

October 1990

Volume 6, Number 7

# The MONTHLY PLANET

Published by the Santa Cruz County Nuclear Weapons Freeze



"HEY— WILL YA LOOK AT THAT!  
I DON'T LOOK SO BAD."

## THE NEWS

# MEDIA:

Preparing

# America

for

# WAR

THE MONTHLY PLANET  
c/o Nuclear Weapons Freeze  
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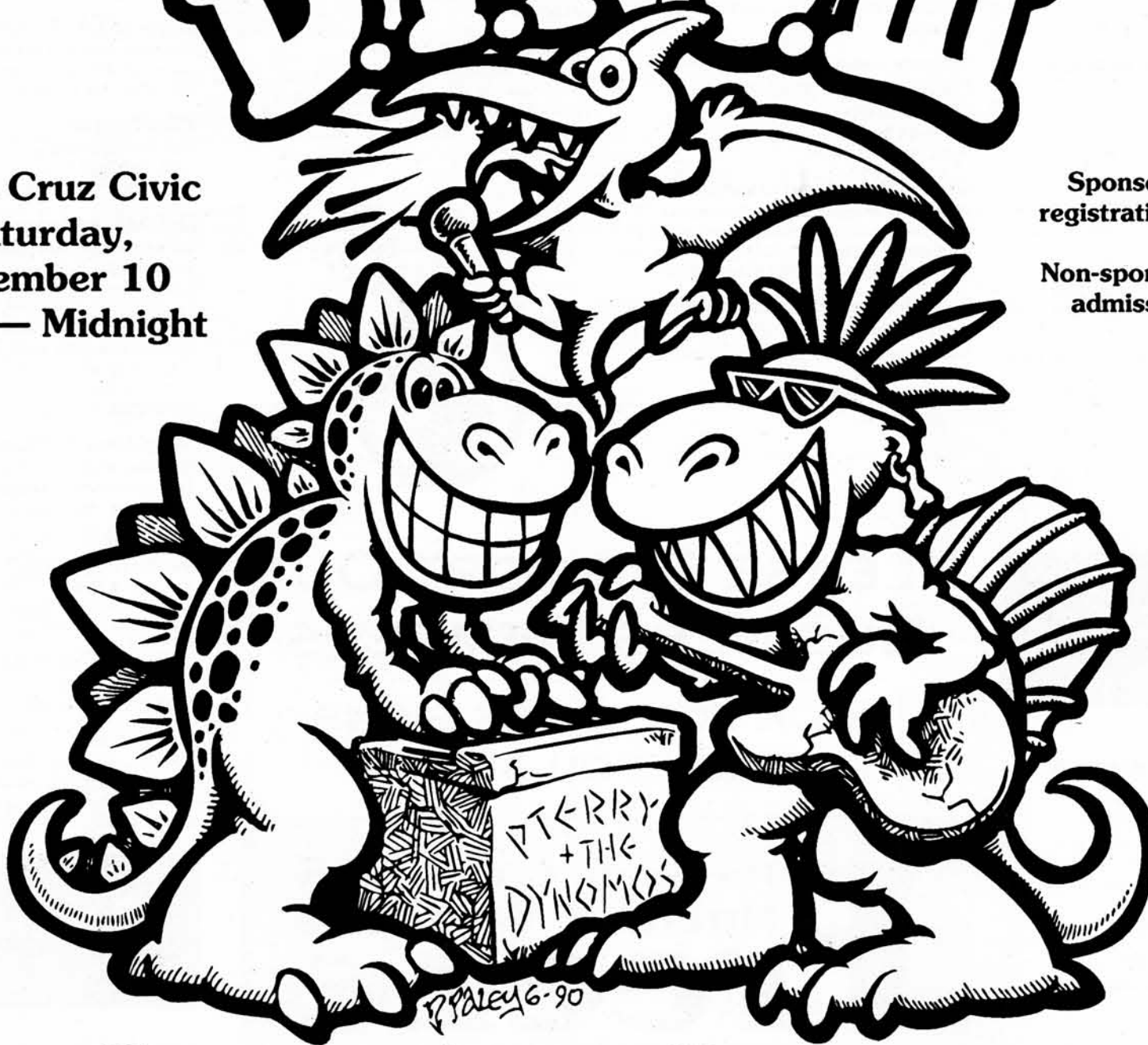


# DYNO III

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**Sponsored dancer  
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influence the media —  
be the media"**

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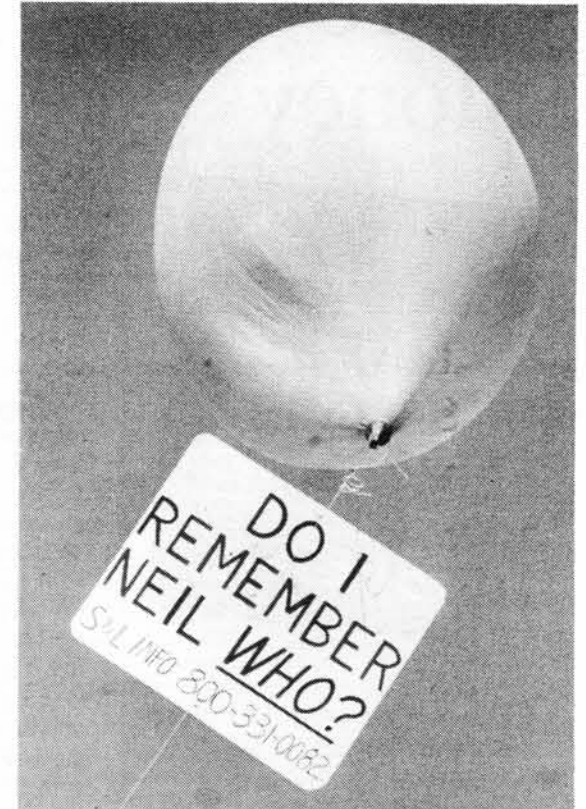
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TARMO HANNULA/MONTHLY PLANET

## Rally for Peace in the Middle East

Saturday,  
October 13  
at 1 p.m.

Mission Plaza Park  
Santa Cruz

See the calendar listing  
for details

## Deadlines

for the November *Monthly Planet*  
(Publication date: Thursday, November 1)

Display Ads:

Tuesday, October 23, 5 p.m.

Calendar Items:

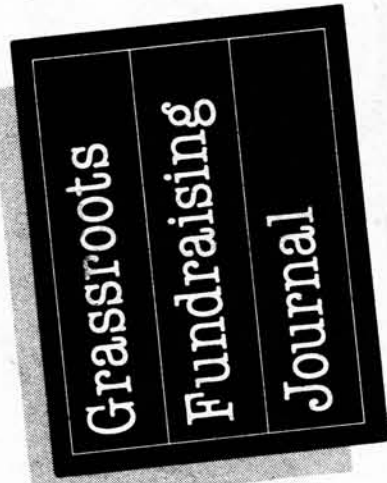
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(no phone calls, please)

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## Write to the Planet!

Send your typed, double spaced (or legibly written) letters to *The Monthly Planet*, Box 8463, Santa Cruz, CA 95061. We reserve the right to edit letters for brevity or clarity.

## Testing Must Stop

Underground testing of nuclear weapons must be stopped. The original 118 nations that signed the 1963 Partial Test Ban Treaty will convene at the United Nations in January 1991 with the goal of ending underground nuclear testing.

A majority of the 118 nations can amend the treaty, but that majority must include the U.S, Great Britain, and the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union had indicated it will vote for the ban; the U.S. has said it will oppose it. Great Britain is likely to follow the U.S. That means that nuclear testing, with all its deadly consequences, would continue in spite of a majority mandate.

The Soviet Union unilaterally stopped nuclear testing in 1985 for 18 months, inviting the U.S. to join. The U.S. refused. In the 1970's, 70 percent of America's voters petitioned for a nuclear weapons freeze. The U.S. government ignored this mandate. It is now up to us to demand a ban on all nuclear testing and stand with our global community in creating a nuclear-free world.

The Santa Cruz Branch of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom feels that if we Americans knew the extent to which our health and the earth's environment are being destroyed by nuclear weapons production and testing, our outcry would be massive.

WILPF members plan to spread the word. We invite everyone to join us. There are petitions to sign, letters to write, marches and demonstrations to join. On October 22 there will be a demonstration at Lawrence Livermore Labs to commemorate the One Year Anniversary of the halt of Soviet nuclear weapons testing. To join us call Ruth Hunter, 423-9707. Let's work for a nuclear-free world.

Lea Wood  
 Aptos



ELIZABETH WILLIAMS/MONTHLY PLANET

## A Timely Crisis

Prior to the timely "crisis" in the Persian Gulf, the headlines were that four out of the six top U.S. banks are insolvent, and Kuwait, one of the richest countries in the world, was threatening to withdraw its very sizable investments — we're talking megabucks — out of the U.S. in anticipation of a severe recession in this country. At the same time, the 1991 Defense Budget was coming up for discussion in Congress, and severe cuts were proposed as the result of our recent loss on an enemy.

"Suddenly," one of our Mideast puppet dictators, "formerly" in the pocket of the CIA, invades Kuwait, thus enabling us to freeze Kuwaiti assets in the U.S. and lay to rest the "frightening" (to the Pentagon) specter of proposed reductions in the military budget. How convenient! We now have an enemy, and have forestalled economic ruin.

And the American public, as well as world opinion, is "buying" the U.S. government's portrayal of Saddam as a madman: as mad as any dictator, starving and oppressing his people, and answering to the commands of our "freedom-loving, democratic" government, i.e. the Secret Team.

And today, the U.S. government has announced its intention to "kill the leadership of Iraq." They'd better, before he talks! Shades of Noriega...

Seek out alternative news sources; the mainstream U.S. media is bought and paid for by big business, as is "our" government.

Thank You,  
 Marion Sue Fischer  
 Santa Cruz

## Who Gains?

So George Bush says he's not going to give up on his ideas to cut the capital gains tax from 33 percent to 15 percent.

So some smart dude who invested crude (oil, that is) two months ago, who has already doubled his money — if he holds on to that investment until the end of the year he will quadruple his money (according to the World Bank) and will get the tax on that blood money cut by more than half.

But don't worry everybody. That money is going to trickle down and benefit all of us. After all, we're going to need that money to afford the gas to keep on driving our cars to work every day.

George, take your capital gains tax cut and fold it over six times and stick it where the sun don't shine.

Carlos Kumbha  
 Davenport

## Boycott Safeway & The Gap

I brought your July issue with me as airplane reading as there was just too much to do before leaving for my holiday here in England. I know how swamped I'll be when I return in September — hence this letter.

Your newsletter is always great and I think you do a great job of getting the word out especially through your advertisements — as well as your listing of organizations. We of the Brooklyn Peace Coalition rely on the individual group newsletters — 2-to-3-page affairs.

The reason for my writing is the listing on page nine of the contributors to the defeat of Nuclear Free Zones. The ones we as consumers can have an effect upon are Safeway and The Gap. I'm not sure we have a local Safeway (my immediate neighborhood, Bay Ridge, has about 100,000 population). The Gap has a store in a local shopping area and has stores that I know of in New Jersey and Florida. Why don't we think in terms if a national boycott. If we can spread the word, perhaps we can organize a day or a week when all SANE/FREEZE groups will picket and gather petitions outside of these chains. Before I give this suggestion though, can you give me an idea of your sources? How do you know The Gap and Safeway contribute to the defeat of NFZs? They don't fit that group of contributors.

Keep up all your good work.

Cordially,  
 Hortense A. Lopez  
 Brooklyn, NY

Editor's note: The list of corporations that contributed money to defeat Alameda County's Measure A was compiled from campaign spending reports filed by the group opposing the initiative.



