - 27 -

BACKBONE'S SPRING READING SERIES: Northwest writers from the new issue of Backbone, published by Seal Press. 45th Street Books, in Wallingford. 7:30 pm. \$2.



## friday

### FRIDAY - 31 - MAY

A CONCERT FOR HEMISPHERIC HARMONY": music by "Almandina," with Jim Lyon, Steve Kinzie & Eric Smith. To benefit Seattle Pledge of Resistance. Bloedel Auditorium in St. Mark's Cathedral, 1245 10th Ave. E., Seattle. Take Bus 7. 7:30 pm. \$5/adv., \$6/door. 789-5565.

LAST FRIDAY CONTRA & SQUARE DANCE: Live band! All dances taught from scratch! Sponsored by Lincoln Art Association. Ballard Community Center, 2648 N.W. 60th. 8:00 pm. \$3 (\$1 for folks over 60 and under 21. 633-5220.

"PUPPETS! PUPPETS!": puppeteers from the Seattle Puppetry Theatre in a performance that will charm all age groups. Museum of History and Industry's Thomas McCurdy Room. 7:00 pm. \$2/adults, \$1/children.

"MIDNIGHT CONFESSIONS": see 5/30.

"A MIND ON MOVE": see 5/30.

"OUR WAY TODAY": see 5/30.

### FRIDAY - 7 -

"THE STALKING HORSE" and "GOING TO SEED": winners of The Group's 1st Annual American Minority Playwrights' Festival, presented after a week of rehearsal. New City Theatre, 1634 11th Ave. 8:00 pm. \$4. 543-4327.

"GEORGE ORWELL'S '1984'": movie version (U.K., 1984); with co-feature "Metropolis" at 5:35 pm. and 9:45 pm both days, and 1:25 pm. on Sat. Neptune Theatre, 1303 N.E. 45th St., Seattle. 7:30 pm (and 3:20 pm. on Sat.). \$3.50. 633-5545. Repeats 6/8.

"CITY CANTABILE CHOIRS AND BATUCATA YEMANJA DO PACIFICO": a concert of Brazilian and American Folk music will feature "Capoeira" music for Afro-Brazilian Fight Dancing, an original score "Dona Nobis Pacem" (scored for chamber choir and Batucata) plus all night Samba dance. Washington Hall Performance Gallery, 14th & Fir. 8:00 pm. \$6/door, \$5/adv., \$3/ seniors and handicapped. 323-2170. Repeats 6/8.

### FRIDAY - 14 -

"PALESTINIAN PRISONERS IN ISRAEL": Felicia Langer, a noted Israeli lawyer and civil rights activist has represented Palestinians in Israel and the Occupied territories since 1967. The event is sponsored by the Palestine Human Rights Campaign and SERPEC of the Church Council of Greater Seattle. UW HUB Ballroom. 7:30 pm. FREE. 633-3298.

"SEATTLE TO NICARAGUA CONSTRUCTION BRIGADE": a "tool fundraiser," it will include a slide show and discussion by Peter Simon, a construction worker recently returned from Nicaragua with the San Francisco-Nicaragua Brigade. Live music will also be featured. Madrona Community Center, 832 32nd. 7:30 pm. \*A tool or \$2. 723-7845.

"CONFERENCE ON NORTHWEST GROUNDWATER": a two-day conference on protection and future of Pacific Northwest groundwater; sponsored by the League of Women Voters, EPA, U.S. Geological Survey, and local agencies. Includes discussion of radioactive contamination. Bicentennial Pavilion, Sheraton-Tacoma Hotel. 543-1812.

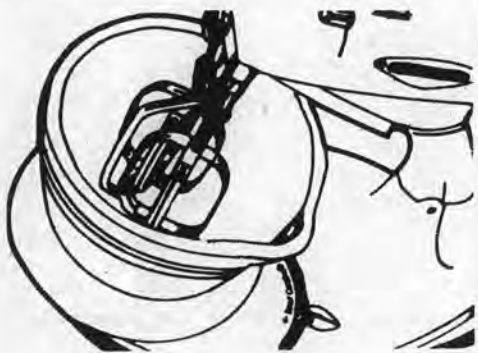
#### FRIDAY - 21 -

"PACIFIC NW LABOR HISTORY CONFERENCE": the Pacific NW Labor History Association and the Pacific Lutheran Univ. Dept. of History will be sponsoring this three day symposium. Advance registration is suggested. \$25 (\$10/ students, seniors, unemployed). Accommodations are available, including for those with special needs. Info and registration: 473-3810.

"LAST FRIDAY CONTRA & SQUARE DANCE": see 5/31.

#### FRIDAY - 28 -

"SUMMER ARTS MAGIC": performing artists, demonstrations, and creative workshops; sponsored by the Seattle Art Museum. Proposed new museum facility, 1st & Univ., Seattle. FREE. 447-4779. Repeats: 6/29, 6/30.



## saturday

#### SATURDAY - 1 -

"ENERGY IN OUR FUTURE: A NEW AGENDA": This day-long conference on energy will feature speakers from both sides of the issue of the changing energy environment, the economic impact of these changes and planning our energy future. UW Kane Hall. 8:30 am-4:00 pm. \$75. 543-2310.

"WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL PEACE GATHERING": speakers and cultural performances (including "Word of Mouth"); coordinated by "Peace Task Force of the Coalition for Women of Whatcom County." Peace Arch Park, Blaine, WA. \*11:00 am-2:30 pm. FREE. 733-4344/758/7112.

"PASSAGE YARD SALE": Stuff like you wouldn't believe! Clothing, household items, books, furniture. Good stuff for cheap. Proceeds to the Northwest Passage. 1025 1/2 N 36th (in fremont). 10-5 pm.

"THE DARK MAN: RECLAIMING WOMYN'S MAGIC": workshop offered by Goddess Rising, for womyn only; pre-registration necessary, space is limited. 10 am-6 pm. \$30-\$50. 632-3829.

"WORD OF MOUTH": Women Reading and Singing for Peace; sponsored by Peace Resource Center and Campus Alliance for Peace at W.W.U. Fairhaven College Theater, Bellingham, WA 7:30 pm. 733-2558 (B'ham), 632-9246 (Seattle).

"PORTABLE FEASTS": the Puget Consumers Co-op will be sponsoring classes on both vegetarian and non-vegetarian cooking for those out-of-doors occasions. Food preparation will be demonstrated and sampled. Reservations. Ravenna-Bryant Senior Center, 6504 Ravenna Ave. N.E.. 11:00 am. \$6/members, \$9/non-members. 525-0033.

"SPRING INTO AUCTION": The second annual Auction benefitting King County Rape Relief and Seattle Rape Relief. Main Court of Bellevue Square. Silent auction begins at 7 pm, live auction at 8:30 pm; \$12.50/door. Signed for hearing impaired. 226-5062.

"MIDNIGHT CONFESSIONS": see 5/30.

"A MIND ON MOVE": see 5/30.

#### SATURDAY - 8 -

"LESBIAN/GAY PRIDE NIGHT AT THE BARS": Warm up for Lesbian/Gay Pride Parade March and Freedom Rally June 30.

"SPEAKERS TRAINING WORKSHOP AND ISSUES FORUM": sessions on Hanford, Star Wars, Civil Defense, and Economic impact; sponsored by Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility. Wallingford United Methodist Church, 2115 N. 42nd St., Seattle. 9:00 am-4:00 pm. \$10. 632-9246.

"MAKING ANGER WORK FOR YOU": workshop for women on the guises anger takes, how to recognize your own style of anger, and how to improve and enhance intimacy by expressing and tolerating anger; conducted by therapist Barbara Courtney. Women's Information Center, Cunningham Hall, UW Campus. 1:00-4:30 pm. \$12. 545-1090.

