

# Nuremberg Actions News



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## MAJOR RALLY FOR EL SALVADOR MARCH 18, 10 AM IN SAN FRANCISCO

Nuremberg Actions has joined with other Bay Area groups to organize events March 18-21 to call for an immediate end to the war in El Salvador. These events coincide with the elections in El Salvador on March 19, and other events nationwide in the U.S.

The U.S. is waging the largest counterinsurgency war in El Salvador since Vietnam. During the last 9 years, the U.S. has spent more than \$3.6 billion to keep the El Salvadoran government propped up in power. The U.S. amount exceeds the Salvadorans' own National Budget! 70,000 have been killed in the last 9 years.

Recently, 3 U.S. advisors took part in combat alongside the Salvadoran Army during an attack on the El Paraiso army base. As in Vietnam, we are moving toward the commitment of U.S. troops.

Brian Willson described his observations during a November 87 trip in a report to Congresswoman Barbara Boxer:

"We learned from a variety of witnesses and from our own observations of the following activities occurring just days before our arrival in El Salvador and on days during our stay there: 1) Salvadoran Air Force bombing directed on several villages in Chalatenango and San Vicente Provinces; 2) assassinations/murders of residents in both San Salvador and rural areas active in student or union organizing, or in organizing repopulation communities; 3) persons captured on the street and detained without any due process whatsoever and without visitation rights from family members; 4) destruction of offices of human rights, union and religious organizations; 5) personnel in church offices being assaulted and beaten..."  
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## CARAVAN TO EL SALVADOR LEAVES FROM TRACKS: FEB. 27 AT 10:00 AM

Duncan Murphy is helping to organize the Bay Area component of the first Caravan to El Salvador, which will leave from the tracks on Feb. 27th at 10 am. (see Calendar) 10 to 15 trucks will carry the desperately needed medical supplies, tools, food and clothing, as well as a message of hope, solidarity and good will from the citizens of the United States.

Once in El Salvador, the Caravan will deliver aid to the 66 earthquake refugee communities in San Salvador and the repopulation center of Santa Marta. (Roughly 5,000 Salvadorans have been repopulated from camps in Honduras so far.) If the trucks are stopped at any border or during the distribution process, drivers are prepared to fast indefinitely.

Funds are desperately needed. It will take \$150,000 to make the caravan a success. Bay area trucks still need \$1,000 to go. Checks to support the Bay Area contingent can be made out to: DUNCAN MURPHY, Mt. Diablo Peace Center, 65 Eckley Lane, Walnut Creek CA 94596. Call 415-458-6289 for more information.



Holly Rauen seconds before arrest at tracks, International Women's Day, 1988. Photo by Carol Katonik.

## WOMEN'S DAY AT THE TRACKS MARCH 8, 9 AM AT CONCORD BASE

On March 8th, Nuremberg Actions and the Institute For the Practice of Nonviolence will jointly sponsor an event at the tracks at 9:00 AM in celebration of women in struggle all over the world.

We hope to have as our Guest of Honor Dora Lopez, a 23 year old Nicaraguan woman who will be in San Francisco with her 5 year old son for reconstructive surgery. They both sustained serious injuries during a Contra attack. Among the 12 victims were Dora's 9 month old baby and the fetus in her womb. Dora's leg was amputated and she has lost sight in one eye. Dora's husband was killed in a Contra attack just 4 months earlier. Dora hopes very much to come to Nuremberg Actions and confront the U.S. warmakers in their tracks. We want to stand in solidarity with her.

We will have a full program of music, culture and speakers. A representative will talk about the Women's Peace Convoy leaving for Central America in June. Other speakers are Peggy Tuxen (Vietnam veteran) from the Veterans Speakers Alliance and Holley Rauen, (midwife, peace activist and co-founder of the Institute). Groups or individuals wanting more information about the event or tabling for their group should contact Jennifer at 415-458-6289 (NA) or Carol at 415-753-2882 (Inst.).

Following the program, those wishing to may join in stopping weapons trains or trucks which bring death and dismemberment to people like Dora all around the world. Legal support is available. We highly recommend Nonviolence Training for those who have not had it before. Call Jay at 415-458-5299 to schedule.

OUR VIDED CAMERA, VITAL FOR DOCUMENTING ARRESTS AND OTHER SAFETY CONCERNS WAS RECENTLY STOLEN. WE NEED A REPLACEMENT ASAP! IF YOU CAN HELP IN ANY WAY, PLEASE CALL JAY AT 415-458-5299.