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\*NOTE: THIS IS ONE OF THE ONLY TIMES THE FOOD BIN MARQUIS HAS BEEN USED FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES



## Operation Green-Sweep:

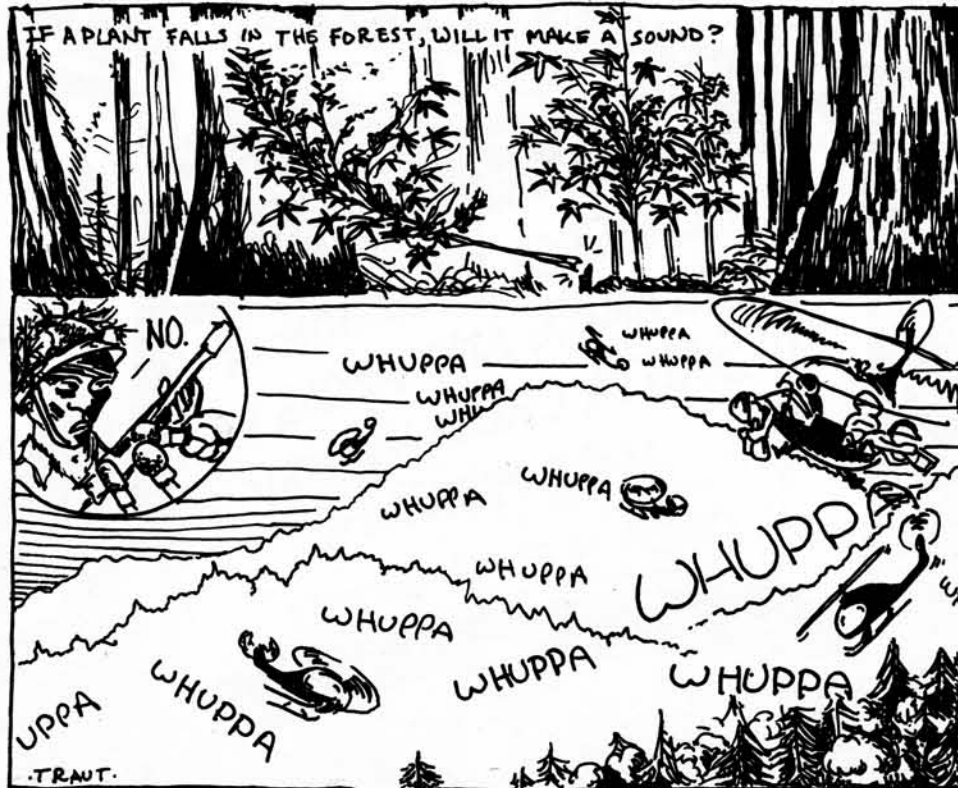
# The Military Invades Humboldt County

by Jonnie Gilman

Few people outside of Humboldt County are aware that a major federal paramilitary operation took place in Northern California this summer. Operation Green-Sweep, called the largest federal anti-marijuana effort on public land by the Bush administration, was a product of the President's recent drug control strategy. Beginning in the last week of July, the southwestern corner of Humboldt County was subjected to tactics of surveillance, invasion, and the occupying presence of approximately 300 heavily armed government troops.

The first reports of troop sightings were made to the media on July 24th. That day residents and visitors of the Whale Gulch and Chemise Mountain areas encountered groups of five to 15 men dressed in camouflage uniforms with blackened faces carrying M-16 rifles. In one instance, a 16-year-old girl hiking down one of the public trails in the Conservation Area was accosted by a group of men who refused to identify themselves or speak to her, but kept their rifles pointed at her until she fled. In another instance, a resident found his gates cut open and a group of men on his property. When he asked them for identification and a statement of purpose, they also refused to identify themselves and held him at gunpoint for at least 20 minutes before allowing him to leave. Many similar incidents were reported by residents, and in each case the intruders refused to identify themselves.

Official word from both the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Campaign Against Marijuana Program (CAMP) denied any knowledge or involvement. In fact, Barron Bail, the acting area manager



for the BLM Arcata office, actually suggested that the men could be "civilians playing soldier," adding that he hoped that wasn't the case.

After a week of official evasion, on Sunday, July 29th, a procession of 22 military vehicles, including camouflaged troop transports and a half dozen US Air Force vehicles, rolled through the town of Redway at mid-morning. Quickly dispelling any illusions of official non-involvement, they bivouacked in the King's Range National Recreation Area at a remote campsite about

three miles east of Shelter Cove, an area that was quickly sealed from public view. The Federal Aviation Administration barred civilian air traffic from flying below 5,000 feet over an area of 1,200 square miles during the operation. An estimated 300 troops were deployed, composed of BLM rangers, National Guard troops, and soldiers from the 7th Light Infantry Division stationed at Fort Ord. The Coast Guard and the Air National Guard were also involved. Seven helicopters flown in from Fort Ord became a routine sight, hovering low over private

homesteads as well as public lands.

Many residents felt as though they were living in a war zone, resenting the cavalier and heavy-handed manner in which military force was used in their neighborhoods. As one local editorial stated: "With every major city's streets, including the nation's capital, littered with bodies during a record year for murder and other violent crimes, the government calls out the Army and sends them to Humboldt County."

Local response to Operation Green-Sweep was vocal and immediate. A succession of demonstrations, beginning with about 100 protesters on August 1st, were organized at the gate of the encampment. A significant cross-section of the community was evident. Many interviewed expressed outrage at the level of force used, displaying signs reading "Our Freedom, Our Earth, Going, Going, Gone"; "Stop US Military Terrorism"; "When the Army Becomes the Police, You Have a Police State"; "Where's the War"; and "Your Town Next."

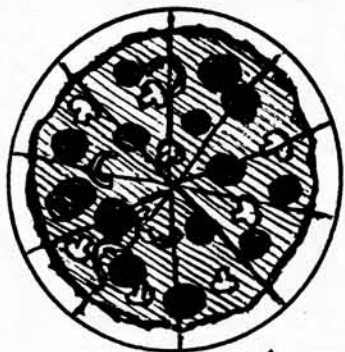
A second demonstration was organized the following Thursday. The media were officially invited and the number of protesters rose to 300. The police escorted four vanloads of reporters past the demonstration, across the roped-off "no-man's-land" occupied by state police, through to the military encampment. An air show staged for their benefit consisted of helicopters dangling wrapped bundles of captured marijuana plants. Despite the large numbers of reporters present, few made their way into the crowd, and out-of-area press coverage was almost nonexistent.

The ranks of protesters swelled to almost 1,000 at the third demonstration, due to the invitation extended to persons attending the annual "Reggae on the River" concert held at nearby Angel's Camp that weekend. This demonstration reflected a more festive mood, and numerous individuals were observed openly smoking marijuana.

There were no arrests made at the demonstrations, nor was anyone arrested during the course of Operation Green-Sweep. However, a few people were unofficially "detained" for varying amounts of time.

According to National Guard Lieutenant Stan Zezotarski, the goal of the operation was to "return the public lands to the people...There's strong evidence. We've found several marijuana gardens in the area. We want to make it safe for the public again."

U.S. Representative Douglas Bosco (D-Occidental, CA) said that the idea for the operation stemmed from a conversation between Bush and Colombia's then-president Virgilio Barco at the drug summit in Colombia last February. According to Bosco, Bush asked Barco for help in curbing Colombia's production and export of cocaine to the United States. Barco reportedly then turned to Bush and said, "You're down here asking us to clean up. What



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about the marijuana grown on the North Coast of California?" Later, Bush asked "drug czar" William Bennett to devise a plan to respond to Barco's concerns, Bosco said. The resulting Operation Green-Sweep was unprecedented in its use of federal troops.

Falling in step, Chauncey Veatch, chair of California Governor Deukmejian's Council on Drug and Alcohol Abuse, offered the following statement: "It's part of a trend. We have to carry the war on drugs to every place in the state. We're asking our Latin American neighbors to defoliate to get rid of drugs. We have to do something in return."

Eric Sterling, president of the Criminal Justice Policy Foundation in Washington, suggests that the raiders may have intentionally intimidated the rural residents because many of them are former anti-war protesters who have remained active in progressive causes. The ironic use of the name "Operation Green-Sweep" has not escaped the notice of a number of people. It has been common knowledge for years that large, anonymous donations of money have come from the area supporting various environmental groups including Earth First!. Many have expressed the strong conviction that there is indeed a connection to a larger pattern of government harassment of the Green Movement.

Other observers contend that using military forces against marijuana in a sparsely populated area provides a sure-fire public relations payoff. It exposes the uniformed

raiders to no real danger, and the government to "a manageable political backlash at home."

"They're much safer up there in the woods," said Mark A. R. Kleiman, a lecturer at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. "Can you imagine what would happen if you had a bunch of National Guard troops in Los Angeles trying to catch crack dealers?"

Subsequent published reports emphasized the 1,200 marijuana plants and 500 tons of ancillary hardware successfully seized in the raid on BLM land. Readers were officially assured that the public lands were safe now and that vacationers could once again hike on BLM land without being ambushed by outlaw marijuana growers. All this was accomplished at a staggering \$700,000 estimated cost to the agencies involved. Commenting on the expense, Peter Reuter, a drug policy expert at the Rand Corporation in Washington, said cleaning up public lands "alone is a decent reason" to applaud such operations, and that it would be justified if it discouraged a single pot user.

Although the action may discourage some growers, it is generally acknowledged that prior raids in the past by CAMP, while limiting the availability of marijuana, raised prices significantly. Thus, pot growing became a more profitable venture for some. As Dennis Peron, a high-profile convicted marijuana dealer and former candidate for San Francisco supervisor quipped, "Now you can grow less and make more."

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# Senate OK's Sweeping Powers for President to Conduct Covert Actions

by Shelly D'Amour

At press time, the Senate has just passed a bill that, if enacted, would officially recognize covert operations as an instrument of U.S. foreign policy, and give the president sweeping powers to authorize such operations without prior knowledge or consent of Congress.

Senate Bill 2834, the Intelligence Authorizations Act, provides approximately \$30 billion for intelligence activities for fiscal year 1991. Much of the bill is classified information, with funds distributed among nine government entities which engage in intelligence work including: the Central Intelligence Agency, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Defense, the Department of State, the Department of the Treasury, the Defense Intelligence Agency, the National Security Agency, the Department of Energy and the three branches of the military. Only the president and House and Senate Appropriations Committee members have access to the classified information contained in the bill.

At issue is language contained in Title VII of the bill — "Oversight of Intelligence Activities" — which proponents claim is a "reform" measure designed to prevent the kind of constitutional abuses that occurred during the Iran-Contra operation. What the legislation in fact does is legalize many of those very same activities.

For example, the bill would allow the president to enlist the support of third parties such as other countries, foreign nationals living outside the United States, private corporations, and others, to accomplish U.S. intelligence aims. Such third parties might fund and/or conduct covert operations with complete impunity, far from the prying eyes of Congress or the American people. Dur-

ing the Iran-Contra scandal, the assistance of third countries such as Iran, Saudi Arabia and Brunei proved instrumental in circumventing the congressional ban on aid to the Contras. In the case of Saudi Arabia, Lt. Colonel Oliver North convinced Congress to allow the Saudis to purchase \$8.5 billion in AWACS surveillance planes in 1981. A grateful King Fahd later "donated" \$32 million to the Nicaraguan Contras at a time when such assistance was illegal in the United States. The proposed intelligence bill states that the president need only relay to Congress that he is "contemplating" using a third party source either for funding or for conducting secret activity. He is not obliged to disclose the identity of the source to Congress.

The most significant aspect of S.2834 is that it seeks to establish covert activity as a legitimate instrument of U.S. foreign policy. Although covert activity has been widely employed by intelligence operatives for decades, its use has never been officially sanctioned in law. Covert activity is defined in this act as "an activity or activities conducted by an element of the United States Government to influence political, economic, or military conditions abroad so that the role of the United States Government is not intended to be apparent or acknowledged publicly." Proponents of S.2834 say that their bill recognizes covert activity as a kind of political fact of life, and seeks to provide parameters around it in order to prevent potential abuse. To the contrary, the legislation puts unprecedented powers of discretion and decision-making into the hands of the president alone.

The legislation stipulates that the president must submit a report called a finding to the intelligence committees prior to com-

mencement of a covert operation (unless such operation is of an emergency nature, in which case the president must submit the finding within 48 hours after the covert operation has taken place). S.2834 makes clear that the nature of the finding is purely advisory — "the approval of the intelligence committees is not a condition precedent to the initiation of any intelligence activity." Furthermore, the president may elect to withhold any information from Congress which he deems a national security risk.

Another factor is that the bill appears to legitimize the use of federal agencies other than the CIA to carry out covert activities. Again, although various federal agencies have been utilized for covert operations in the past, the legality of this kind of maneuver has never been formally addressed. Now, it appears that Congress wishes to officially empower the president to use any branch of the federal government he wishes for covert undertakings. Section 503 (b) reads: "...the Director of Central Intelligence and the heads of all departments, agencies, and other entities of the United States Government involved in a covert action shall..."

Far from seeking to correct the abuses of presidential power that occurred in the Iran-Contra ordeal, Congress has merely acted to legalize them. In abdicating its responsibility as watchdog over the executive branch, Congress has handed the presidency a virtual carte blanche of executive privilege.