"THE SEATTLE WOMEN'S ENSEMBLE": a celebration of the human spirit through music and song; a capella, tight harmony pieces, folk, jazz, popular, etc.; many songs focus on women's lives and identities. Museum of History & Industry, 2161 E. Hamlin, Seattle. 8:00 pm. \$5/adv., \$6/door. 523-5795/324-1125.

"GEORGE ORWELL'S '1984'": see 6/7.

#### SATURDAY - 15 -

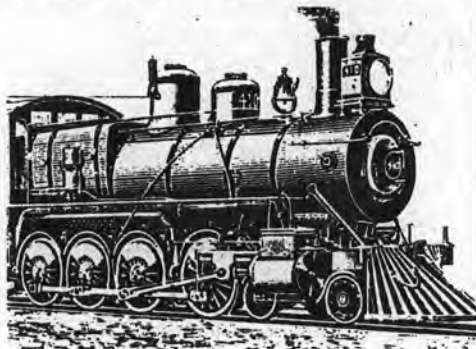
"SING ALONG AND HAVE SOME FUN": the multi-talented musical duo, Frank and Deanna Blade, in a children's concert. Banjo, dulcimer, fiddle, and clogging. Museum of History & Industry's McEachern Auditorium. 11:00 am.

#### SATURDAY - 22 -

"RUN WITH PRIDE": two races—10K or 4.2K (flat, wheelchair accessible). Registration 7:30-8:30, or send \$4 to Run with Pride, 3909 Greenwood Ave. N., Seattle, 98103. \$4/adv., \$5/day of race. Seward Park, race starts 9:00 am. T-shirt available for \$5.50. Prizes will be drawn at 11:00 am for participants. 547-2183.

"EL SALVADOR—U.S., CHILDREN-TO-CHILDREN CAMPAIGN": reception and entertainment; sponsored by "Friends of A.M.E.S.. Hundred Waters Gallery, 2201 First Ave., Seattle. 6:30-9:30 pm. 325-0471.

"TAKE BACK THE DANCE": Solstice celebration benefit for Seattle N.O.W. with music by Zuva Marimba Band, some food included in ticket price. No-host bar with non-alcoholic drinks also. T-shirts will be available commemorating the dance and NOW's commitment to work for peace and equality. Monroe Center (wheelchair accessible), 1810 N.W. 65th. 8:00 pm-midnight. \$5, children and seniors FREE 832-8547.



## sunday

#### SUNDAY - 26 - MAY

"SEATTLE MOBILIZATION AGAINST AIDS": a 24-hour vigil as personal expression to honor the dead and support the living. On SCCC campus near Pine, Seattle. Noon. 324-4297.

"CELEBRATE THE END OF THE VIETNAM WAR": the Northwest Coalition for Peace, Jobs, and Justice is holding a fundraiser to support their work; speakers, live entertainment, and dance music are on the program. Boiler-makers Local 104, 1019 Stewart St. 8:00 pm. \$4/door, \$3/adv. 448-7354/282/6659.

"FREEDOM DAY COMMITTEE MEETINGS": Strength through Unity and Pride is the theme of this year's Lesbian/Gay Pride March. There are seven different committees (outreach, publicity, rally, fundraising, design/ideas, logistics, and security). Interested persons are invited to help make this the best Pride March ever. SCCC portables (N. end of campus). 6:30 pm. 526-5450/343-5838.

#### SUNDAY - 2 -

"BEFORE THE DAWN": a political movie about oppression in colonial Ceylon; made in Sri Lanka in 1981. (Part of the 10th Seattle International Film Festival.) Market Theatre, 1428 Post Alley, Seattle. 9:30 pm. Children under six not admitted/over six at full price. \$5. 323-4978.

"THE MAKING OF A PLAY": public forum presented by The Group Theatre Company; sponsored by Seattle Trust; part of 1st Annual American Minority Playwrights' Festival. Discussion of writing of "I Am Celso": see 6/6. The Ethnic Theatre, 3940 Brooklyn N.E., Seattle. 2:00 pm. FREE. 543-4327.

"NORTHWEST CHILDREN'S CHOIR FESTIVAL": 400 children from the Puget Sound area will participate. Seattle's Paramount Theatre. 3:30 pm. \$3 (discounts for groups of 15 or more) 329-6478/325-8554/232-7527.

"FREEDOM DAY COMMITTEE MEETINGS": see 5/26.

#### SUNDAY - 9 -

"THOUSAND CRANES PROJECT": Mr. Bergin from "Ploughshares" (organization of former Peace Corps volunteers) speaks, at U.C.C.-Peace Action Fellowship meeting. University Congregational Church, 1514 N.E. 45th St., Seattle. 11:15 am. FREE (donation for light lunch). Free childcare. 524-2322.

"CAPITAL STUDY GROUP": Radical Women is forming a thought-provoking study group to find out why Karl Marx's Capital remains a book for our times. The group will meet on the Second Sunday of each month thereafter. 1620 N.E. 24th, 1206, Portland. Adrienne: (503) 249-8067.

"FREEDOM DAY COMMITTEE MEETINGS": see 5/26.

#### SUNDAY - 16 -

"FELLOWSHIP OF RECONCILIATION": National council member Roberta Brumbaugh reports on national F.O.R. annual meeting which she attended recently. Woodland Park Presbyterian Church, 225 N. 70th St., Seattle. Fingerfood potluck at 5 pm; meeting 6:00-8:00 pm. FREE. 789-5565.

"INTERNALIZED HOMOPHOBIA: SETTING OURSELVES FREE": workshop for lesbian women; sponsored by The Women's Funding Alliance; with Barbara Smith and Suzanne Pharr. 10 am-2 pm or 5 pm-9 pm. \$15/WFA members and donors, \$20/general. Space is limited. Child-care available by advanced registration. Signed for the hearing impaired. 467-6733.

"FREEDOM DAY COMMITTEE MEETINGS": see 5/26.

#### SUNDAY - 23 -

"FREEDOM DAY COMMITTEE MEETINGS": see 5/26.

#### SUNDAY - 30 -

"SE HABLA ESPANOL AQUI": University Friends will be offering Spanish lessons for those concerned about peace and justice in Central America. Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced lessons, and Conversations will be offered weekly. University Friends Center, 4001 9th N.E. Sliding fee: \$10-\$60 547-6449.

"GAY PRIDE MARCH": begins 18th & Cherry, NOON. Be There!



## ongoing

"EYE CONTACT": an exhibition of pastel drawings by artist Deborah Walker, will be on display until June 7, at the women's Cultural Center, 701 N.E. Northlake Way. Open Mon.-Fri., 9-5 pm. 632-4747.

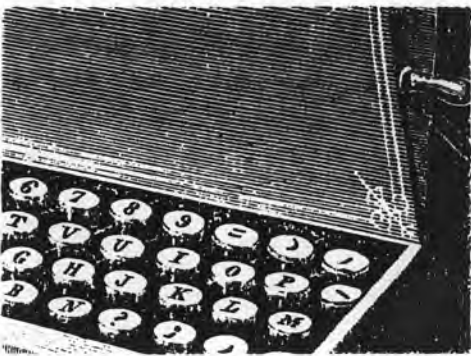
"PHOTOGRAPHS BY MARION POST WOLL-COTT": a photographer who documented the depression, and was hired by FDR's Farm Security Administration, will be presented from June 6 to July 3 at Equivalents Gallery, 115 S. Jackson St. 467-8864.

"ENERGY CONSERVATION": a FREE program series will be presented by the Washington Energy Extension Service throughout the month. Each program will discuss a different topic from home insulation to solar heating. For free copies of the calendar call Seattle City Light at 625-3800.

"KITES/WIND BIRDS": come view the extraordinary German artwork and kites, and create your own work-of-art kites in the kitemaking workshop. This event is courtesy of the Seattle Chapter of the Goeth Institute for Promoting German Language Study Abroad and International Cultural Cooperation. Pacific Science Center. Weekdays 10-5 pm. \$3.50/adults, \$2/seniors and juniors, \$1/pre-schoolers, free/children under 2. 625-9333.