## NUREMBERG ACTIONS RETREAT

In early December, 27 members of the Nuremberg Actions community spent 3 days together at a retreat in Sebastopol to consider the future of Nuremberg Actions. The retreat was felt to be highly successful. We worked hard and reached agreement on a number of crucial matters.

1) We agreed on basic principles of unity which led to the draft Declaration of Unified Purpose (below). 2) We formed a new Council on which every active member of Nuremberg Actions can participate. The Council will make decisions using the consensus process. 3) We have adopted criteria to guide our decisions about new programs and projects. 4) We developed a system to use for dispute resolution. 5) We have put in motion sound Outreach and Fundraising plans.

We believe that the retreat was very beneficial. Not only did we make a number of critical organizational decisions—we have a new awareness of each other's dedication and special skills. We renewed our commitment to stop the Death Trains and in the future will do so with more harmony and unity than ever before.

We would like to hear responses from readers about our draft Statement of Purpose. You could send comments to the office: PO Box 1637, Pittsburg CA 94565.

## DECLARATION OF UNIFIED PURPOSE

We, the people of Nuremberg Actions Concord are an open non-violent community working to uphold moral and international law. Since September 1, 1987 we have maintained a 24 hour vigil at the Concord Naval Weapons Station where Brian Willson and others were assaulted by a weapons train, and have used our bodies to block every train carrying weapons and munitions to be used against our brothers and sisters of the Third World.

We are protesting the oppressive policies which our government is pursuing here and abroad, which have led to the death, maiming and disappearance of hundreds of thousands of innocent Third World people and the persecution of Native Americans, blacks, Hispanics, Asians, gay men and lesbian women, political dissenters and others in this country. These policies violate constitutional and statutory law, international law and treaties, including treaties with the original inhabitants of North America, the United Nations Charter, the Geneva Conventions, decisions of the World Court, the Organization of American States Treaty, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Nuremberg Principles. They have precipitated a far reaching moral and political crisis which the people must act to end.

We take our name from the Nuremberg Principles, which are derived from a body of law under which Nazi war criminals were tried and sentenced. The Principles define as crimes against humanity (Article VI):

"murder, extermination, enslavement, deportation, and other inhuman acts done against any civilian population, or persecutions on political, racial or religious grounds..."

Article VII states that:

"complicity in the commission of a crime against peace, a war crime, or a crime against humanity...is a crime under international law."

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We vigil, block munitions trains and trucks and engage in other acts of civil obedience at CNWS because we have chosen to uphold the Nuremberg Principles and to end our complicity in the geno-cide, persecution and other crimes being committed in our name and with our money. By our actions we also seek to arouse the consciences of our fellow citizens so that they too will act to end our government's oppression and violations of human rights both here and abroad.

We are dedicated to promoting peace and freedom throughout the world. We regard the people of the world as one family and support human rights, justice and the right to self determination for all. We challenge militarism everywhere and call for a just sharing of the world's wealth and other resources. We advocate an environmental consciousness that will permit the survival of all species, including our own. We envision a world committed to an equal partnership of the sexes, racial equality, the peaceful co-existence of different cultures and religions and the freedom of sexual choice. We strive to be compassionate and are dedicated to expressing love and concern for others, including those who oppose us. We attempt to listen openly to all viewpoints. Within our community we support each other's personal growth, emotional and spiritual healing and well being, and work democratically and cooperatively to achieve our shared vision. We invite you to join us.



Dominic Von Zabern, Diane Poole and Mark Coplan. Diane has chosen jail over complicity in War Crimes. Mark will be escorting Dora Lopez from Nicaragua this month (see Women's Day)

## PROTESTOR CHOOSES JAIL

Diane Poole, sentenced Jan. 6 to a 6 month suspended sentence based on 1 year's probation for multiple counts of blocking trains, chose on Jan. 31st to block a train and continue to uphold international and moral law.

Diane said, "While I can't say I am eager to spend 6 months in jail, I find it morally impossible to just stand aside in the face of U.S. War Crimes...the running of these trains is an illegal act in violation of the Neutrality Act, the United Nations Charter, the clearly expressed will of the American people and above all the edicts of our consciences."

Diane was joined by many people wanting to express support from all over the Bay Area. At one point a group of people carrying loaves of bread entered the base with the intention of walking to the piers to send food, not bombs, to the people of El Salvador. A total of 21 arrests were made during the day.

## TRUTH & CONSEQUENCES

Last July, 30 people were tried in Concord for blocking munitions trains at CNWS. The result was a hung jury, with no convictions. The judge later dismissed the charges.

Subsequently, the District Attorney has objected to group trials and has singled out and charged individuals with numerous arrests each.