The Senate passed S.2834 on an unrecorded voice vote. At this writing the House is considering its own version of the intelligence bill, HR.5422. The House bill does not contain the section on oversight. When the measure goes to conference committee,

House conferees will be under enormous pressure to accept the language on oversight into the final version of the bill.

*Action: It is extremely important that our congressional representatives hear from us on this important issue. Call your representative and senators (toll-free Capitol Switchboard number 800-852-3446). Tell them to vote against the final version of the intelligence bill if it contains the oversight provisions adopted by the Senate.*

## Military Budget

Action is now completed on the House version of the fiscal year 1991 Defense Authorizations Bill. The bill establishes an overall figure of \$283 billion to be spread

*continued on page 12*

## Contact Your Representatives

**President George Bush**  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500  
(202) 456-1414

**Senator Alan Cranston**  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510  
(202) 224-3553 / (415) 556-8440

**Senator Pete Wilson**  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510  
(202) 224-3841 / (415) 556-4307

**Congressmember Leon Panetta**  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-2861 / (408) 429-1976  
(16th congressional district)

**Congressmember Tom Campbell**  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-5411 / (408) 245-4835  
(12th congressional district)

## Hotlines

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(Council for a Livable World)  
(202) 543-0006

**Friends Committee on National Legislation**  
(202) 547-4343

**Central America Legislative Hotline**  
(Central America Working Group)  
(202) 543-2282

**Testing Alert Network Hotline**  
(American Peace Test reports on activities at the Nevada Test Site)  
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**Anti-Apartheid Hotline**  
(Washington Office on Africa)  
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(202) 223-NICA

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# Excerpts from S.2834

## TITLE VII — OVERSIGHT OF INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

### Sec. 702. CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT

(a) IN GENERAL. — Section 501 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C.413) is amended to read as follows:

#### CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT

"Sec. 501. (a) The President shall ensure that the Select committee on Intelligence of the Senate and the Permanent Select Committee of the House of Representatives (hereafter in this title referred to as the 'intelligence committees') are kept fully and currently informed of the intelligence activities of the United States, including any significant anticipated intelligence activities, as required by this title, except that —

"(1) nothing contained in this title shall be construed as requiring the approval of the intelligence committees as a condition precedent to the initiation of such activities; and

"(2) nothing contained in this title shall be construed as a limitation on the power of the President to initiate such activities in a manner consistent with his powers conferred by the Constitution.

"(b) The President shall ensure that any illegal intelligence activity is reported to the intelligence committees, as well as any corrective action that has been taken or is planned in connection with such illegal activity.

"(c) The President and the intelligence committees shall each establish procedures as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this title.

"(d) The House of Representatives and the Senate, in consultation with the Director of Central Intelligence, shall each establish, by rule or resolution of such House, procedures to protect from unauthorized disclosure all classified information and all information relating to intelligence sources and methods furnished to the intelligence committees or to Members of Congress under this title. In accordance with such procedures, each of the intelligence committees shall promptly call to the attention of its respective House, or to any appropriate committee or committees of its respective House, any matter relating to intelligence activities requiring the attention of such House or such committee or committees.

"(e) As used in this section, the term 'intelligence activities' includes 'covert actions', as defined in subsection 503 (e)."

(b) INFORMATION REQUIRED TO BE DISCLOSED; FINDINGS. — The National Security Act of 1947 is amended —

(1) by redesignating sections 502 and 503 as sections 504 and 505 respectively; and

(2) by inserting after section 501 the following:

"REPORTING INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES OTHER THAN COVERT ACTIONS"

"Sec. 502. To the extent consistent with due regard for the protection from unauthorized disclosure of classified information relating to sensitive intelligence sources and methods or other exceptionally sensitive matters, the Director of Central Intelligence and the heads of all departments, agencies, and other entities of the United States Government involved in intelligence activities shall —

"(1) keep the intelligence committees fully and currently informed of all intelligence activities, other than covert actions, as defined in subsection 503 (e), which are the responsibility of, are engaged in by, or are carried out for or on behalf of, any department, agency, or entity of the United States Government, including any significant anticipated intelligence activity and significant failures; and

"(2) furnish the intelligence committees any information or material concerning intelligence activities other than covert actions which is within their custody or control and which is required by either of the intelligence committees in order to carry out its authorized responsibilities.

"PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL AND REPORTING COVERT ACTIONS

"Sec. 503. (a) The President may authorize the conduct of covert actions by departments, agencies, or entities of the United States Government only when he determines that such activities are necessary to support the foreign policy objectives of the United States and are important to the national security of the United States, which determination shall be set forth in a finding that shall meet each of the following conditions:

"(1) Each finding shall be in writing, unless immediate action by the United States is required and time does not permit the preparation of a written finding, in which case a written record of the President's decision shall be contemporaneously made and shall be reduced to a written finding as soon as possible but in no event more than 48 hours after the decision is made.

"(2) A finding may not authorize or sanction covert actions, or any aspect of such activities, which have already occurred.

"(3) Each finding shall specify each and every department, agency or entity of the United States Government authorized to fund or otherwise participate in any significant way in such activities, except that any employee, contractor, or contract

agent of a department, agency, or entity of the United States Government (other than the Central Intelligence Agency) directed to participate in any way in a covert action shall be subject to the policies and regulations of the Central Intelligence Agency, or to written policies or regulations adopted by such department, agency, or entity, governing such participation.

"(4) Each finding shall specify whether it is contemplated that any third party which is not an element, contractor, or contract agent of the United States Government, or is not otherwise subject to the United States Government policies or regulations, will be used to fund or otherwise participate in any significant way in the covert action concerned or be used to undertake the covert action concerned on behalf of the United States.

"(5) A finding may not authorize any action intended to influence United States political processes, public opinion, policies, or media.

"(6) A finding may not authorize any action which violates the Constitution of the United States or any statutes of the United States.

"(b) To the extent consistent with due regard for the protection from unauthorized disclosure of classified information relating to sensitive intelligence sources and methods, or other exceptionally sensitive matters, the Director of Central Intelligence and the heads of all departments, agencies, and other entities of the United States Government involved in a covert action shall —

"(1) keep the intelligence committees fully and currently informed of all covert actions which are the responsibility of, are engaged in by, or are carried out for or on behalf of, any department, agency, or entity of the United States Government, including significant failures; and

"(2) furnish to the intelligence community any information or material concerning covert actions which is in the possession, custody, or control of any department, agency, or entity of the United States Government and which is requested by either of the intelligence committees in order to carry out its authorized responsibilities.

"(c)(1) Except as provided by paragraphs (2) and (3), the President shall ensure that any finding approved, or determination made, pursuant to subsection (a) shall be reported to the intelligence committees before the initiation of the activities authorized.

"(2) On rare occasions, the President may direct that covert actions be initiated before reporting such actions to the intelligence committees. On such occasions, the President shall fully inform the intelligence committees in a timely fashion and shall provide a statement of the reasons for not giving prior notice.

"(3) If the President determines it is essential to meet extraordinary circumstances affecting vital interests of the United States, the President may limit the reporting of findings or determinations pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (2) to the chairmen and ranking minority members of the intelligence committees, the Speaker and Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, and the Majority and Minority leaders of the Senate. In any such case, the President shall provide a statement of the reasons for limiting access to such findings or determinations in accordance with this subsection.

"(4) In each case reported pursuant to paragraph (1), (2), or (3), a copy of the finding, signed by the President, shall be provided to the chairman of each intelligence committee.

"(d) The President shall ensure that the intelligence committees or, if applicable, the Members of Congress specified in subsection (c)(3) are notified of any significant change in a previously approved covert action, or any significant undertaking pursuant to a previously approved finding, in the same manner as findings are reported pursuant to subsection (c).

"(e) As used in this section, the term 'covert action' means an activity or activities conducted by an element of the United States Government to influence political, economic, or military conditions abroad so that the role of the United States Government is not intended to be apparent or acknowledged publicly, but does not include —

"(1) activities the primary purpose of which is to acquire intelligence, traditional counterintelligence activities, traditional activities to improve or maintain the operational security of the United States Government programs, or administrative activities;

"(2) traditional diplomatic or military activities or routine support to such activities; or

"(3) traditional law enforcement activities conducted by United States Government law enforcement agencies or routine support to such activities; or

"(4) activities to provide routine support to the overt activities (other than activities described in paragraph (1), (2), or (3)) of other United States Government agencies abroad."



JIM CARDWELL/MONTHLY PLANET



# Military Budget

continued from page 10

among various military projects in the coming year. In August, the Senate authorized \$288 billion in its version of the spending bill. Final vote on the House bill was 256-155.

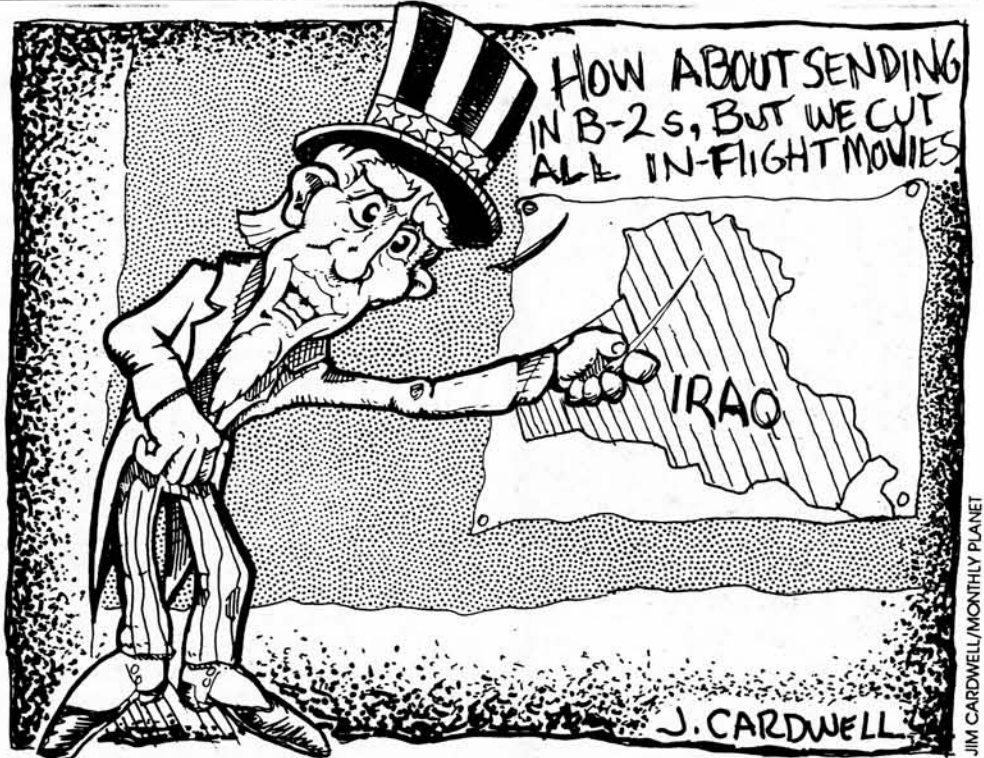
Even prior to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, the budget reflected a completely inadequate response to the vast political changes that have taken place in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. Now, even those meager savings may all go to support the U.S. war in the Middle East. In late August, House Majority Leader Richard Gephardt (D-MO) indicated that military spending will not be cut as deeply as had been originally thought. The cost of this little desert excursion is expected to have topped \$2.5 billion by the end of September.

The composition and structure of U.S. combat and strategic forces has been the focus of congressional debate the last six weeks, as both Congress and the Pentagon try to project and plan for military needs in the context of a rapidly changing world. In a small way, the recent crisis has helped to solidify congressional opposition to increasing funding for nuclear weapons systems that were designed to fight the Cold War. In particular, weapons systems such as the B-2 Stealth bomber and Star Wars are not seen as feasible technologies for dealing

with Third World conflicts. The emphasis is beginning to shift toward lighter, more easily deployed systems. The House Armed Services Committee recently called for the development of more "flexible forces" (sound familiar?) that could be utilized in other potential crises.

Proponents of the B-2 and Star Wars are attempting to craft arguments that would convince their colleagues that these systems are still viable ones. For instance, Star Wars supporters argue that antimissile systems are still needed to counteract ballistic missiles such as those possessed by Iraq. Those who favor the B-2 Stealth bomber insist on the need to have large planes that can transport heavy firepower great distances on short notice. These arguments are apparently falling on deaf ears, however, as both houses of Congress have moved to drastically reduce their financial commitment to these systems.

Nonetheless, it is important to point out that congressional commitment to strategic nuclear forces, and to first-strike nuclear weapons systems in particular, remains in effect. Although funding reductions and program scale-backs are in the works, not one nuclear weapons system will be eliminated this year. Even the B-2 bomber program, whose future fate hangs in the balance, has received congressional assurance for at least the 15 planes currently in production.