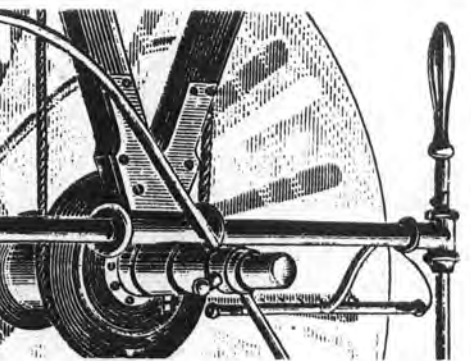
"MOVEMENT ACTIVISM AND VACATION COMBINED": annual Seabeck Conference; sponsored by Washington Fellowship of Reconciliation; this year's theme is "Toward a Just and Equitable Economic Order"; speakers, workshops, and worship, along with swimming, boating, hiking, games, music. Seabeck Christian Conference Grounds, Seabeck, WA (on Hood Canal, 15 miles west of Bremerton). Registration begins 2 pm on July 4, Conference ends 1 pm on July 7. Children's program for pre-school and elementary. Co-op nursery may be arranged. \$80-\$92 per adult depending on accommodations (less for children, less for partial stay). 382-1208/789-5565.



"1985 GAY & LESBIAN SUMMER GAMES": includes awards banquet, sports picnic, team sports activities, art exhibits; sponsored by MVA Local 275 of Vancouver, B.C. August 1-5; (604) 687-3333

"2nd ANNUAL SUMMER WOMEN'S WRITING WORKSHOP": sponsored by Flight of the Mind; led by Judith Darrington and Barbara Wilson; with writers Valerie Miner, Paula Gunn Allen and J.T. Steward. A retreat center on MacKenzie River in Oregon Cascades. Send SASE to F.O.T.M., 622 S.E. 28th, Portland, OR 97214.

"SUMMER YOUTH CAMPS": sponsored by Green River Community College; camps include basketball, volleyball, soccer, softball, leadership, voice, drama. For ages first grade to adult; all-girls, all-boys, coed camps. Must register by June 14. 5-day camps run through Aug. 23. At GRCC in Auburn. 1 day to 1 month. \$20-\$100. 464-6133, ext. 337.



by Carey Catherine

**Ed. Note:** The following "interview" is a reconstruction of several conversations between the author Carey Catherine and a radicalized prisoner serving his 10th year in maximum security for bank robbery.

**PASSAGE:** Is the fear of crime a bogus fear?

**PRISONER:** No. There's always been crime in the United States, and the rate of crime per capita and the degree of violence of the crimes has increased sharply within the last 20 years.

**PASSAGE:** So what choice is there but to lock people up — more and more of them — for longer and longer periods of time?

**PRISONER:** The choice is to recognize that building more prisons and putting more lawbreakers in them in order to increase your personal security is, if you will, just like building more weapons and putting more people in uniform in order to increase a country's national security. It not only doesn't work; it boomerangs.

**PASSAGE:** How?

**PRISONER:** If you'd spend even a day inside a prison you'd know that sending criminals to prison to unlearn criminal ways of surviving is like carrying rain-water to Seattle. Since criminal status is the single common denominator of all the people there (being born of poor family runs a close second), prisoners end up exchanging criminal know-how. So they graduate from this School for Crime with many more illegal survival skills than legal ones. If they go all out for a legal job, they're stigmatized with being an ex-convict. As you probably know, more than half of the people who are sent to prison once end up being sent back again and again.

**PASSAGE:** Of course, some people say the solution to that is to just keep all of you in for the rest of your lives...

**PRISONER:** Yes, I know; I watch TV interviews with law-and-order cowboys too. Even if that were morally justifiable (and nobody who's been in for even

three days would wish that on anybody), it still isn't physically possible to lock everyone up forever. It's too expensive. It costs you and the rest of the tax payers between \$18,000 and \$27,000 per year per prisoner to keep us locked up, and more than that — about \$50,000 — per bed to build additional prisons. By the way, most of us are here for crimes against property, not crimes against persons, so there is little to gain compared to the scale of spending, the costs of lock-up would probably be close to the spending for the arms race. — and you know what that's done to the economy.

**PASSAGE:** O.K., I hear you, but what about Bernard Goetz — the right wing trigger-happy subway hero? You'd let him go scot free?

**PRISONER:** No, but it's as useless to send Goetz to prison as it would be to send any youths like the four who accosted him. Obviously, even if both the youths and Goetz were put away, the social conditions that created that situation would continue to produce other youths and Goetzes, and would do so at higher and higher rates. It's a hard issue, because anyone can identify with being the victim of crime, on the other hand, blacks especially are also painfully aware that whites as a race have been historically and notoriously quick to shoot first and ask questions later.

**PASSAGE:** What about the upcoming court case on Goetz's killing one of the youths? Wouldn't the trial bring that out?

**PRISONER:** I'm skeptical. I don't know. What I do know is that the whole process determining guilt or innocence is no more than a superficial treatment of a symptom. Leaving the underlying disease to fester. You know, a Senior Circuit judge himself, Judge Bazelon [of the U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington D.C.] pointed out that since "...a penal system is vengeful deterrence" hasn't lowered the crime rate, or even kept it level, we have no choice but to examine the underlying

# School for Crime



Lucas, 1982



Foto: Der Spiegel

## A View from Germany

Much was written about the turbulence the Reagan visit was causing even before it took place. Opinions on the side trip to the Bitburg cemetery ranged from "a necessary tribute to the dead soldiers" to fears of a "late victory for the Nazis."

German politicians became agitated over the amateurish manner in which preparations were made, and once again were worried about German image in relation to the U.S. (How does German image suffer when American politicians

act carelessly, causing a powerplay?)

The German reaction demonstrates their typical "kid gloves" approach in relations with the American Government. Nobody dared to call into question the trip itself. Oh no, even greater pains were taken to safeguard the health of the President, in case of a confrontation with rioters. Should the possibility of being the target of dirt clods really surprise him in a country that has to fear being destroyed by his megalomania (among other things)?

But of course he is accustomed only to patriotic adulation in a nation which he would save for a while with a war limited to Europe.

It is obvious that the methods of the more radical demonstrators are being focused upon and not the concern of the protestors as a whole. These demonstrators are some of the few in Germany who don't yet subscribe to the mentality: "If they want to kill us, then they'll do it and there is nothing we can do about." Suicide through resignation!!! If someone wants to make accusations against this silent majority, I ask you, what then *should* they do when their government won't even inform them about the extent of the danger? The people are kept stupid and resign themselves. Many also don't believe war could even break out.

But if one takes a look at the facts about Hiroshima, The Bikini Atoll, and most of all, Nagasaki, one is somehow not encouraged. One sees that the American government, like the Soviet one, is prepared to sacrifice humans in service of their "national interests".

Should a limited nuclear war actually break out (I don't dare think about an unlimited one), it will certainly be the Soviets who bomb West Germany. In spite of all this, I view the American government to be the greater evil. For only

they have the audacity and the absolute arrogance to go public with their plans for war. Only they dare to stage a kind of spectacle now being put on at Bitburg.

The USA has one thing in common with the USSR: they both keep their "allies" under their thumbs, the difference being that the USSR admits to it. The USA, however, preaches ideals of freedom and equality while hiding its true nature behind a cloak of "friendship".

Here is an example of this "friendship": nuclear "backpack mines"! The American government gives the command for their use and the command is carried out by British saboteurs. The Germans don't even have a right to veto!

In any case when one walks through what is left of the German forest and is suddenly confronted by heavily armed foreign soldiers, one has already lost the right anyway.

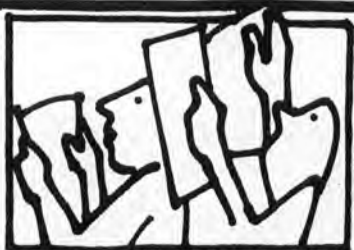
But there is still a glimmer of hope when people, particularly the young who want to live a while longer, mobilize themselves to shake up this phony facade of friendship. Because, America, we have much to thank you for, but we want to live our own lives!

