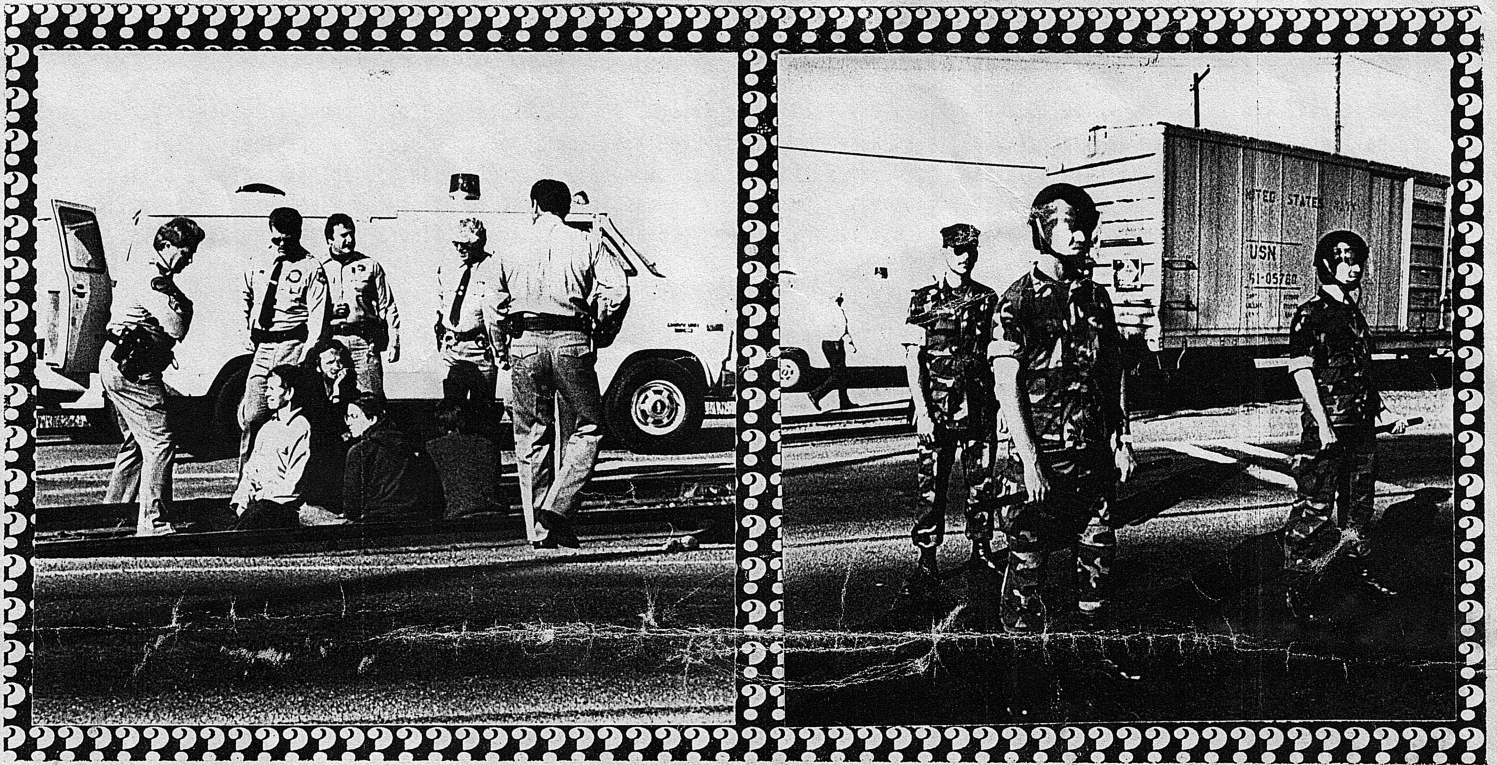


NUREMBERG ACTIONS



WHY WE'RE STILL HERE: ONGOING CONFLICT IN CENTRAL AMERICA

Since the cease-fire between the Nicaraguan Government and the Contras, many people are confused about why Nuremberg Actions continues to protest at the Concord Naval Weapons Station. While little is said in the U.S. press, conflict is continuing or escalating in most Central American nations. The U.S. citizens continue to foot the bill for the bullets and the bombs.

HONDURAS: PUSHED TO THE LIMIT

The situation in Honduras is explosive, and worsening every day. Hondurans, long our stablest allies in the region, are finally exploding over U.S. policy in their country. The recent deployment of 3,200 more U.S. troops and tons of munitions only added fuel to the fire. The U.S. kidnapping and torture of Juan Matta, a Honduran business leader and philanthropist with alleged drug connections, was an insulting violation of Honduran law and brought thousands into the streets in protest. 4 were shot. Unprecedented ties between left and right wing groups were formed with the stated goal of 'defending Honduras' constitution and national sovereignty.'