JIM CARDWELL/MONTHLY PLANET

House and Senate conferees will meet soon to hammer out the differences between their two bills. What follows is an analysis of the difference between House and Senate positions on major weapons systems:

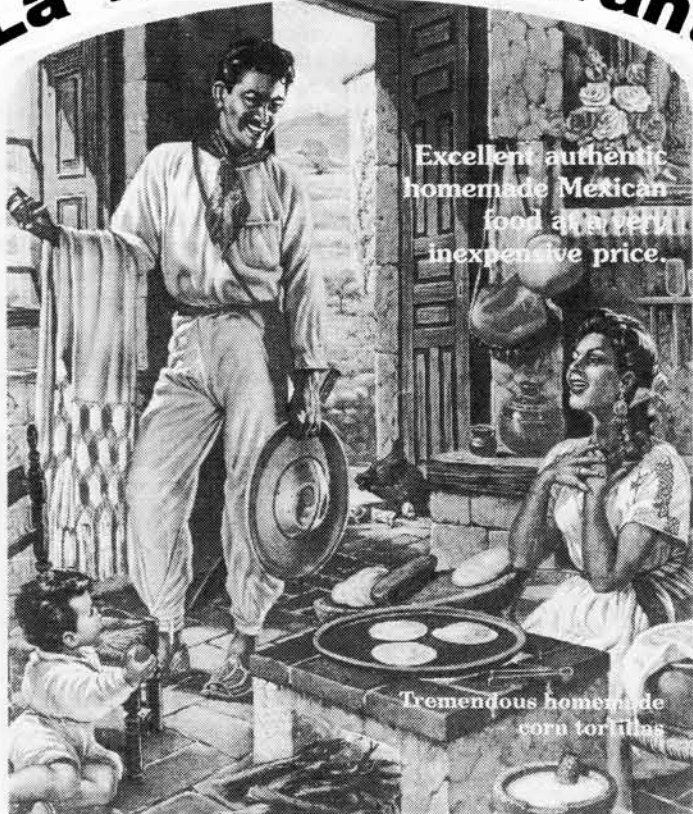
### Stealth (B-2) Bomber

The House deleted a total of \$3.83 billion from the president's request, which included \$2.5 billion for five more planes, \$710 million for components that would be used in 10 planes scheduled for 1992, and \$622 million for B-2 spare parts. Also deleted was \$25 million from a \$96 million

request to expand B-2 facilities at Whiteman Air Force Base in Missouri. In denying these funds, the House Armed Services Committee reiterated its intention to restrict the Stealth program to 15 planes. According to a September 1 article in *Congressional Quarterly*, the committee felt that the current facilities at Whiteman were adequate to house the 15 planes.

By contrast, the Senate defeated all attempts to scale back the B-2 program, voting funds for an additional two bombers. The issue facing conferees is whether or not to support termination of the B-2 pro-

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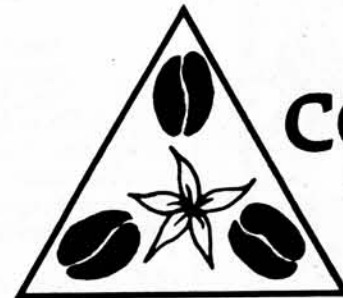


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gram after the current batch of 15 planes is procured.

**Star Wars**

In the House, the Bennett-Ridge amendment to cut Star Wars funding to \$2.3 billion passed on a vote of 225-189. Last month the Senate voted to maintain the current level of funding for the so-called "brilliant pebbles" technology at \$129 million, denying a Pentagon request for an additional \$200 million. Conferees will probably settle on something close to a \$3 billion figure for the Star Wars program, which would still be a billion less than the current year's funding. President Bush had requested almost \$5 billion.

**MX/Midgetman**

The House Armed Services Committee approved \$610 million to be allocated between these two nuclear missile programs, at the discretion of the president. The committee then attached a non-binding resolution to the bill declaring that only one of the programs could be afforded. The committee further deleted \$1.35 billion in procurement funds for rail-launchers, and cancelled the \$105 million still in the pipeline from last year, but not yet spent, for rail MX facilities.

The full House went a step further and by voice vote approved the Mavroules-Hochbrueckner-AuCoin amendment to terminate the rail garrison program completely. In August, the Senate voted to eliminate procurement funds but retained research and development funding. Conferees will take up the issue of R&D funding, and probably allocate some monies in that direction.

**Trident II (D-5)**

The House Armed Services Committee concurred with the Senate, and approved \$1.14 billion towards construction of the 18th Trident submarine, but advised the Navy not to count on funding for any additional ships. The committee also approved procurement of 42 nuclear missiles at \$1.34 billion. Eight of the Trident subs are equipped with older Trident I (C-4) missiles. Once its entire fleet is in place, the Navy would like to replace the C-4 missiles with D-5's, which have first-strike capacity. Representative Ted Weiss (D-NY) offered his annual amendment to stop the retrofitting of older Trident subs with D-5 missiles. The amendment was overwhelmingly defeated, as usual.

The D-5 missile system has been plagued with a series of technical problems during testing. Last May, a *Washington Post* exclusive revealed how the design of the missile made it vulnerable to accidents resulting in the scatter of plutonium dust.

**Nuclear Testing**

The Bosco-Fascell-Leach amendment passed by a comfortable margin of 234-182. The resolution calls on the president to support the upcoming United Nations Test Ban Conference, and to begin negotiations toward a comprehensive test ban treaty. The Senate passed no similar legislation.

Test ban amendments to-date have never survived conference committee. President Bush has stated his unequivocal opposition to ending nuclear testing, and in the past has threatened to veto bills that contained testing legislation. The pressure will be on

House conferees to drop any language regarding a test ban from the final version of the bill.

**Economic Conversion**

The House approved on a vote of 288-128 the Mavroules-Gephardt-Oakar Economic Conversion/Adjustment amendment. The bill would create an economic stabilization council that would work with existing community programs to set up job training and placement services for workers formerly employed by military industries. The council would be comprised of representatives from business, labor and government. A House committee opted to drop the more comprehensive Weiss amendment, which, in addition to the provisions set forth in the Mavroules bill, would have established community-based planning groups to help local communities plan around the impacts that base closures and cutbacks in military contracts would visit on local economies.

However, the Mavroules bill, if it survives conference intact, will be an excellent start on the badly-needed road to economic conversion.

**El Salvador**

The Senate has still to vote on the Dodd-Leahy amendment to the Senate Foreign Aid bill. The amendment would withhold 50 percent of the \$85 million in military aid being requested by the Bush Administration. The bill would also cut off monies in the pipeline from last year which haven't been appropriated yet. The House has already passed a similar provision. The United States has sent almost \$5 billion in economic and military aid to El Salvador in the last 10 years.

In late September, Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani went to Washington to make a personal appeal to Congress for continued military aid. Although some congressmembers expressed confidence in what

they termed as Cristiani's "integrity," especially with regard to his pledge to prosecute those responsible for the murders of six Jesuit priests last November, they appeared to remain unmoved on the question of military aid. Apparently, congressional resolve on this issue is strong enough that Vice President Dan Quayle pulled Cristiani aside and expressed his own personal "concern" that the human rights situation in El Salvador was not improving quickly enough. Will wonders ever cease?

*Action: Keep those cards, letters and phone calls coming in! Senate action on the Dodd-Leahy amendment is expected sometime during the first week in October. With about a dozen senators still undecided, the vote will be close. If you live in California, Senator Pete Wilson needs to hear from you.*

*Shelly D'Amour is the legislative editor of The Monthly Planet.*

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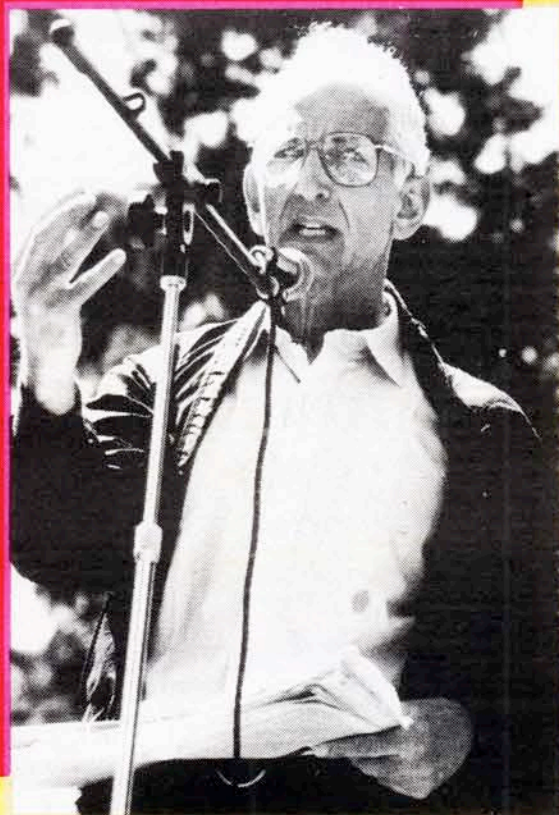


## Not all Americans agree with George Bush:

Approximately 1,000 people gathered in Oakland on September 8th to protest the U.S. military buildup in the Middle East. Demonstrations against U.S. policy have started to appear in cities across the country.



▲ Singer/songwriter/activist **Holly Near.**



▲ Former intelligence analyst **Daniel Ellsberg.**



▲ **Brian Willson**, who lost both legs after being run over by a Navy munitions train while protesting the shipment of weapons to Central America. ▲



▲ Former Berkeley Mayor **Gus Newport.** ▲





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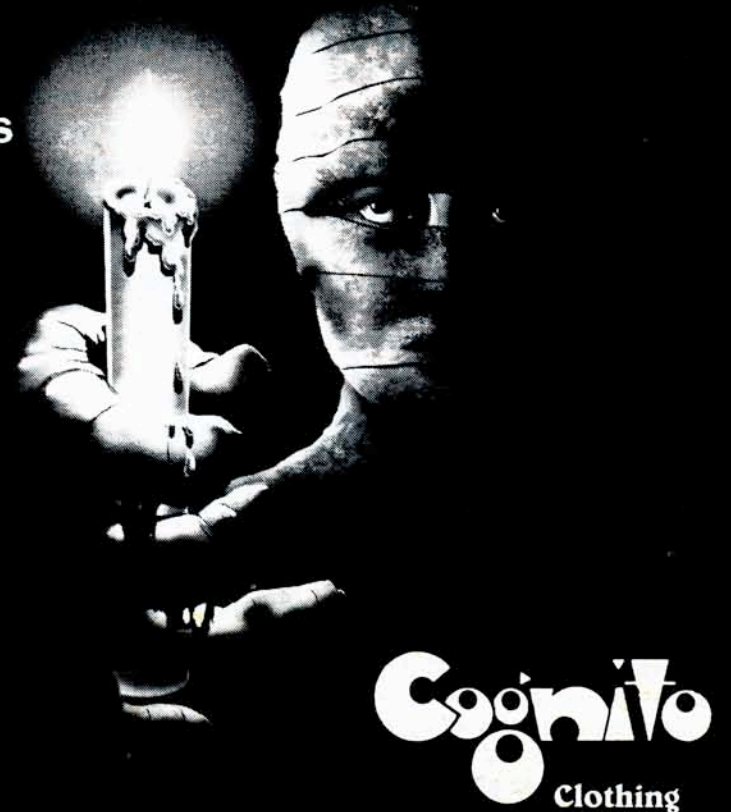


Marine reservist **Eric Larsen** refused his call for duty in the Middle East. ▲

Photos by **Tarmo Hannula**

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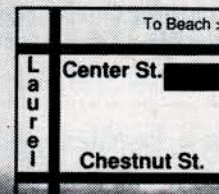
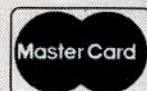
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# The News Media: Preparing America for War

by Norman Solomon

As usual in times of crisis, news outlets around the country are dutifully recycling the media lines put out by elite bastions of the Fourth Estate — the *New York Times* and *Washington Post* — functioning as a virtual fourth branch of government.

In a "news analysis" that appeared Aug. 20, *Times* reporter R.W. Apple Jr. imparted

## ANALYSIS

the official wisdom: "The obituaries were a bit premature. There is still one superpower in the world, and it is the United States. More than any other country in the world, its interests, its exposure and its reach are global, as the events of the last two weeks have demonstrated so vividly. Washington is not the backwater that it seemed to some when the action was all in the streets of Prague or at the Berlin wall."