*Bettina Ross is a high school student from Korschenbruich, West Germany.*

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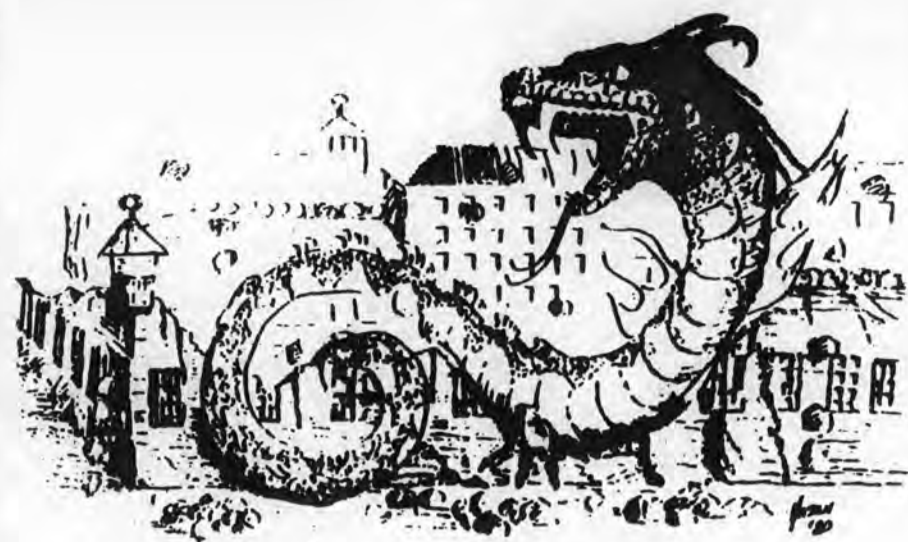
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"When the prison doors are opened, the real Dragon will fly out."  
—Ho Chi Minh

conditions that produce criminal rage. The major factor in crime may be a government and economy that is structured to disproportionately reward the rich for less hard work than the jobs that most poor people do (The efficiency of capitalism). In 1978 Congressman Ron Dellums held hearings in Washington D.C. which verified what common sense would tell you to conclude: crime increases with increases in the level of unemployment. So does it surprise you that most people in prison are there for crimes against property?

**PASSAGE:** Are you saying that debtors' prisons didn't die out with England of Dickens's time?

**PRISONER:** Well... the statistics on income and measure of wealth over the past 20 years say pretty clearly that the rich are getting richer while the poor, because of inflation, unemployment, and other factors, get poorer. Orange County, California has more Rolls Royces than all of Great Britain, and the poor are not blind to this. Meanwhile, some states have contracted out to private profit-making firms to run their prisons.

**PASSAGE:** How do prisoners look at their crimes?

**PRISONER:** Most people don't realize that for only a fraction of lawbreakings is someone arrested (almost everyone has done something there is a law against) and for only a fraction of the arrestings is someone convicted. That means that those who finally end up in prison have learned that they should have refrained from doing what others, especially white collar lawbreakers, have been well-rewarded for, but that they should have done it cleverly, or with as expensive a lawyer, as those who are still on the outside.

And all of this makes for an institution where a bunch of people congregate—unwillingly—to follow, quite diligently, the Biblical urging to contemplate their mistakes. Of course, it might be said that the prison is performing a very benevolent service in keeping us not-yet-sufficiently criminals away from the real professionals there on the outside! But it still seems a bit odd that so many thousands of your tax dollars should be spent on protecting criminals from the people you all are still prey to.

**PASSAGE:** So what are the alternatives for keeping non-dangerous lawbreakers out of prison and discouraged from more crime?

**PRISONER:** The alternatives are super-

vision outside of the prison and while holding down a job, or community service, and/or restitution — lots of things that have already been tried and found more effective than prison — any program that deals with a stranger who's been an offender in the same way that one would help a friend who's "in trouble" works a lot better than vengefulness.

Fighting the struggle within the community against situations which encourage crime is also important in preventing it. The Community Boards Program in San Francisco, for instance, set up a city-wide alternative justice program made up of neighborhood volunteers to deal with crime, or the potential for it within their own neighborhood (and not outside of it). This eliminates the them/us distinction that policing involves. Even police departments, when decentralized and putting people on beat who are from the community they they patrol — these departments have much

more success in keeping crime down than the departments in which the police-people do not identify with their 'beat'. But those are all short term solutions.

**PASSAGE:** They are? Then what are the long term ones?

**PRISONER:** Something that will accomplish more than just keeping the crime rate from rising, which is what sentencing alternatives will do. It will take a government and economy that is not run by and for privileged elites, or on the profit-as-God motivation which creates those elites. Solving the problem of crime is no easier than solving the social conditions its linked to: poverty, racism, sexism, and injustices of all kinds. Meanwhile, if the only way that a more equal distribution of income can come about is through the famed Robin Hood's solution of taking (stealing) from the rich to give to the poor, that's the way it will continue to be till we have an economy that puts Robin Hood out of work.

#### CAGE COUNT

As of Spring 1984:

Estimated Existing Facilities	6,727
Estimated U.S. Detention Population	719,714

New Facilities Proposed or Under Construction:

Number	Type	Average Capacity	Average Per Facility Cost	Average Per Bed Cost
7	Federal	219	\$ 6.65 mil	\$34,480
265	State	418	\$22.76 mil	\$49,481
570	Local	177	\$ 5.90 mil	\$49,054

Total Facilities	842
Total Estimated Capacity	146,376
Total Estimated Cost	\$6.043 Billion

#### INFANT MORTALITY

Continued from page 8

some countries.

To find out if infant mortality is a problem in your community ask health officials for statistics, talk to workers at community clinics, and call local health and women's organizations to see who's working on the issue and what they know. What can you do? Organize a group of people concerned about infant mortality. Investigate and compile a fact sheet outlining the problem. Raise the issue with local community groups. Target public and private health care providers and local government officials, mobilize support and push for adoption of a specific plan.

Organizations that work on the issue of infant mortality

**Public Advocates:** 1535 Mission St., San Francisco, Calif. 94103; (415) 431-7430 (National group of public interest lawyers that does legal work with groups demanding federal action to reduce infant deaths).

**Food Research and Action Center (FRAC):** 1319 F St. NW Washington DC 20004; (202) 393-5060 (A national lobbying organization for food and budgetary issues; published a study on infant mortality; works on issues with local groups).

**Coalition to Fight Infant Mortality (CFIM):** P.O. Box 10436, Oakland, Calif. 94604; (415) 655-2068 (Grassroots organization).

Sources from which you can get more information, and from which data for this article was obtained, include:

"A Revolution in Health," by Casey Janis, *Second Opinion* (Newsletter of the Coalition for the Medical Rights for Women), April 1984

"Development of Health Care in Nicaragua," by David C. Halperin and Richard Garfield, *New England Journal of Medicine*, August 5, 1982, Vol. 307, No. 6, pp 388-392

Unpublished interview with Jan Gates-Williams, Coalition to Fight Infant Mortality, August 1984

*Administrative Petition to Reduce the Incidence of Low Birthweight and Resultant Infant Mortality*, Public Advocates.

"State of the World's Children," UNICEF report, 1984

This article is reprinted from *Third Force*, Newsletter of the Center for Third World Organizing, Spring 1985 CTWO, 3861 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way, Oakland Calif. 94609

#### AN ILLEGAL CASE

Continued from page 9

Spain were especially large and militant.

The Contradora nations have also rejected Reagan's embargo scheme. Where Columbia's condemnation was clear, Mexico was more direct and to the point when it warned that the sanctions could damage the Contradora group's efforts to achieve peace in Central America. Mexico also urged the U.S. to resume talks with Nicaragua. The strongly worded statement reflects the growing gap between the four nations of the Contradora group and the United States.