Hondurans are infuriated by the complicity of their own military, both in furthering U.S. interests, and in drug dealing themselves. A Honduran official told Radio America in Honduras that he had seen a memorandum from Elliot Abrams to President Jose Azcona saying that if Matta was handed over, the U.S. would not prosecute 5 Honduran colonels for drug charges: the Minister of Defense, the head of Military Intelligence, the head of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Commander of the Navy, and the Honduran representative to the Inter-American Defense Board in Washington.

The Organization of American States charged the Honduran Government in January with maintaining army death squads that caused the disappearance of civilians. 2 key witnesses were immediately shot to death. Several U.S. officials and former squad members assert that the CIA trained Honduran soldiers who worked in the death squads. The U.S. continues to train the Honduran military and supply them with munitions.

Requested U.S. aid for Honduras in 1988: \$242 million.

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GUATAMALA: ILLEGAL U.S. AID

Between 1980 and 1985, 50,000 to 75,000 unarmed civilians were killed in the Guatemalan army's counter-insurgency operations. By their own account, 440 villages were destroyed. The army now supports a civilian president, Vinicio Cerezo, but as one Army officer explained, " (Cerezo) is a project of ours...This civilian project is really a military project. We can defend the country better that way. That's why we were the first to press for elections." The military exacted promises from Cerezo of no major economic reforms and no prosecution of Army officers for past human rights crimes.

Selective disappearances and killings by security forces have not stopped. A 1987 Americas Watch report notes that "the human rights situation in Guatemala remains terrible. The armed forces continue to engage in great numbers of violent abuses and they remain a law unto themselves." In March 1987 alone, there were over 100 political killings.

Well over 2 1/2 million Guatemalans cannot maintain minimal living standards. The standard of living has dropped to the level of 1971. 325,000 live in shantytowns in Guatemala City lacking the most essential services. Guatemala's wealthy have the lowest tax rate in Central America.

Despite U.S. law prohibiting aid to governments that engage in a "consistent pattern of gross violations of internationally recognized human rights", U.S. aid has been reinstated under Reagan and increased dramatically.

Requested U.S. aid for Guatemala in 1988: \$150 million.

EL SALVADOR: THE WAR DRAGS ON

In a letter to President Carter dated 2/17/80 Archbishop Oscar Romero pleaded, "I ask you, if you truly want to defend human rights, forbid that military aid be given to the Salvadoran government." It's as true now as the day he was shot, a month after writing the letter. Since then, El Salvador has received 3 billion dollars, currently at the rate of \$2.1 million a day. And yet, for the average Salvadoran, living conditions are worse than they were before. 3 out of 4 children suffer from malnutrition. One in four will die by the age of 5. 40% of the population are refugees or have been displaced. The war drags on and on, and the U.S. taxpayer foots the bill. Even Oliver North, in Iran-Contra testimony, admitted that until 1985 the CIA ran bold small-unit expeditions into rebel-held territory, in addition to the regular U.S. military trainers who are supposed to stay out of combat. And yet, the military which has quintupled since 1980 and conducted the most intense aerial bombing in the history of the Western Hemisphere is further from ending the war now than they were in the beginning. Military casualties were up 24% in 1987. Displaced people number 750,000 within the country's border, and many more have fled. 70,000 civilians have been killed or disappeared.

The recent elections for Legislative seats and mayors, offering a choice between two right-wing parties, was called by one observer "the election between the robbers and the murderers. The murderers won." Disgusted by the corruption and misappropriation of U.S. aid within the ruling Christian Democrat party, the few who participated in the elections voted strongly for ARENA, the party of Roberto d'Aubuisson, widely accused as the hand that directed Romero's assassination and other death squad activity and torture.

Requested U.S. aid for El Salvador in 1988: \$439 million.

PANAMA THE NEW BATTLE FRONT

In the face of drug-related law suits and congressional inquiries which raise questions about the CIA, the National Security Council and the freelancers known as 'The Secret Team' who surfaced during the Iran-Contra hearings, the U.S. has decided to cut General Manuel Noriega loose. On the CIA payroll for some 20 years, he has many a tale to tell. This decision came days after Noriega revealed a U.S. plan to divert Soviet weapons to El Salvador where they would be 'discovered' and blamed on the Nicaraguan government. The U.S. stranglehold on the Panamanian economy is making enemies fast. The future transfer of ownership of the canal concerns many, including Reagan who once said the Canal Zone was as much a part of the U.S. as Texas. One hispanic Marine has been shot so far, by fellow Marines in the dark.