Six days later, *San Francisco Examiner* correspondent Jonathan Broder led off his front-paged analysis article with a hearty echo of the model Timespeak: "The United

States, written off as a fading giant, doomed to near-irrelevance in the post-Cold War era, is emerging from the Persian Gulf crisis as the world's only superpower. The dramatic events of the past three weeks have demonstrated that the reports of America's abdication of world leadership to West Germany and Japan are premature."

Apple in the *Times*: "The show of force was useful, furthermore, precisely because some people had begun to doubt American will in the post-cold war era...So it is the United States, not Germany or Japan, that has drawn the line in the sand against an Iraqi attack on Saudi Arabia..."

Broder in the *Examiner*: "In the new, multipolar world, it is Washington, not Tokyo or Bonn, that drew a line in the sand after Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait."

In the deadly echo chamber that spans from the New York Times Company to the timeworn Hearst empire, from coast to coast and across the liberal-conservative spectrum of corporate America, the media war drums are beating, complete with strained rhetoric and imitative prattle masquerading as sage news judgments.

Separation between press and state has

narrowed to the vanishing point.

As U.S. troops rush into the Middle East, mass media onslaughts here at home are paralleling the military assaults being mapped at the Pentagon. Presenting military might as the solution for a foreign crisis, slanted news accounts and bogus "debates" are requisite materiel for top planners within the military-industrial-media complex.

Trust in mainstream media — whether daily newspapers, newsweeklies, the big networks or ostensibly noncommercial outlets like PBS and NPR — is especially dangerous as the U.S. government mobilizes for war. We are no more likely to get any semblance of balanced reporting from public television (with its "MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour" funded by AT&T and Pepsico) than from NBC (owned by General Electric). And listeners will depend on National Public Radio at their peril; when the U.S. military takes action, NPR's "Morning Edition" and "All Things Considered" do not lag in boosting the war effort.

But while we rely on alternative periodicals and broadcast sources like Pacifica Radio to provide obscured facts and dissenting perspectives, we need to constantly critique and confront the official media spin on events.

Of course occasional "good" stories are aired and printed in mainstream media. But the essence of propaganda is not the occasional quality story — it's the repeated drumbeat of code words, catch phrases and skewed renditions of events, providing views similar to the outlooks of the White House, the Pentagon and Congress.

News media distortions are preparing the ground for war. Glazed in pseudo-patriotic fervor, endless stories are force-fed to the population with heavy doses of propaganda. For instance:

### PHONY "CONTROVERSIES" ABOUT MEDIA COVERAGE

"*Newsweek* has learned that George Bush is angry over the way the television networks have covered the Iraqi crisis," the magazine breathlessly reported in its Sept. 3 issue, adding that "the president appealed last week for reportorial objectivity in covering the gulf."

The notion that U.S. media are being manipulated by Saddam Hussein, while absurd, effectively preempts the issue of whether media are functioning as virtual stenographers for the powers-that-be in Washington. Typically, Dan Rather concluded one of his broadcasts from Baghdad on CBS (Aug. 21) with the grave words: "Americans in peril." Says ABC's Sam Donaldson, "It's difficult to play devil's advocate, especially against such a popular president as Bush."

### SUPERFICIAL CRITICISMS OF PRESIDENT BUSH

In August the mass media devoted more ink and air time to debating whether Bush should be in a golf cart than to whether U.S. troops should be in Saudi Arabia.

### CHEERLEADING THE MILITARY ESCALATION

Radio and TV stations across the country, like print media, are publicizing thousands of tearful departures of service men and women for the front. Odes and photo essays lauding the mobilization are everywhere — uncritical, usually enthusiastic.

### CENSORSHIP OF ALTERNATIVE VIEWS

The buildup in the Persian Gulf has been accompanied by a mass-mediated spectrum of views that run the gamut from A to C, virtually excluding any fundamental critique. Almost the only strong opponents of U.S. actions allowed on the major networks have been Iraqis — "the enemy."

### NARROW RANGE OF SOURCES

While news articles parrot the line from Washington, national news and public affairs programs give U.S. officials and their backers routine dominance of the airwaves.

During August, ABC's "Nightline" featured former Joint Chiefs of Staff chairman William Crowe on three different shows, according to researcher Wayne Greene of the media watch group FAIR. The rest of the guest list was overwhelmed with past and present officials of the CIA, Defense Department, State Department and National Security Council. At the end of the month, when Ted Koppel's program went through the motions of evaluating media coverage of the crisis, the guests were a right-wing member of Congress (Trent Lott), a neo-conservative pundit (Fred Barnes) and an ABC News executive.

### EXTREME HYPOCRISY ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Both the Saudi and Turkish governments have routinely tortured citizens after jailing them for political reasons. The regime in Saudi Arabia has long been dubbed "moderate" by U.S. media. Turkey, also a recipient of large amounts of U.S. military aid, is a member of NATO and thus has been immune from American mass media criticism of its wholesale human rights violations. Despite a record of some 250,000 political prisoners in the 1980's, Turkey is uncritically presented in U.S. media as an ally against Iraq.

The Baghdad government's torture victims included many hundreds of Iraqi children during the 1980's, Amnesty International has reported. But only when Saddam Hussein's activities ran afoul of U.S. government preferences this year did the U.S. media begin to portray him as a monster, even capable of threatening Western children for a few days.

### SADDAM HUSSEIN THE DEMON

Some U.S. officials have stated openly that the demonization of Saddam is essential for making war on Iraq. The U.S. news media have been eager to oblige.

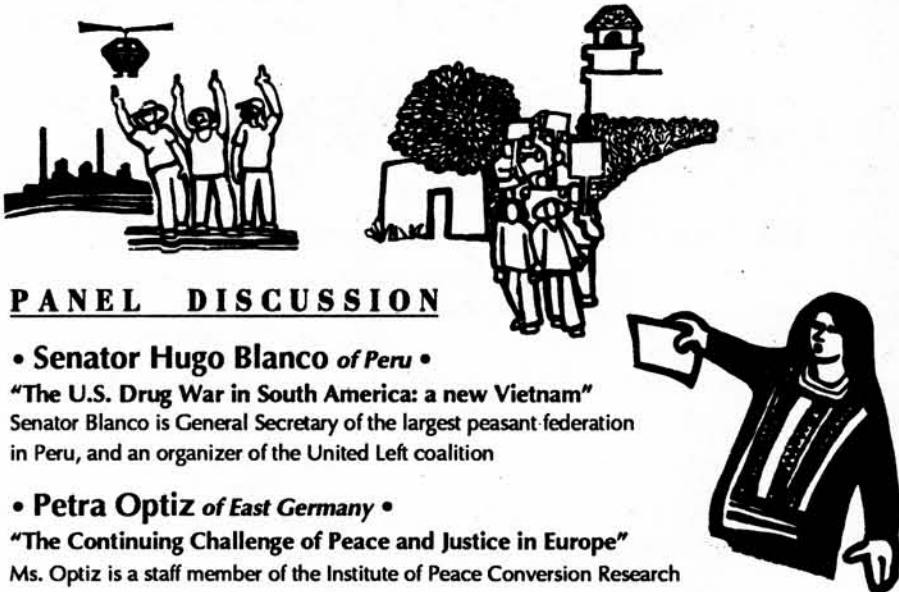
### SUDDENLY THE UNITED NATIONS MATTERS

In a typical editorial, the *Los Angeles*

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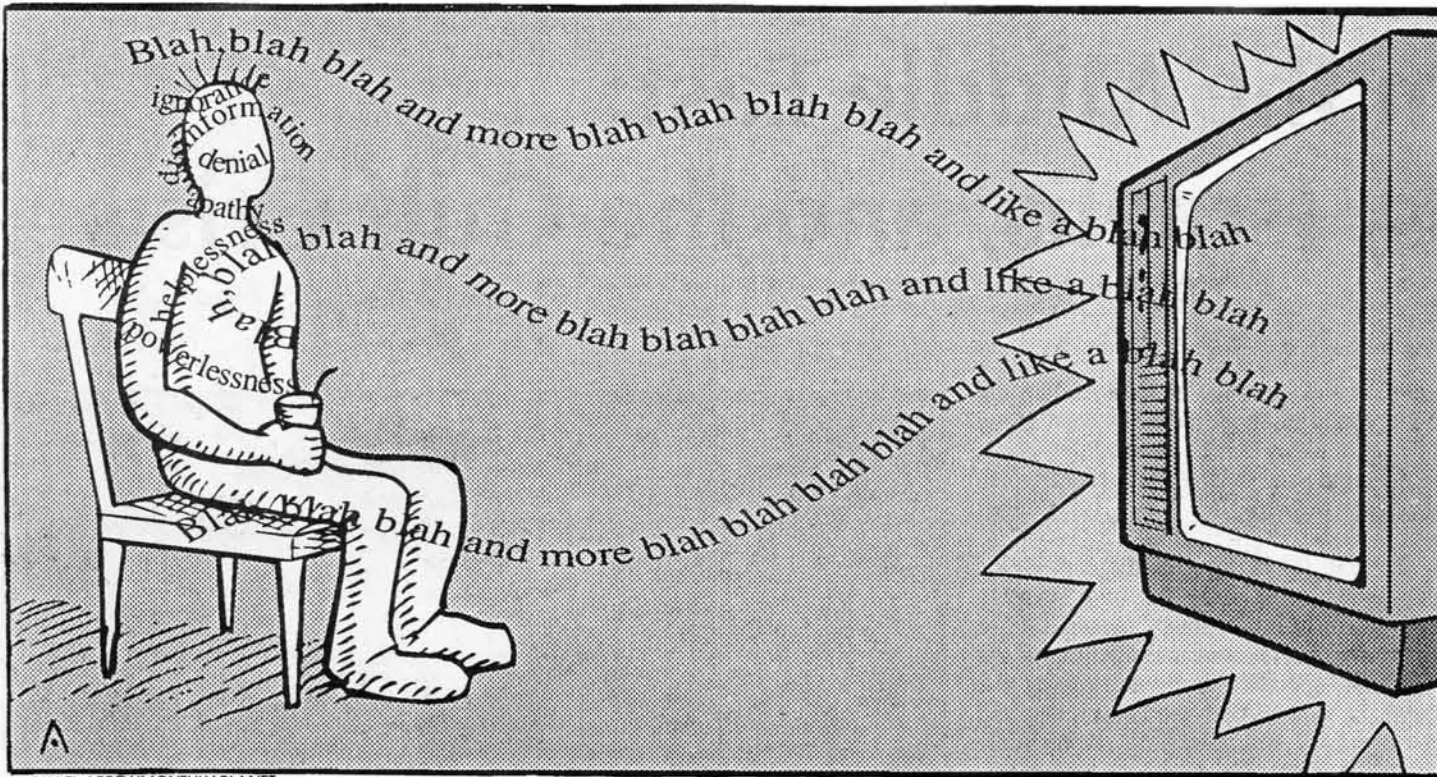
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*Times* declared on Aug. 28 that in the past "this under-performing world agency has been a source of infuriation rather than inspiration...Few problems could pass through its portals without coming out the other side virtually unchanged and unimproved." But happily, "The world body has been on a bit of a roll lately..."

When the U.S. government was isolated by lopsided U.N. votes condemning Washington's warfare against Nicaragua, its bombing of Libya, invasions of Grenada and Panama, and Israel's military aggressiveness, the U.S. news media paid little attention. Now that a U.N. vote has gone the U.S.A.'s way, the world body represents the height of global profundity.

**SADDAM, DESPICABLE PURVEYOR OF CLASS CONFLICT**

The *New York Times* outdid itself in a "news analysis" by staff reporter Andrew Rosenthal, who wrote from Washington: "President Hussein of Iraq has been trying to drive a wedge between the region's ordinary citizen and the oligarchies, like those of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, which have thrived on oil profits for decades and enjoyed American support."

Isn't it just like that sneaky Saddam, trying to drive a wedge between oligarches and poor people.

**MEDIA RESTRICTIONS**

The vast majority of news accounts are drawn directly from what United States government officials tell journalists. The U.S. military activities in Saudi Arabia and elsewhere in the region are largely off-limits to reporters. What we see is what the Pentagon censors want us to see — but the media rarely acknowledge this.

**BENIGN**

**CORPORATE AMERICA**

News media have acknowledged resentment against oil companies for jacking up prices at the gas pump. But blame was mostly shifted to the diabolical Iraqi. Liberal *New York Times* columnist Tom Wicker explained in early August: "Gas prices at the pump already are rising, and as things stand Saddam may push them higher..."