Western diplomats in Mexico City agree that Mexico's position can be safely assumed to represent that of the Contradora group's collective attitude. One of the strongest things the Mexican statement said is that "economic coercion is not in any way compatible with the objectives of Contradora in trying to seek peace in Central America." That is an understatement inasmuch as the proposals put forward by the Contradora group, in a suggested treaty offered last September, quite clearly states that economic measures such as embargoes could not be a part of any settlement in the region.

While most knowledgeable observers agree that the imposition of the U.S. trade embargo is another step toward war in Central America, those who believe otherwise will nonetheless admit that the embargo violates a number of laws, both national and international. Nicaragua has already won one legal battle in the World Court, that of course being the Reagan Administration's covert war against Nicaragua. It appears as if that country will win the next round of international litigation as well.

The first area of illegality connected with the trade embargo is the President's declaration of a national emergency. That declaration, pursuant to the 1977 law, permitted the President to impose economic sanctions by executive order. A national emergency is something very specific and requires a real threat to the security of this country. The President's failure to win financial aid to the Contras is not an emergency, but is rather a simple dispute with Congress.

A second area of illegality concerns that abrogation of the 1958 treaty between the United States and Nicaragua. The treaty requires a one year notice of termination, and Reagan has not waited that year for the treaty to expire. The President has the power to terminate a treaty, but he doesn't have the power to violate one. The declaration of the national emergency and the embargo is in and of itself a violation of that treaty.

The U.S. courts can of course be expected to turn a deaf ear to complaints over the executive branches national security claims. This would be consistent with their unwillingness to consider the absence of any basis in law for the waging of the Vietnam war, and their general history of subservience to the office of the presidency.

The U.S. embargo also violates the charter of the Organization of American States. That charter provides that no member state may use or encourage the use of coercive measures of an economic or political character in order to force the sovereign will of another member nation. U.S. actions against Nicaragua are an obvious violation of the O.A.S. charter. And lastly, the embargo is an outright violation of the General Agreement on Trade (known as GAT).

The fact that the embargo violates U.S. and international law, not to mention the seeds of peace the world is seeking to germinate, has left the United States on the moral, political and diplomatic defensive in the eyes of most of the world. This growing isolation seems to have little impact on the U.S. government. Indeed, the Reagan Administration appears quite content to go it alone, leaving even the U.S. Congress behind in the blind rush to wage aggression in Nicaragua.

The *New York Times* leaked portions of a 22-page document marked "top secret" which was given to congressional appropriations committees just before the vote on military aid to the anti-Sandinista Contras. The document revealed that the Reagan Administration does not want negotiations with Nicaragua, but rather seeks to bend the Sandinista government to the will of the United States through state sponsored terrorism (they do not of course call it by that name). The document discussed "direct application of U.S. military force" against the Nicaragua, saying this course of action "must realistically be recognized as an eventual option, given the stakes in the region, if other policies fail."

One such "other policy alternative" was the congressional funding for the counter-revolutionary Contras. It has already failed. Reagan's first response to that failure was the imposition of the illegal economic embargo. Can his criminal war be far behind? Those who have eyes to see will be busily preparing to bring yet another war home.

—Information compiled by Ed Mead

SOURCES: *National Public Radio*, *All Things Concerned Frontline Newspaper*, April 28, 1985

June 1985/Northwest Passage/Page 17

## BOOKS

### Unions in Nicaragua

Are Nicaragua's Trade Unions Free?: A Response to the American Institute for Free Labor Development (AIFLD) Report "Nicaragua, A Revolution Betrayed: Free Labor Persecuted." December 1984 U.S. Labor Lawyer's Delegation to Nicaragua. April 1985. \$4.50, from Rober Gibbs, 1613 Smith Tower, Seattle, 98104

This work, sponsored by the National Lawyer's Guild, refutes the charges made in the AIFLD report, a report used by the pro-Contra supporters to buttress their call for aid to the anti-Sandinista guerillas. The refutations vary from outright denial by the alleged victims of Sandinista repression, to very credible conclusions of respected civil rights organizations, to questionable government sources. The government refutations may or may not be true, but it hardly affects the overall impact of "A Response": the AIFLD report was a propaganda sham.

The most striking fact to emerge is that, though opposition union leaders and members have been arrested by the Sandinista government, it was not for union activities but for Contra-supported acts of sabotage. The opposition unions are small and distrusted for their Contra ties by the majority of Nicaraguan workers, who support the revolution. Minority rights of these opposition unions should be defended; sabotage and distortion of fact in support of the Contras should not be tolerated by American labor.

"A Respose" also provides an excellent brief introduction to the history and structure of the labor movement in Nicaragua. The Managua earthquake in 1972, the Chamorro assassination in 1978, and the Sandinista victory in 1979 swelled the ranks of organized labor. Prior to July, 1979 only 27,000 workers were unionized. Five years later there were 260,000, about half in CST (Sandinista Workers Confederation), Somoza's repression of unions was replaced with Sandinista restrictions: the most serious was suspension of the right to strike. That ban was lifted in August, 1984. Only two strikes have occurred since, both by opposition unions.

The report casts indirect light on AFL-CIO foreign policy tactics, tactics mired in a history of collusion with corporate, and hence U.S. government interests (see Lane Kirkland's quote in a review of this report in *In These Times*, May 8-14, p.6).

"A Response" may help us understand what's ahead. Reagan's embargo has thrown the Nicaraguan business community into "disarray" (see *New York Times*, May 9). The opposition unions will likely lose whatever power and credibility they now have. Their response, and Reagan's, and ours, will be crucial to the future of all Nicaraguans.

—Bruce Kochis



Illustration by Vaughn

### Cultures In Contention

*Cultures in Contention*, edited by Douglas Kahn and Diane Neumaier (The Real Comet Press, Seattle, WA: May 1985, 450 pages).

This anthology is intended to "provide information for and inspiration to those who wish to explore the continuities and controversies surrounding the role that culture plays in the movement for progressive social change."

A collection of writings, interviews, personal accounts, photographs, and artworks from an international selection of contributors, *Cultures in Contention* documents socially provocative cultural activities of recent years. Contributors include Bernice Johnson Reagon of Sweet Honey in the Rock; Richie Perez, who worked on a community-based campaign against the racist film "Fort Apache: The Bronx"; Ernesto Cardenal, the Nicaraguan Minister of Culture; Holly Near; black musician Archie Shepp; and London billboardists Peter Dunn and Loraine Leeson.

Works included from artists in fields such as print and photo journalism. Works are included from artists in fields such as print and photo journalism, theater, music, performance art, video. Works are included from artists in fields such as print and photo journalism, theater, music, performance art, film, video and literature. The works by 24 contributors are augmented with 150 photos and illustrations. \$15.95. The Real Comet Press, 932 18th Ave. E., Seattle, WA 98112.

### Chronicle of Women's Peace Camp

*We Are Ordinary Women: A Chronicle of the Puget Sound Women's Peace Camp*, by PSWPC members (The Seal Press, Seattle, WA: May 1985, 72 pages paperback).

The story of the camp's beginning, an essay on working at Boeing, an account of the five women who were

arrested and tried for entering the top-security missile plant to talk with workers, entries from the camp journal about daily life and the threat of nuclear war—documented here in photographs and the words of PSWPC members themselves. The camp was established June 18, 1983 outside the Boeing Cruise Missile Plant in Kent. Feminist publishing collective The Seal Press describes *We Are Ordinary Women* as "an inspiring chronicle of current feminist herstory and an invaluable reference for women planning similar actions." \$5.95. The Seal Press, 312 S. Washington, Seattle WA 98104.

### Reconnaissance

*Fighting Back: Lesbian and Gay Draft, Military, and Veterans Issues*, edited by Joseph Schuman and Kathleen Gilberd (Midwest Committee for Military Counseling, Chicago: 1985, 142 pages).