The first member of this group to be tried was Diane Poole on December 12, 1988. She acted as her own attorney and explained what led her to come to the tracks and remain there since December of 1987.

Diane was convicted on 7 counts related to blocking trains, and was acquitted of another. On January 6th, Diane was sentenced to 6 months in jail, suspended, provided she does not break California law for one year and completes 250 hours of community service. (See accompanying story about Diane)

It is interesting to note that the judge indicated that he was sworn to uphold California and U.S. Law, but that his duties did not include upholding International Law.

The next trial began on January 9th. Daniel Werner, a college student in Iowa, was on trial for blocking weapons trains last summer. Judge Cunningham, who also presided over the 'Concord 30' trial, was much stricter this time and changed some of his previous rulings. He was especially restrictive with his jury instructions. The judge has a lot of leeway in instructing the jury on the law on which they are to base their decision. (It seems in this case that the judge overstepped his authority by actually deleting part of the statutory definition of the law which the jury is customarily allowed to hear.) The judge also ruled that International Law could not be used as a defense. John Coker, a Pittsburg attorney who defended Dan, did discuss Central

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## NUKES IN CONCORD

On October 11, 1988, we got a tip from inside CNWS that the Mt. Hood (a Navy ammunition freighter) had just off-loaded 98 nuclear weapons at the base port.

The ship (our friend said) had picked up nuclear weapons from ships a couple of hundred miles off the west coast. It off-loaded a few in Alameda before coming to Concord to off-load 98 more.

We have t-shirts and canvas bags with 'Stopping the War Starts Here' design on front and Nuremberg Principles on back. \$10 ea.

\_\_\_ Bags    Shirts    SM    MD    LG    XL  
Grey, Blue, Turquoise  
Pink, Yellow or Gold    1st Choice    2nd Choice

I WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE \$ \_\_\_\_\_ TO STOP THE DEATH TRAINS AND JOIN IN THE WORK OF NUREMBERG ACTIONS. Please send me a complementary subscription to Nuremberg Actions News.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

more complex and under our system of justice, juries have the right to hear the whole story. We will continue to assert our right to present the truth.

You can help by coming to the trials and showing that the defendants are supported by a large community of people committed to upholding International Law. The next trial, that of Victor Vasquez, begins on March 13 at 1 PM in Concord. America and the morality of blocking munitions in his closing argument.

The jury convicted Dan on 11 counts related to blocking weapons and acquitted him of one charge. Dan was sentenced on Feb. 2 to 1 1/2 years of probation and fined \$270.

Following its failure to get convictions in the highly publicized trial of the 'Concord 30', the court system is showing itself to be closed to an examination of the truth and of all the facts relevant to these cases. It is not simply an issue of someone blocking a roadway. As we know, the real issue is much

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'The National Call to Action' is a document drafted to address these issues, following on the Steps to Freedom campaign in late 1988. It has been signed by many people and published in national publications such as the Nation. It reads in part:

"We are initiating a campaign of active protest and nonviolent direct action to bring the war in El Salvador to an end. We are calling for nationally coordinated protests on January 20 to demand that President Bush end the U.S. war in El Salvador and for national local actions on March 18-20 to demand that Congress stop funding the war. Through active resistance, we will end the U.S. war in El Salvador and Central America."

Events in the Bay Area to end the war include a major rally and march on March 18th of thousands of activists, unions, refugees, students, religious & sanctuary groups. The Rally is at Dolores Park in SF at 10 AM, followed by a march to the Federal Building. Bring your group, banner and walking shoes. On March 21st, an action is scheduled at the Federal Building to stop business as usual. On March 21st, an evening candlelight march is scheduled in the Mission. Bring candles and friends. For more information or to help with time or funds, call CRECE at 824-5928, SF CISPEP at 648-8222. To participate with other NA people, call Jennifer, NA Outreach Coordinator, at 458-6289.

\_\_\_ My Church or Organization would like to host a Nuremberg Actions speaker or video The Vigil at the Tracks.

\_\_\_ My Church or Group would like to spend a day at the tracks.

Please call me at \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to help as a volunteer for Nuremberg Actions and do

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Tabling, Filing Clippings, Correspondance, Data Entry, etc.)

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SPECIAL THANKS GO OUT TO 'FOOD NOT BOMBS' AND 'SHARE' FOR KEEPING FINE FOODS ON OUR TABLE THIS MONTH. EVERY DONATION OR WORK TRADE WE RECEIVE REALLY HELPS TO KEEP THE COST OF THE VIGIL DOWN.