Little coverage has mentioned the vested interests that many corporations have in a shooting war against Iraq. When the sub-

ject is mentioned at all, euphemisms prevail. Thus the *Times* (Aug. 29) presented this summary: "While no one is hoping for a war, many companies have a chance to reap unexpected profit from the military buildup."

The lies that put the Tonkin Gulf in the headlines a quarter-century ago presaged many years of unfathomable cruelty in Indochina. Now, U.S. news media are vent-

ing their conventional wisdoms about the situation in the Persian Gulf. It's urgent that we resist the masters of war as they go about their deadly work in government offices and corporate boardrooms and media suites.

Norman Solomon's book "Unreliable Sources: A Guide to Detecting Bias in News Media," co-authored with Martin A. Lee, was published recently by Lyle Stuart.

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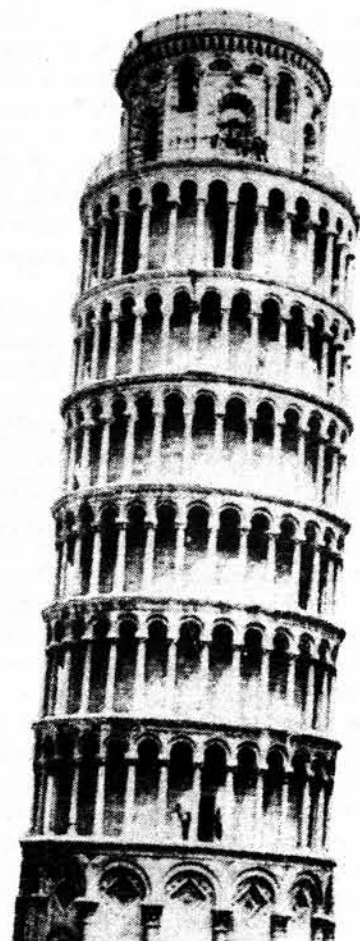


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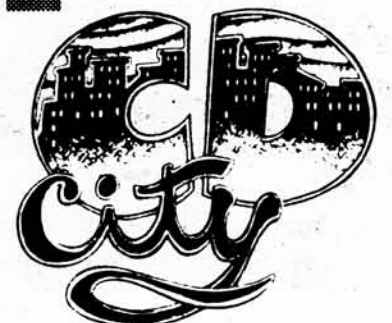
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# Voices from the Middle East: Palestinians, Israelis, and the Gulf Crisis

by Deena Hurwitz

Deena Hurwitz heads the Jerusalem office of Middle East Witness, a project sponsored by the Fellowship of Reconciliation that works to raise public awareness about the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. Deena, a local resident, will return to Santa Cruz in December, after having spent the last year in Israel. She sent the following report from Jerusalem.

Most of the information and analysis in the United States about the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait from the mainstream media are limited mainly to the impact on the U.S. as if it were just an American problem involving only the responses of the U.S., Saudi Arabia, the U.N. and Western allies. Much is made of American public opinion while the impacts on and opinions of people closest to the action, namely the Palestinians and the Israelis, have been virtually ignored.

For decades, the Middle East has been a politically complex and troubled region with diverse factions struggling for power, recognition and survival.

Most Americans are quite confused about the roles each group of people plays in both the ongoing crises in the region and the most recent one which threatens to break out into a full-fledged war.

To help fill in some of the gaps in the day-to-day news about the Iraqi invasion and the resulting events, I would like to share my observations and analysis of the situation, specifically by examining the points of view of both the Palestinians and the Israelis. I will attempt to survey some of the sentiments I have encountered to foster greater understanding of the complexity of the crisis, since it is tempting to think of it in simple terms of "good guys versus bad guys" or the United States versus Iraq.

## THE PALESTINIAN POSITION

The United States has been hissing the names of Saddam, Qaddafi and Arafat in the same breath. Naturally, Americans are confused about the role of the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO), the Palestinian position, and the seeming loss of a potential peace with Israel.

Arafat's apparent rush to support Saddam, and the Palestinian popular expression of unity behind him, are complicated and unfortunately distorted in the United States. The PLO's immediate alignment with Iraq has much to do with its historic frustration with Kuwait (and Saudi Arabia). Arafat's tenuous position within the organization is directly related to the failure of his diplomatic initiatives. After receiving nothing from the United States, Arafat was more than ready to turn to an Arab strategy which included support for Iraq's pan-Arab approach for the redistribution of the oil wealth. Iraq has been a supporter of the PLO over the years, while Kuwait's abundant resources were never generously shared.

While Arafat has supported Saddam in general, it is asserted that he never condoned the invasion of Kuwait. Subsequent statements by "Palestinian personalities" (as the public leadership is called here) underscore and clarify this position. Yet, as soon as the United States puffed up its chest and started heaving warships towards the area, Arafat's support for Saddam was inevitably solidified. Indeed, the United States has done at least as much if not more to strengthen Arab resolve and create a defensive posture for Saddam than the Iraqi leader did for himself.

In their official statement and in the streets, Palestinians are unified in their condemnation of U.S. aggression and the double standard in applying U.N. Security Council resolutions concerning occupation to Iraq when they were never applied to Israel; the non-legitimacy of the acquisition of land by force or the use of military



Members of the upstate New York short-term delegation of Middle East Witness participate in a Jerusalem peace demonstration. (Deena Hurwitz is third from the left.)

options to solve conflicts; rejection of external intervention even if requested (as it was by Kuwait and Saudi Arabia) in inter-Arab conflicts; and the rejection of exploiting the existence of vital economic resources (oil) to justify such foreign intervention.

In an interview in the English-language weekly *Al Fajr*, An-Najah University Political Science professor Saeb Erakat said: "I stand astonished and amazed by the double standard of the U.S. and the Western world. For 23 years and more we have been living under occupation. The whole world community, including the U.S., recognized the West Bank and Gaza as occupied territories, but they were helping Israel economically, militarily and diplomatically to maintain the occupation for the last 23 years. The U.S. has virtually killed the U.N. Security Council by vetoes, and all the Western nations refused to impose economic sanctions against the Israeli occupation. Now these same nations are bringing the U.N. back to life and imposing sanctions against Iraq...It should also be kept in mind that Israel's rejection of starting a peace process in the region and their efforts to bury the political option have led to...extremism and militarism in the Middle East. If the U.S. wants to talk about a stable Middle East, they cannot be against the occupation of Kuwait by Iraq and close their eyes to the occupation by Israel of the West Bank and Gaza. Thus, a linkage between the two situations must materialize."

Palestinians, including Arafat, have been consistent on the necessity of solving the Iraqi-Kuwaiti dispute within an Arab framework to bring about the withdrawal of Iraqi troops and guarantee the Kuwaiti people's right to self-determination. In short, no one supports Saddam's invasion. However, as one commentator put it, the strong sense of nationalism overpowers the negative feelings towards the invasion. Palestinians' willingness to understand his motives is, not surprisingly, strong. There has been growing resentment towards the oil-rich states and their reigning families for squandering money in the face of severe hardship in the Arab world. The relatively small amount of support coming from such rich countries as Kuwait was a sore point. A recent *Business Week* article documents the excesses of one sheik from the United Arab Emirates who spent over \$400 million on the purchase of horses in Europe and the U.S.. The Palestinians were joined in their resentment to such hedonism by resource-strapped populations in Jordan and Iraq, among other nations.

Many Palestinians have had personal experiences in Kuwait, having worked there. A prominent Palestinian physician in the West Bank told me that he had worked for six years as chief surgeon in a reputable government hospital. However, the "apartheid" (his word) was unconscionable, and he finally resolved to leave. Despite being born in Kuwait, if one were not Kuwaiti, one could not attend government schools

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or have access to certain government services; travel was restricted, but one still had to pay taxes.

Support for economic sanctions have been clearly expressed, with the caveat that they should not be enforced unilaterally or militarily by the United States, but rather followed by an Arab initiative and the U.N. convening an international conference to resolve the region's conflicts as a whole. Moreover, the Palestinian statement asserts that the U.S. intervention was in no way a response to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, but aimed to impose American military control on the sources of oil, destroy Arab unity and national will, and redraw the area's political map to serve colonial interests.

Despite understanding the thinking of Palestinians, I can't help feeling that the popular enthusiasm for Saddam is short-sighted. I don't believe he will keep the Palestinians' interests a top priority if it doesn't benefit Iraq. While most Palestinians will say that it's about time someone stood up to the United States, reporter Jon Immanuel, in the August 8 issue of the *Jerusalem Post*, reflected that "more sophisticated thinkers would prefer that the muscle were used in a limited way to beef up Arab diplomacy, extract concessions from the U.S. and exert pressure on Israel. The intifada was meant not only to free Palestinians psychologically from the occupation but also to stir Arab states out of their lethargy towards action on the Palestinians behalf. Ironically, it was Arab concern with supporting Iraq in its war with Iran that pushed the Palestinian issue off the 1987 Arab Summit agenda and gave the powerful impulse to the intifada. The hope is that now, with the intifada in a slump, Saddam can conduct a broader intifada on their behalf; that he will deliver them from stagnation."

I see this scenario as a step backwards for the Palestinians. From a point of great empowerment, due to a popular uprising based on the actualization of the principles of self-reliance and full social participation, they are turning to a single leader — and a non-Palestinian at that — to fight on their behalf. It is a very depressing reflection of the state of the intifada, and the exhaustion of the Palestinian people.

There are Palestinians who will say what one friend said, and I share his perspective: "I wish Arafat had kept his mouth shut. He could have just said, 'This is an Arab con-

flict and should be resolved within an Arab framework;' thereby maintaining neutrality. He had no business alienating the Gulf. Now we've lost nearly \$76 million from the Saudis. This whole crisis has set us back ten years."

### THE ISRAELI POSITION

The flip side of the coin is the reaction inside Israel. Although there are news articles by strategic analysts debating and quoting Defense Minister Arens and Israeli Defense Forces Chief of Staff Shomron about whether Iraq really poses a threat to Israel or would actually attack, the population seems quite nervous. There has been a kind of panic buying of baking soda (supposedly effective against chemical gas) and clamoring for gas masks.

I'm not alone in my belief that this panic has been fostered by official Israeli and U.S. posturing. The hawks are digging in here, saying that Israel can't afford to sit back strategically as if Arab threats had diminished and the only problem is the nature of a political solution. Israel is admonished to take the offensive and resurrect, among other strategies, the "Begin Doctrine" of preventing neighboring countries from developing nuclear capability. They point out that of course the nature of Israel's adversaries is undependable and unpredictable, and that the "Kuwaiti episode should reinforce for Israel what it already knows — that it must count on its own power" (Aharon Levrin, *Jerusalem Post*, August 10). Nonetheless, if Israel can use the situation to get new weapons and security systems from the United States, it will certainly do so and it has recently made a special request.

Whether because of its own astuteness, or whether it is being pressured by the United States, the low profile Israel has kept during this whole crisis is significant and commendable. There are those who point to this as proof that the strategic role of Israel for the United States has diminished in the region in favor of such allies as Saudi Arabia, and now Syria, but I think that's hardly realistic.

The most shrill voice during this whole crisis has come, not from the hawks, but from the liberal left. There, previous part-

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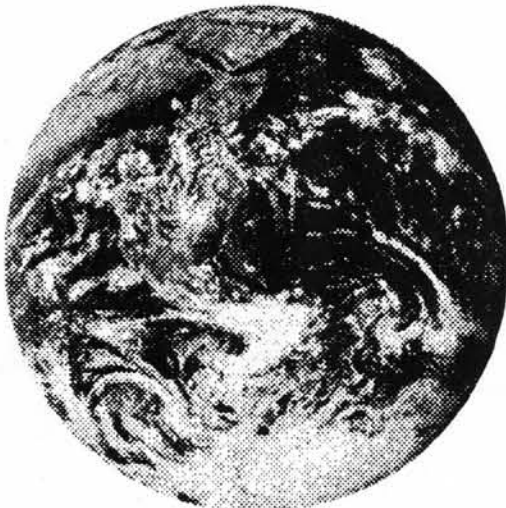


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# Voices from the Middle East

DIANE RIGOLI/MONTHLY PLANET

continued from previous page

ners for Palestinian dialogue (the parties of Mapam, Ratz-Citizens Rights Party, and Shinui, among others) have been shocked and disillusioned by their sense of betrayal at the PLO's support for Iraq. The feeling as expressed by author A. B. Yehoshua is that the Palestinians have "dumped years of struggle over Israeli public opinion down the drain."