Finally! All during the war with Vietnam we needed a handbook dealing with lesbian and gay issues. Now we have it in plenty of time for study prior to the coming draft. It is written for counselors and lawyers, but it will be of use to others. Send \$16.25/copy to MCMC, 421 S. Wabash, Chicago, IL 60605.

"Comandante Bayardo Arce's Secret Speech Before the Nicaraguan Socialist Party," *U.S. State Department Publication No. 9422* (Washington, DC: 1985, eight pages).

There is no way to tell if this speech was secret or if our government has reproduced it without editing. The State Department's objective was to show that the Sandinistas did not take their 1984 elections seriously. Actually, this document shows how seriously they did take those elections as part of an overall plan to win a "war forced on us by the biggest imperialist power." Available for free from S/LPD, Room 6253, Department of State, Washington, DC 20520.

*Namibia: The Struggle for Liberation*, by Alfred T. Moleah (Disa Press, Wilmington, DE: 1983, 341 pages).

Many of us have participated in the struggle against South African apartheid, and it is important to remember that South Africa is also illegally occupying a neighboring country, Namibia. Professor Moleah has written a detailed history of Namibia that will show today's demonstrators their place in a struggle that began in 1904. Send \$10/copy to Disa Press, P.O. Box 9284, Wilmington, DE 19809.

*Nicaragua: The Great Challenge*, by Jaime Wheelock Roman (Alternative Views, Managua: 1984, 91 pages).

This interview with a member of the National Directorate of the Sandinista Front provides an inside look at how their revolution is structured and what it plans for the future. A good discussion of their rule by consensus is included, along with an analysis of the threats. "The only thing that has prevented Reagan from implementing a major aggression against Nicaragua," says Wheelock, "has been international opinion and internal pressure within the U.S." Send \$6.45/copy to New Society Products, 853 Broadway, No. 1105, New York, NY 10003.

—Chris Robinson

The author is editor of *RECON's* quarterly newsletter (P.O. Box 14602 Philadelphia, PA 19134) which keeps its eye on the Pentagon.

### Boycott Now!

*The National Boycott Newsletter: A Boycott Information Quarterly*, (National Boycott Newsletter, Seattle, WA: first issue Fall/Winter 1984, eight pages).

The first issue is being distributed free as a sample issue, though single copies of later issues will be sold at 50 cents and subscriptions are available. The first issue looks good, with thoughtful articles on ethics and the publisher's policies as well as comprehensive information on current boycotts on the issues of human rights, peace, labor, environment and animal rights. Each listing includes the company boycotted, what organization called the boycott, and a list of products or companies to boycott. The only glaring omission from this newsletter is any byline or name anywhere, which makes me wonder who's publishing this and why they're withholding their names. Find out for yourself—write for a sample copy or a year's subscription (\$2) to *National Boycott Newsletter*, 6506 28th Ave. NE, Seattle, WA 98115. (Obviously they're not too paranoid, or they'd have a P.O. box.)

—Kris Fulsaa

the northwest passage library . . .

### More Than 100 Opportunities

Need a place to read the latest alternative news?

Looking for that hard-to-find alternative newspaper from New York, Michigan, or California?

The Northwest Passage Library is a valuable community resource, with more than 100 titles and a reading room. Periodicals from around the nation as well as Canada. Monthlies, quarterlies, newsletters, bulletins. Many titles from the Alternative Press Index and Alternative Press Syndicate. Call the NWP office at 323-0354 to set up an appointment for using the library, most afternoons on most weekdays (sorry, check-out services not available).

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# Classifieds



**Wanted: Buyers of quality used items.** Yard Sale to benefit Northwest Passage on Saturday, June 1, from 10 am to 5pm, at 1025 1/2 North 36th in Fremont. Clothing, books, household miscellaneous, some furniture—bargains galore!

## REFERRALS

**Planned Parenthood** of Seattle-King County's Information Line is open Monday through Thursday, 2-8pm; The Line provides free confidential information to callers on birth control, pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, sexual development and decision-making. Referrals are given to appropriate community services. Call 328-7711.

## WANTED

The Native American Action Committee is seeking **Native Americans for an amateur night!** If you can write, sing, act, dance, tell stories, or if you know of someone who might be interested, let us know. This event will be in August. We also need people, anyone, to help co-ordinate this event! Write Margaret Ward, P.O. Box 21544, Seattle, WA 98111.

**House Hunt.** Straight male, 28, semi-vegetarian, with cat and Kawasaki, looking for a household to join. Politically a libertarian-anarchist, but I still wash dishes. Leave message at 622-0722, ext. 913.

The **Native American Action Committee** is seeking **members**, men and women. Our current project is to set up an educational fund to help a limited number of Indian students with higher education. We are also seeking donations and help from individuals and groups for this project. Contact: Margaret Ward, P.O. Box 21544, Seattle, WA 98111.

The Anti-Fascist Marching Band invites correct-thinking Sousaphiles to join us at the Gay Pride March on June 30. For info or input on repertoire, practice sessions, etc., call Louie at 441-0517 or leave a message at the NWP, 323-0354.

**Wanted: A few good** collective members for a dynamic, fun-filled, monthly all-volunteer newspaper (you guessed it—it's the Passage!). Collective positions now open for editorial board, design board, fundraiser, volunteer coordinator and subscription manager. One year commitment and some publishing and/or collective experience desired. The Passage is an equal opportunity worker-managed nonemployer. Call 323-0354 and leave a message, or send a letter to NWP, 1017-B E. Pike St., Seattle, WA 98122. We need you!

Classified ads in the NWP are ten cents per word, prepaid. Send your ad and payment to NWP Classifieds, 1017B E. Pike St. Seattle, WA 98122

## FOR RENT

**Cheap office space** for progressive business or organization. 175 Sq. Ft. in renovated building with bay window. \$100 per month includes utilities. 323-3612, 322-8272.

## EMPLOYMENT

**Seattle has been named** one of six U.S. cities to participate in a Ford Foundation-funded research project. Low-income, academically at-risk (working below grade level) 14- and 15-year-olds are eligible to apply for a **Summer Training and Employment Program.** Youth who are selected will be paid minimum wage for all hours of participation. Young people can pick up applications for the City's Summer Youth Employment Program from middle and high school counselors and the City's Division of Family and Youth Services Office at 2410 E. Cherry St., Seattle, WA 98122. Call 625-4780 for more info.



## BOOKS

**Nuclear Sneak Attack.** Read Reagan's plan in *First Strike!* by Robert Aldridge, 325 pages. Send \$10 (includes handling) to RECON, P.O. Box 14602, Philadelphia, PA 19134.

**10th Anniversary** of Vietnam's victory. Read *How We Won the War* by General Giap. Send \$5 (includes handling) to RECON, P.O. Box 14602, Philadelphia, PA 19134.

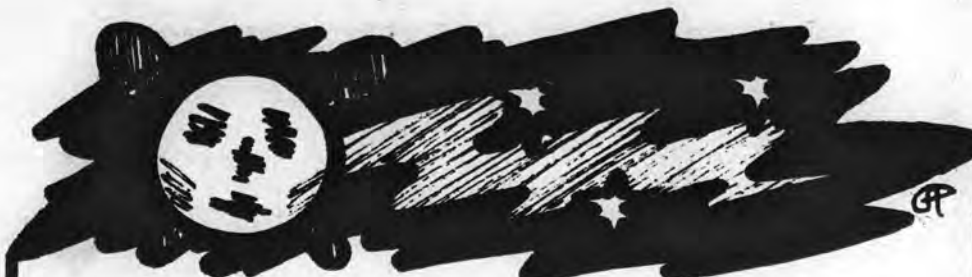
## VOLUNTEERS

**Bellevue Philharmonic Summer Pops Orchestra** needs musicians! All positions are now open for the Bellevue Philharmonic Summer Pops Orchestra. Summer Pops runs through the month of July, weekends only. Rehearsals begin June 27. Call the Bellevue Philharmonic office at 455-4171 for information and applications.