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**FEB. 20, 12-5: NUREMBERG ACTIONS DAY AT FEDERAL BUILDING** Join us on the steps to support Salvadorans fasting nation-wide to end war and ask for refugee status. 450 Golden Gate, SF. Music 3-5.

**FEB. 18, 7-10 PM: MARK COPLAN BIRTHDAY PARTY** CALL 458-5299. Welcome Mark (our former Media Coord.) back from Managua and see work in progress for 4 Nicaraguan documentaries.

**FEB. 26, 7:30 PM: POTLUCK AT MT. DIABLO UNITARIAN FOR EL SALVADOR CONVOY MEMBERS** Call Mt. Diablo Peace Center for info 933-7850.

**FEB. 27, 10 AM: CONVOY TO EL SALVADOR LEAVES FROM TRACKS** Trucks from Canada & the Northwest meet trucks from Bay area and leave from the tracks. Call Duncan Murphy at 415-933-7850 to join or make donations. Join us at the tracks to send them off!

**FEB. 27, 11:30 AM "RESIST GENOCIDE" RALLY AT SAN JOSE FEDERAL BLDG.** 16th Anniversary of the Resistance at Wounded Knee. 280 South First St. San Jose. Call 408-288-7863 for info.

**FEB. 28, 7-8:30 AM: MONTHLY VIGIL AT THE NUCLEAR BUNKERS, CNWS** Second of monthly vigils, last Tuesday, Port Chicago Highway

**MARCH 8, 9-12 AM: INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY AT THE TRACKS** Join NA, Holley Rauon of the Institute for the Practice of Nonviolence and women from all over the Bay Area in stopping weapons shipments at CNWS. Music, Poetry, Solidarity and optional blocking.

**MARCH 11, 10 AM: CONGRESSMAN GEORGE MILLER SPEAKS** at event honoring Central American Peace Activists, sponsored by the Mt. Diablo Peace Center and the Interfaith Peace Network. Walnut Creek United Methodist Church, 1543 Sunnyvale Ave.

**MARCH 18, 10 AM: 'NATIONAL CALL TO ACTION' RALLY & MARCH** Join with thousands of activists, unions, refugees, religious & sanctuary groups at Dolores Park in SF to end the war in El Salvador and march to the Federal Building. NA is one of many groups coordinating the event; Brian Willson is a co-chair.

**MARCH 19, 1:30 PM: PEACE PILGRIMAGE '89-CONCORD TO LIVERMORE** 2nd

Pilgrimage begins at the tracks on Palm Sunday & concludes at Livermore Lab for Good Friday Witness at 6:45 AM. Call Ecumenical Peace Institute/Clergy & Laity Concerned 415-849-2214

**MARCH 20: 'NATIONAL CALL' ACTION AT THE FEDERAL BLDG** Demand democracy for your neighbor, El Salvador. Take your concerns to your government in the most direct way. Stop US Intervention in El Salvador NOW!

**MARCH 24, 6:45 AM: PEACE PILGRIMAGE CONCLUDES AT LIVERMORE LAB** Good Friday Witness. Call 415-849-2214.

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For more info on all above events, unless specified, call Nuremberg Actions at 415-458-5299.

Most likely train times: 9:45 AM or 2:45 PM Tues. and Thurs.  
Nonviolent Study Group: Tuesday 10 AM.  
Council Meetings: Wednesday, 7 PM at Peace House 458-5299  
Nuclear Vigil: Last Tuesday each month, 7-8:30 AM.

## MIME TROUPE BENEFIT

The San Francisco Mime Troupe will present the East Bay premiere of its new show, Secrets in the Sand, on Friday March 3 and Saturday March 4 at the Oakland Ensemble Theatre, 142B Alice St. (at 14th). Shows begin at 8 PM. Ticket sales will benefit the Western States Legal Foundation, a non-profit organization which provides legal support for peace and environmental activists. (Western States has provided much help to Nuremberg Actions.)

In Secrets in the Sand, a young black singer whose star is on the rise, suspects that nuclear weapons testing just may have had something to do with the untimely death of her actor/father. In her quest for the truth, she uncovers secrets she never thought were possible. Secrets in the Sand reveals what happens when Motown meets Hollywood on the 'hot' sands of the Utah desert. Tickets are \$10 in advance/\$12 at the door, available at the box office, Black Oak Books, the Sierra Club Bookstore & The Rock Shop in Oak/Berk. and the Greenpeace Store in SF.

Enjoy an evening with America's finest theater of political comedy and support our good friends at Western States!. For more information, call 415-839-5877.

**Nuremberg Actions**  
PO Box 1637, Pittsburg CA 94565