Yossi Sarid, one of the foremost liberal spokespersons, said, "One needs a gas mask to try to overcome the poisonous stench of the PLO stance towards Saddam Hussein. The Palestinian struggle put out new sails in the last few years. Now the wind has gone out of the sails. If one can support Saddam, who murdered without any hesitation thousands of opponents, massacred Kurds with poison gas — maybe it isn't so bad to support the policies of Shamir, Sharon and Rabin; compared to crimes of Saddam, the sins of the Israeli government are as white as snow. If I only supported a Palestinian state because the Palestinians too deserve a state — I would end my support. But I continue to demand their rights to self-determination and an independent state because it is my right to unburden myself from the occupation and its negative effects. They may deserve the occupation, but I don't. I insist, in spite of everything, of maintaining a human face, but Arafat, [leading Palestinian activist Faisal] Husseini, and [Member of Knesset Abdel-Wahab] Darawshe are not needed for this supreme effort, which is all mine, and is almost inhuman in its humanity. Until any further announcement, for all I care they can look for me."

In contrast, Ruth Cohen, a more sophisticated activist in Shani (Israeli Women to End the Occupation), said, "This crisis has really shown clearly that the Palestinians are a separate people with their own interests and links to other sectors. They're not here to do what the liberal left in Israel wants — so that we can present our case without any problems. Sarid and the others will retreat a bit, but they'll have to come back eventually, because there's no other



show in town. [This crisis] shakes up the people with less of a sound ideological two-state footing."

As Hanan Mikhail-Ashrawi, professor of English at Bir Zeit University and a prominent Palestinian spokesperson, explained in an interview, the goal of issuing the Palestinian statement on the Gulf crisis was to appeal for responsible attitudes in the face of the distortion of the Palestinian position in the Israeli and Western media and public opinion. They sought to prevent the political manipulation of the complexity of the issue. Indeed it seems extreme right-wing Member of Knesset Geula Cohen [Tehiya Party] said that it was nice to see that such people as Sarid were finally realizing what she and others had known all along about the Palestinians. Politics makes strange bed-fellows.

But, as Khalil Touma asks in a "Point of View" in *Al Fajr* (August 20), does the Palestinians' position somehow disqualify them from their national and political rights? He points out, "We also have a right to

expect our friends to condemn America's military intervention in the region, a step they have not yet taken."

As if in reply, the Israeli Socialist Left put out a statement dated August 19. It condemns the regime of Saddam as dictatorial and reactionary and sees the "organization of the international community as expressed in the position of the U.N. against the invasion of Kuwait as a positive and legitimate response. However, the response of the U.S. clearly exceeds the limits of this international consensus. The U.S. has unilaterally launched a divisive, punitive expedition against Iraq. In the current crisis, economic interests, i.e. control of oil reserves and pricing mechanisms, play an especially prominent role. It is a cynical ruse to portray the preservation of the interests of the oil monopolies and their local representatives as a defense of the free world and its economic well-being. The peoples of the Middle East have the right to benefit from the natural resources in the area, for their own economic and social development. Thus, the

emergence of a popular and democratic movement to transfer the wealth of the area to Arab hands would be perfectly justified."

It further states: "U.S. military intervention in the Gulf increases the danger of Israeli involvement. This intervention can be a result of a call for assistance by U.S. attacking forces or of an initiative by Israeli right-wing forces which would like to exploit the situation to instigate active military intervention by Israel against Iraq, Jordan and the Palestinians, under the guise of self-defense, and ending the intifada, or maybe even implementing the infamous transfer scheme [the forcible transfer of the Palestinians to Jordan or other Arab countries]."

## THE VIEW FROM ABROAD

There's no question that this crisis has stirred up the region, even the world, and the political chips will fall in a new configuration. The intifada gave Palestinians a sense of empowerment; their cause was

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brought to the attention of the international community. After three years, I wouldn't have said the intifada had died, or that the Israelis had won, but certainly, the ability of the Palestinians to sustain their resistance from within themselves seemed exhausted and flagging. The political, diplomatic course attempted by the PLO, and supported by peace forces in Israel, had produced no results. Now Saddam Hussein has swept all of that into the past tense. The manner in which Palestinians will continue to resist Israeli occupation, or to pursue their national and political rights, remains to be seen at this moment.

On the other side, *Jerusalem Post* reporter Eric Rozenman mentions that among the "notions" dispelled by the crisis is the "dream that time is on Israel's side or that it can annex Judea and Samaria [sic]. In the post-Cold War world, U.N. Security Council Resolution 661 might mean that Iraq will not be permitted to digest Kuwait. If so, it might also be a world in which the desire for international stability will prevent Israel from satisfying only itself in the territories."

I listen to the BBC news every morning. And I am repeatedly struck by how the news is always about how much force is permissible, how many troops have been deployed, who is cooperating in enforcing sanctions, and not about how to resolve the conflict, or respond to windows of opportunity for negotiation. There have been opportunities to take the diplomatic route, but clearly George Bush and the Pentagon are not inter-

ested. A conflict was inevitable. This is the post-Cold War struggle for hegemony. Some analysts have called the confrontation a fight to maintain the West's standard of living; some say it's a fight to prevent the emergence of other Saddam Hussein's in the future. I say this is a fight for a Western grand strategy over the Middle East versus a regional Arab strategy.

Michael J. Sandel, a Harvard political theorist, was quoted by Thomas Friedman in *The New York Times* as making the distinction between defending our way of life now compared with the Cold War era. When Bush says that our way of life is threatened in the Persian Gulf, it is not our highest values that are threatened, not our democratic principles. It is a way of life dependent on cheap oil and profligate energy use to which he is referring. Before, that way of life was something to be proud of. But when Bush evokes it here, its just a

polite way of referring to a bad habit. And Friedman underscores this: "The larger answer to the Gulf crisis is not simply to ask Americans to confront Saddam Hussein, but also to ask them to confront themselves and to live in a way that would make the U.S. more energy self sufficient. Since the crisis began, Bush has mentioned the C-word — conservation — only once. He has been decisive in compensating for America's energy vulnerability by moving troops, but he has yet to show a similar decisiveness in addressing the root of that vulnerability by moving the nation to greater conservation."

The crisis does make it harder for those of us working towards an end to the Israeli occupation and a two-state solution. We now must frame the issues more broadly regionally. But in a way this is a more accurate, long-term vision. It's more complicated, as if it weren't complicated enough with only Israel and occupied Palestine. But,

the same issues persist. Whether you respect or abhor Arafat; whether you trust or eschew the PLO and Palestinians in general — a resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is a critical piece of the Middle East puzzle which will hopefully stabilize the dynamics of the region. The alternatives to reconciliation auger fundamentalism, increasing anti-Americanism and anti-Western actions. I hope that at this point, it's not too late to avert such undesirable alternatives.

*Santa Cruzan Margaret Reynolds has recently returned from a three-week stay in Israel, the West Bank, and Gaza organized by Middle East Witness. She will speak about her experiences on November 12 at the Resource Center for Nonviolence, 515 Broadway, in Santa Cruz.*

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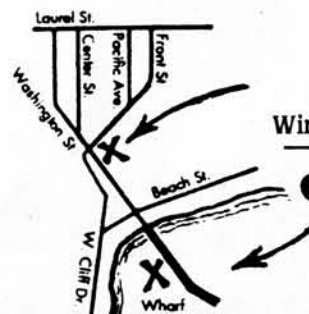
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## Film Opens October 18:

# Berkeley in the Sixties

by John Leopold

In recent history, there is no other time that has brought forth as much change and inspired as many new ideas than the decade of the 1960s. With the beginning of the anti-war movement, the women's movement and the start of an alternative counterculture, the '60s stand as an era when the notions of peace, free speech, empowerment, and authority were forever changed. These historic changes are examined in a new documentary, *Berkeley in the Sixties*.

From 1960 to 1970, the events that occurred in the Bay Area significantly affected the rest of the country. Student activists were able to highlight problems with the "establishment" and call on others to make the connections between struggles in the community and around the country.

The U.S. government actually assisted activists' organizing by distributing *Operation Abolition*, a film about the supposed "communist conspiracy" stealing the minds of young people on college campuses. Instead of inciting students against the communists, it served as a catalyst for drawing people to the University of California at Berkeley campus to take part in the budding student movement.

Soon the student movement on campus extended beyond the limits of the University. Student protesters became involved with local civil rights issues and then the anti-war movement. These actions, along with the drive for uncensored political speech on campus, brought the wrath of the University system on the organizers.

Clark Kerr, president of the University of California system, is shown in old TV clips stating that the student concerns are merely the same "hackneyed complaints" that have been espoused by every generation. Then-governor Ronald Reagan goes further, asserting that the students were acting in a manner "contrary to our standards of decent human behavior." All in all, the University administrators seem completely oblivious to the changes that are occurring and try hard to maintain the importance of the University as a tool in the "knowledge industry."

The film succeeds in capturing the excitement by weaving together archived footage of dramatic events of the period and current interviews with activists to lead the viewer through the changes of the time. Independent filmmaker Mark Kitchell interviewed 15 student activists to get their rec-



DON KECHELY/MONTHLY PLANET

ollections about what happened and why.

Frank Bardacke, one of the organizers of Stop the Draft Week in 1967 and still an activist in the Watsonville area, talks about what brought him to Berkeley and what needed to be done to stop the war in Vietnam. Jack Weinberg recalls his arrest for political speech and the ensuing 32-hour confrontation between students and administrators.

The film is powerful not only because of the rapid pace of events and their importance to the political universe today, but because many activists of the '60s are still pushing for social change today. Weinberg, whose arrest help start the Free Speech Movement, is still organizing with Greenpeace. Jackie Goldberg began her political activism as a leader of the Free Speech Movement and is now president of the Los Angeles Board of Education. Frank Bardacke is active today pushing for more affordable housing in Watsonville. As the list continues at the end of film about the

present whereabouts of each activist, the notion that activists stop being activists after they leave school is graphically dispelled.

*Berkeley in the Sixties* portrays the challenges and the successes of the student movement of the '60s, but also provides the blueprint for where we might go as a progressive community today. The mass movement of that decade saw the necessity of connecting divergent issues in order to push for social change. This film allows us to remember where the movement began — and inspires us to work on those same ideals today.

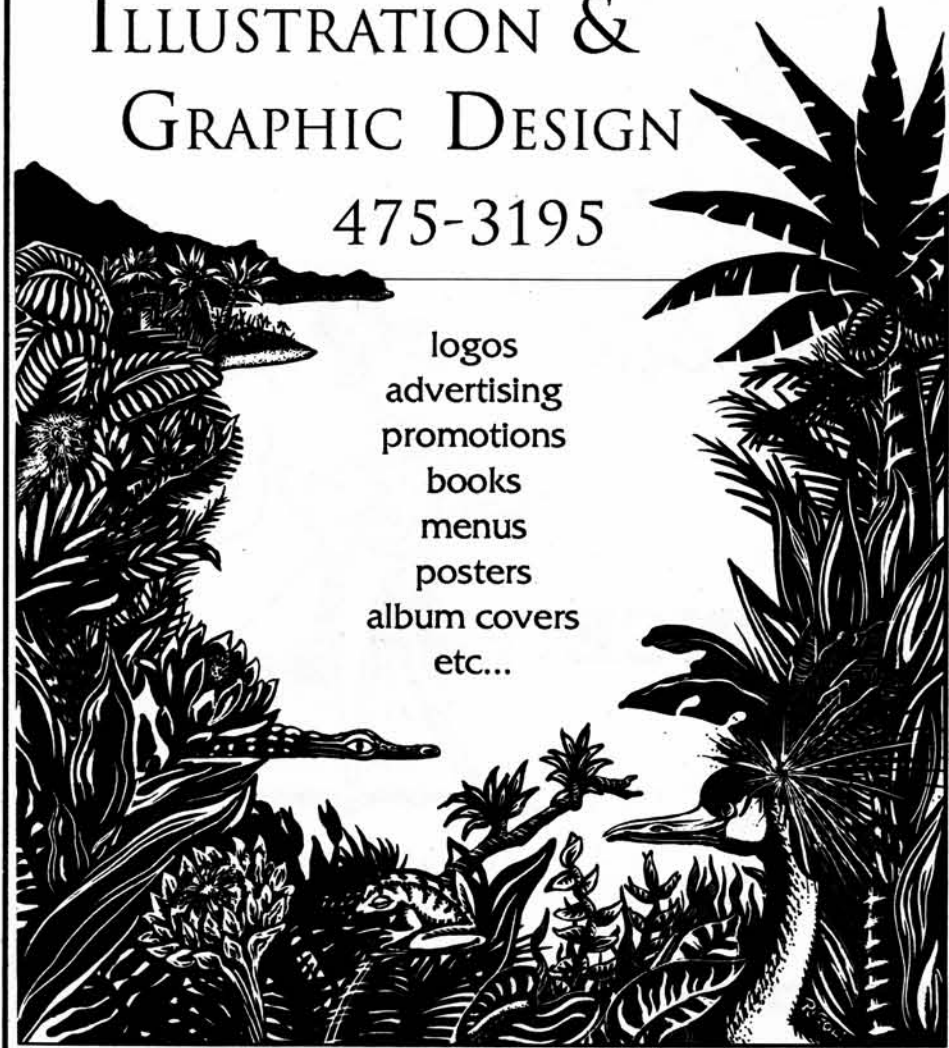
*Berkeley in the Sixties* will run at the Sash Mill Cinema from October 18th through the 24th. The opening night benefit showing for the Santa Cruz Action Network, followed by a reception with some of those featured in the film, costs \$10 for the reception, or \$15 for both. For more information call 458-9425.