## MISCELLANEOUS

**Writer** seeks group or individual with which to exchange work. Themes include: religion, obsession, masculinity. George Howland Jr. 632-6306. P.O. Box 31263, Seattle, WA 98103-1263.

**Save money** by driving in a carpool. Free carpool and vanpool matching is as close as dialing METRO Commuter Pool, your rideshare matchmaker, at 625-4500.



## Silver Spoons for the Moons in June

It's moving into summer on Buddha's Birthday. And for the first time we can drive our cars down to Central America and view a war. The flowers are showing their colors while all we have to do is draw a Hitler mustache on the face of Reagan and he'll rave up a Sieg Heil. Let's tour downtown to see the cowardly people breathe amnesia. Watch them make believe it's simply business as usual. Wave hankies at those trains and planes flying to Washington full of good ol' boys so happy to feel nostalgic about putting their Vietnam uniforms on again. There they are crying on your T.V. screen over the good old days when whites & blacks & yellows fought under the common banners of ignorance that covered a distant country with death and gun powder. Hear those snickers going into those cuff-linked sleeves. Listen to the commercials whispering to the young ones that it's O.K. to go play war. Big Business smiles like the Moon in June.

—Roberto Valenza

# Collective Exchange

... is a published network of co-ops, collectives, worker-owned businesses in the Pacific Northwest. The idea is that one important way these groups can support each other is by exchanging information, ideas, plans, questions in the larger context of regional, national and international issues and events. Simply, it is mutual self-help.

Call or write **Bruce Kochis** at the Northwest Passage at (206) 323-0354; 1017-B E. Pike St., Seattle, WA 98122. Deadline for the July issue is June 19. Here are a few early returns that should

give us all ideas. We fully expect the Collective Exchange to grow into one of the most important resources in the Northwest for worker-controlled businesses.

The **Salal Cafe**, a worker-owned business, would like to correspond with similar businesses. Write: the Salal Cafe, 634 Water St., Port Townsend, WA 98368.

**Morningtown:** the only worker-controlled restaurant in Seattle, a collective since 1969. We serve cheap vegetarian meals in an anti-profit, relaxed atmosphere. 4110 Roosevelt Way NE, Seattle, WA 98105; (206) 632-6317.

# Personals

Passage Personals cost \$3 for the first 20 words, 20 cents for each additional word. Mail will be forwarded for free from your own Passage Box. To place a personal: send with your \$ to Passage Personals, Northwest Passage, 1017B East Pike, Seattle, WA 98122. To answer: write to the Box given in the personal c/o Northwest Passage.

**Attractive-Urban-Country Girl**, 34, caught between craving for city life, culture, entertainment, travel and yearning for commitment, country, etc., seeks financially together, intelligent, easy-going guy (30s-40s) who can appreciate the best of both worlds. Let's retreat to my country hide-a-way! Reply Passage Box Yearning.

**Prisoner** seeks correspondence. 29, political anarchist in the belly of the beast; alone in the world; only serious people with a sense of humor need respond; sex or preference unimportant; will answer all; candor a plus—expect same; 2-3 years remaining on 10 for cultivation of hybrid sinsemilla marijuana. Write Jeff Mitchell, Florida State Prison, Box 747, Starke, FL 32091.

**Single Male**, artist, wanting someone to write or visit him in prison. 30s, 5'10", blonde hair, blue eyes, physically fit. Likes drawing, painting, music, reading, chess, most sports, meeting other people. Write to Bill Van Court, No. 623496, 9-E-5, P.O. Box 520, Walla Walla, WA 99362.

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## The Euromusic of Politics

Music that sounds the way a Maxfield Parrish painting looks—vibrantly swirling, subdued and mind-stretching—does a relaxing evening of that sound like the purveyor of a political message? Hard to believe, but evidence of it is coming in from all over, and particularly evidence connected with Andreas Vollenweider and Friends, who performed at the Opera House in Seattle on May 9.

According to so politically conservative a source as CBS records, "leaders of the European peace movement chose

Vollenweider's music to serve as a movement anthem and rally-call." Vollenweider's own words, in an interview with the *New York Times*, are more to the point: "Nuclear weapons are the peak of perverted creativity." He conceived, produced and directed the video "Pace Verde" ("The Green Peace") which is currently showing on HBO and Showtime cable networks in the U.S. The Paul Winter Consort, a better-known example of this genre, uses the melodic word-songs of whales, porpoises and seals in its *Concert of the Earth* album, and was given an award at the United Nations for its success in sensitizing music-lovers to the aural beauty and vulnerability of the environment.

Paul Lloyd Warner's "The Miracle of Dolphins" is a tapestry woven upon dolphin songs recorded in Hawaii. Other album and selection titles of this "new age" or "space" music shows a focus on nature that is now valued doubly because it's in jeopardy: "M'Ocean," "Vista," "Caverna Magica" and "Waves." Other titles are less didactic but equally evocative: "Lunar Pond," "Aeolia," "New Paths," "Passion Play," "Silence Is the Answer" and "Planetary Unfoldings"—this last by the best composer of the genre, to the ears of this listener: Michael Sterne.

NPR's "All Things Considered" uses Vollenweider's music for its theme, not because of the political convictions of the composer, but because the music is aurally gorgeous—a no-strings gift to quality of life. It is the perfect antidote to the head-swimming angst of nuclear woes—the angst that immobilizes unless there is music such as this to neutralize, renew and exemplify the quality of life we're working for.

Curious to get a dose? Tune into KUOW 94.5 FM on Friday nights from 11 to midnight ("Music From the Hearts of Space"), or KEZX 98 FM on Sunday mornings from 10 to noon ("Musical Starstreams"). Both Freckle Records and Zenith Supplies have doses you can take home for your very own.

Carey Catherine

## Canvas of War

**States of War: New European and American Paintings** exhibiting through June 23 at the Seattle Art Museum Pavilion at Seattle Center.

Arrayed to be tasted are vivid reds, greens, oranges and blues in both large and intricate strokes, but they don't add up to 'states of War'. From such a label one would expect depictions on the order of Picasso's *Guernica*, Diego Rivera's murals, or the paintings of Ben Shahn, Jacob Lawrence or Seattles Doug Kahn. What one sees instead are works that are intriguing, more abstract, and possibly more varied, but which add up instead to "Personal Angst" or "At War With Ones Soul". The show includes some of the best of George Baselitz, Francesco Clemente, Chema Cobo, Jorg Immendorff, Oliver Jackson, Susan Rothenberg, and Hollis Sigler. If you go to see this show, you'll remember it.

Carey Catherine

## Hot Jazz in a Cool Climate

Jazz is surprise. Jazz places usually aren't. Here's the exception. If you're tired of bumping into yuppie elbows sipping martinis into empty minds trying to "appreciate the art of jazz" (jazz as "style") or being bumped by beer-sodden neanderthals (no offense to the neanderthal) whose musical understanding ends with "Go Huskies!" (jazz as irrelevant), then get down to the New Melody in Ballard where you'll get an ear-full and head-full of jazz as it should be: all live risk. No hype. No pretensions. No yuppies. No sports fans.

Linda and Dave LaMargee have put together a place that loves music. Neatly divided into bar and stage areas, the joint gives an uncrowded chance to listen at your own speed. The acoustics need work, but otherwise you won't be insulted by chic crap or blinking Coors signs that pass for decor in most jazz places. The cover is two dollars. Food is on the way in a month or so.

The LaMargees are doing something that has never been tried before. They have opened their doors and arms to musicians, and not to profit or "audience appeal." That takes guts. It's also the highest compliment a place can give an audience, because it gives them something new and changing, not the highly overrated "big" names that come to Seattle and repeat themselves, because "that's what the audience expects" and pays dearly for. That's also not live jazz, but petrified jazz.

Jazz has always been in trouble, and 1985 Seattle is no exception to this history. Standard white culture has been ripping off Black culture and its music for years. And that's not because white people play jazz or like it or write about it, but because standard white culture tries to gut jazz of its value by turning it into "entertainment," into a come-on for selling booze, into background music for dipping in hot tubs. Louis Armstrong and his great genius for trumpet got sucked into the system until they turned him into a toothy, brow-mopping caricature of himself for poster sales. The cult of personality. And the sad thing is, to be of value in this culture, a jazz musician has little choice, e.g., Wynton Marsalis. Which is not to lessen the courage of a Cecil Taylor or Archie Shepp. Or any serious jazz musician of any color who has to fight a racist conspiracy

of ignorance about what jazz is and where it came from. Jazz began as a Black art that came to rival European classical music in complexity and subtlety but, at the same time, has an immediacy that you must take seriously to experience (not just "appreciate"). Jazz is so much more a function of live performance it is like classical music, but played in your face. And this is what the New Melody gives us.

*Alea* with Al Hood gave a dazzling May 1 array of mind and mood, improvising their way into and out of musical traffic jams. Al on keyboards led the group through the streets of mostly traditional "inside" jazz. But, it's never just one person; the group (Mike Davenport on bass clarinet, Jim Paul on sax, Keith Low on horn, and Jim Spencer on drums) argued like a family with a set of streets of inside jazz are so varied they can always bear new tours—reminders of a changing hometown. *Alea* will be back June 19.

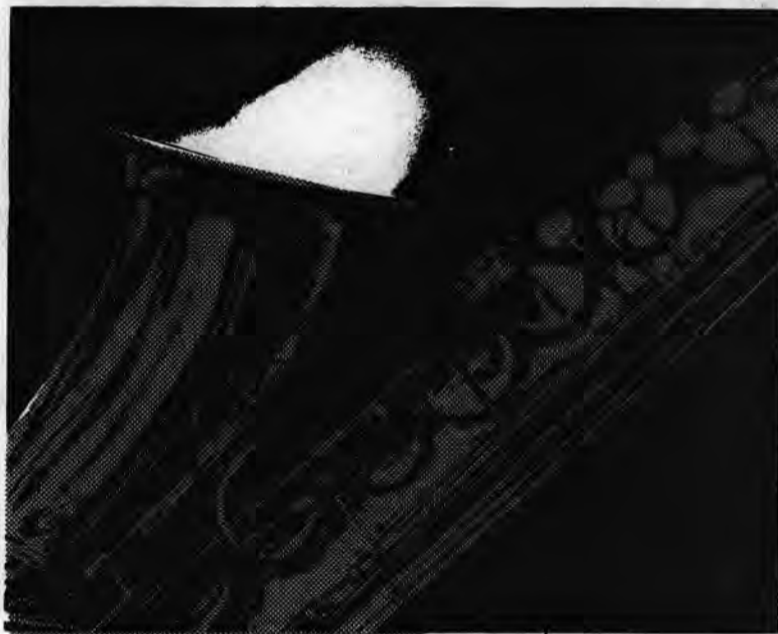
May 8 offered *Freelux Debop* with Bert Wilson on horns. Wilson puts his lungs where his mouth is: "Music saved my life and I want to honor it back." With Bob Myer on percussion, Jeff Morgan on horns and piano (and conch shell), *Freelux Debop* is one of four groups that Wilson has formed to explore several traditions of jazz, and it is the most "outside." This is challenging stuff; you can't sit back and "enjoy the experience" in any conventional sense of the word, because most conventions are gone.

The benefit of grappling with shifting harmonies and rhythms is simultaneously an intensity and subtlety that will not give in to one another. This is subversive music, art, because it questions the system of music and people's responses.

*Changes* is a two-year old, newly gone-public group that plays in the straight-ahead Art Blakely tradition (Mark Smason on trombone and vocals, Dan Greenblatt on tenor sax, Phil Sparks on bass, Frank Clayton on drums, and Curtis Brengle at the piano). Though rough around the edges at times, there were beautiful moments: piano, bass, drums trio, then a Sparks solo, in "Janine." Greenblatt and Smason hit it in "Knucklebeat." I ached for a longer drum solo from Clayton, but had to settle for several nice short runs. In a sense, *Changes* is a thing jazz is all about, new, young groups going into the past, reviving and reinterpreting the best in the jazz tradition. "Music as process, not product," says Greenblatt.

Other stuff is on the way: *Jimmyopolis* on June 5; *Inside Out* with Jim Knodle on trumpet; and much more. If you really want to find out what "Jazz is..." go to the New Melody on Wednesday nights. The musician themselves are the best witness. Al Hood called the place "special" and "unique," unequaled in Seattle or anywhere else in the U.S. Bert Wilson put it best: "It's a beautiful thing." *The New Melody is located at 5213 Ballard NW; 782-3480.*

Bruce Kochis



## Education of Justice

When Empty Space House Manager Kenny Goldman asked me to usher at a preview of *Execution of Justice*—playwright Emily Mann's dramatization of the trial of Dan White (the San Francisco Supervisor who assassinated S.F.'s first supervisor, Harvey Milk, and Mayor George Moscone)—I jumped at the chance. I'd become a Milk-ophobe after seeing the documentary *The Life of Harvey Milk* three times. The play is a story that allowed Dan White to get away with murder in 1978 rather than the right-wing fundamentalists who tried to quash gay rights today. The judicial aberration of the trial would come across in preview as I was not disappointed.

Kenny G. ran up to catch the stubs. He seemed nervous, but the theater technicians were nervous, too. I had reason to be. *Execution of Justice* is an ambitious, complicated production featuring a cast of twenty actors, slide projections and audio tape synchronization was all-important.

The play began with contradictory monologues by Sister Boom-Boom (Kurt Beattie) and a cop in a "Free Dan White" T-shirt (James Dean). It flowed seamlessly into a courtroom

scene in which a "chorus of uncalled-for witnesses" offered anguished testimony ("I loved the guy!" "Don't they know about Stonewall?" "What am I going to tell my kids?") which interwove masterfully with the actual testimony at the trial. The production is all impressive, but the heart of the play is the story. Every one stays in character. Director M. [redacted] clearly put down himself on the production.

Most of the attention is on the trial itself, but the job of showing the intent and emotions of the tragedy and the Milk's loss of killing. The newsclips in the play are *Harvey Milk*. (The program notes the charge: "Milk had actually been charged by Grand Jim Jones as a perpetrator of San Francisco's 'Living Age' in 1975.")

Most of the attention is on the trial itself, but the job of showing the intent and emotions of the tragedy and the Milk's loss of killing. The newsclips in the play are *Harvey Milk*. (The program notes the charge: "Milk had actually been charged by Grand Jim Jones as a perpetrator of San Francisco's 'Living Age' in 1975.")

The second act was certainly the most wrenching. There was the scene in which detectives taped White's snivelling, self-pitying murder confes-

sion, (which included "My kid (sob) has to have a babysitter!" "My wife has to work!" (since he had resigned his job as councilman and Moscone refused to reinstate him) "I didn't have time to see my f..f.family (honk)" and "Harvey (grrrr) looked at me and smirked and I just shot him!")

The best actors portrayed the worst. Rex McDowell was Dan White. Tony Pasqualini who played White's "Public Defense" lawyer, Douglas [redacted] was one of the most convincing theatrical sleazeballs ever.

*Execution of Justice* at the Empty Space's grand new production are digs is important. People would have never thought of the *Times of Harvey* coming here. I thought of the Empty Space! This is the education! Maybe a go home to the suburbs about how horrible a verdict was in Dan White's even if only one of wearing to fight social change, maybe it's all right...

Homophobia was partially shattered by a fellow usher who tapped me on the shoulder on his way out and said that he'd heard somebody from Bellevue saying, "You know, I could really sympathize with Dan White!"

Jennifer Hall