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PEACE & JUSTICE CALENDAR

All events listed are in Santa Cruz, unless otherwise noted.

Calendar items must be typed or legibly written and sent (along with any photos) to The Monthly Planet, 320-G Cedar St, Santa Cruz, CA 95060. **We do not take calendar items over the phone.**

We must receive your listing no later than 5 p.m. Tuesday, October 23 for inclusion in the November issue (publication date: Thursday, November 1).

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4**

**12-Step group for people with HIV.** Meets every Thursday night from 6-7 p.m. at Trinity Presbyterian Church Fireside Room, 420 Melrose. All HIV+ individuals involved with or interested in any 12-step program are welcome. No fee. Info: Wendy at SCAP 427-3900.

**AIDS/ARC Support Group** is letting in a few new members. Meets Thursdays 4-6 p.m. If you are interested in this group, please call, as a second group will be formed if there are enough people. Facilitator: Alan Dampsey. Info: 427-3900.

**Support group for gay couples coping with HIV/AIDS,** where one or both partners is HIV positive. Group meets alternate Thursdays, 7-9 p.m. October 4 and 18, November 1, 15 and 29, and December 13. Facilitators: Jill Steinberg and Terri Thames. Info: Wendy at SCAP 427-3900.

**Support group for family members of people with HIV/AIDS.** Group meets alternate Thursdays, 6-7:30 p.m. October 4 and 18, November 1, 15 and 29, and December 13. Facilitator: Stephanie O'Mara, LMFC. Info: Wendy at SCAP 427-3900.

**Open Gatherings.** Small group discussions sponsored by the Corporation for Shared Responsibility, a non-profit educational organization. Cafe Pergolesi, 418 Cedar Street, 7 p.m. Cafe Cameleon, 418 Front Street, 9 p.m. Info: (415) 322-4303.

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5**

**Santa Cruz City Council Candidates Forum on Environmental Issues.** Sponsored by the Greens, Ecology Action, Environmental Council, Save Our Shores, Sierra Club, and Save The Gray Whale Parklands. Loudon Nelson Center, 7-10 p.m. Info: 426-2286.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7**

**Morning Coastal Ceremony.** A gathering to renew the commitment to preserve and protect the Earth, and to enjoy community spirit. 8 a.m., Lighthouse Field. Ongoing event on the first Sunday of every month. Info: 425-8921.

**Planning Meeting for the October 22 Livermore Action.** 2 p.m., 349 Church (between 15 & 16), San Francisco. Info: Bay Area Peace Test (415) 863-9105.

**"Women's Rights: Into the 90's,"** a Consider the Alternatives radio program on KAZU (90.3 FM). Coverage of the January 1990 conference of the International Women's Rights Action Watch (IRWAW). 9-9:30 p.m. Info: 375-7275.

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 8**

**Regular meeting of the Coalition for Nicaragua.** Meetings held on the second Monday of every month are



*The Salvadoran group Yolocamba I Ta performs a benefit concert for the Mobile Health Clinic to El Salvador at the Pacific Cultural Center on Friday, October 19.*

educational and include both historical information and current events and action. Free and open to the public. 7-9 p.m., Loudon Nelson Center, 301 Center Street. Info: 458-0303.

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9**

**Environmental Council presents "A Forestry Forum:** How will Propositions 128, 130 and 138 affect timber harvesting in Santa Cruz County and statewide?" Moderated by Raymond Dasmann. Loudon Nelson Center. Info: 426-2286.

**HIV Positive Drop-In Support Group.** Meets every Tuesday night at 7 p.m. at the Santa Cruz AIDS Project (SCAP) office, 1606 Soquel Avenue. All HIV+ individuals are welcome. No fee. Facilitators: Terry Cavanagh and Mark Evans. Info: Wendy at SCAP 427-3900.

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10**

**Norman Solomon, co-author of Unreliable Sources: A Guide to Detecting Bias in Media,** will discuss his book at the Capitola Book Cafe, 1475-41st Ave., Capitola. 7:30 p.m.

**Support group for heterosexual couples coping with HIV/AIDS,** where one or both partners is HIV positive. Focus on coping, communication, and specific issues couples bring to group. Every Wednesday, 7-8:30 p.m. for 8 weeks, October 3 to November 21. Facilitator: Mark Zalona, LMFC. No fee. Pre-registration is required. Info: Wendy at SCAP 427-3900.

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11**

**Santa Cruz AIDS Project Support Groups.** See October 4.

**Open Gatherings.** Small group discussions sponsored by the Corporation for Shared Responsibility, a non-

profit educational organization. Cafe Pergolesi, 418 Cedar Street, 7 p.m. Cafe Cameleon, 320-C Cedar Street, 9 p.m. Info: (415) 322-4303.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13**

**Middle East Peace Rally: "Stop the war before it starts."** Brian Willson, Ann Barhoum, and other speakers. Music by What Four! and others. Sponsored by Pledge of Resistance, Resource Center for Nonviolence, Nuclear Weapons Freeze, First Strike Prevention Project, and Out Now. 1 p.m., Mission Plaza Park (2 blocks from Town Clock). Info: 458-0276, 427-0322, or 458-9975.

**Nonviolent Action Preparation for the Monday, October 22 nonviolent action at Livermore Weapons Labs** against nuclear testing. This workshop will prepare people to participate in nonviolent direct action and familiarize them with the campaign against nuclear testing. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., San Francisco (call for location). To sign up and for info: Bay Area Peace Test (415) 863-9105.

**Bystander CPR - shortened version of the regular Basic Life Support course.** Taught by Santa Cruz Firepersons. Co-sponsored by Health Development Foundation of Community Hospital. Free. 303 Walnut Avenue, 9 a.m. to noon. Pre-registration required. Info: 426-3062.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14**

**Nonviolent Action Preparation for the Monday, October 22 nonviolent action at Livermore Weapons Labs** against nuclear testing. This workshop will prepare people to participate in nonviolent direct action and familiarize them with the campaign against nuclear testing. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Friends Meeting House, Ed. Bldg., Walnut and Vine, Berkeley. To sign up and for info: Bay Area Peace Test (415) 863-9105.

**Planning meeting for 5th annual Western Workers Labor Heritage Festival.** Festival will be held in Santa Cruz at the Loudon Nelson Community Center, January 18-20, 1991. Celebration aims to help build the labor movement through the artistic expression of working people. It is held yearly on Martin Luther King weekend to honor Dr. King's commitment to workers' rights. Today's meeting is at 4 p.m., Loudon Nelson Center. Info: Festival office 426-4940 or write WWLHF, P.O. Box 7184, Santa Cruz, CA 95061.

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PEACE & JUSTICE CALENDAR

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 15**

Progressive Animal Rights Alliance meeting. 7 p.m., Loudon Nelson Center. Info: 438-PARA.

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16**

Senior Housing Forum. Senior Network Services presents a forum on Housing Options for Seniors in Santa Cruz County. 1-3 p.m., Jade Street Community Center, Capitola. Open to the public, free. Info: Monday through Friday 462-6788 Santa Cruz; 728-1751 Watsonville.

HIV Positive Drop-In Support Group. Meets every Tuesday night at 7 p.m. at the Santa Cruz AIDS Project (SCAP) office, 1606 Soquel Avenue. All HIV+ individuals are welcome. No fee. Facilitators: Terry Cavanagh and Mark Evans. Info: Wendy at SCAP 427-3900.

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17**

"After the Cold War, Voices for Global Demilitarization" international speakers tour. Speakers will include Petra Opitz, a staff researcher at the Institute of Peace Conversion of East Germany. Also speaking will be Hugo Blanco, a Peruvian Senator leader of the oldest peasant federation in Peru, and a representative of the Japanese Nuclear Disarmament Movement. This event will be co-sponsored by the Nuclear Weapons Freeze of Santa Cruz County and Stop First Strike/

Lockheed Action Collective. 7 p.m., Loudon Nelson Center. Suggested donation \$3-\$6. Info: Gail 458-9975.

October 17th Anniversary Recovery Celebration. Sponsored by Santa Cruz Downtown Association, Santa Cruz County Historical Trust, P-E-A-C-E, Santa Cruz AIDS Project, Vision Santa Cruz, and Santa Cruz Tomorrow. Events begin at 3 p.m. at various downtown locations. For brochure and info: Santa Cruz Tomorrow 429-7664 or 475-5055, or Bruce Bratton 429-8433.

Support group for heterosexual couples coping with HIV/AIDS, where one or both partners is HIV positive. Focus on coping, communication, and specific issues couples bring to group. Every Wednesday, 7-8:30 p.m. for 8 weeks, October 3 to November 21. Facilitator: Mark Zalona, LMFC. No fee. Pre-registration is required. Info: Wendy at SCAP 427-3900.

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18**

Comprehensive Test Ban discussion with two doctors from the Soviet Union. Featuring Vladimir Popov and Zura Keshileva of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War. They will be speaking on the urgent need for the Comprehensive Test Ban and the U.N. Amendment Conference. Calvary Episcopal Church, 532 Center Street, 7:30 p.m. Donation of \$3-\$5 is requested. Info: 423-1626.

Film, "Berkeley in the Sixties." 7 & 9:15 p.m., Sash Mill Cinema, tickets \$7. Opening night benefit for the Santa Cruz Action Network. Reception with activists in film and others immediately after first showing, at India Joze, 1001 Center Street, tickets \$10. Tickets for both \$15. Info: 458-9425.

Santa Cruz AIDS Project Support Groups. See October 4.

Open Gatherings. Small group discussions sponsored by the Corporation for Shared Responsibility, a non-profit educational organization. Cafe Pergolesi, 418 Cedar Street, 7 p.m. Cafe Cameleon, 320-C Cedar Street, 9 p.m. Info: (415) 322-4303.

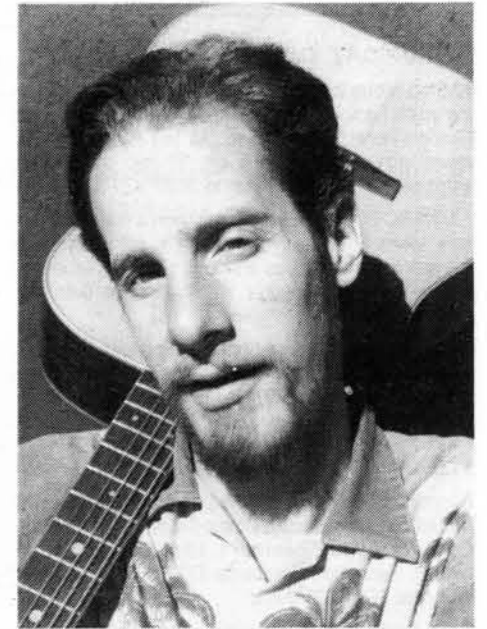
**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19**

Latin-American Music Show to benefit the Mobile Health Clinic to El Salvador. The Salvadoran music group Yolocamba I Ta will present a benefit concert of Latin-American music for Mobile Health Clinic, which will provide much needed medical and dental care to people in El Salvador. Sponsored by the Monsenor Oscar A. Romero Refugee Committee (MOARC) in Santa Cruz and Pledge of Resistance. Pacific Cultural Center, 1307 Seabright Avenue, 7:30 p.m., tickets \$10 at the door. Info: MOARC 426-4467.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20**

Benefit concert for Santa Cruz Environmental Response. David Lindley (solo performance), Harmony Grits, Girlfriends of Drumming, and Peter Childs and guest (acoustic music). Santa Cruz Environmental Response strongly endorses the "Forests Forever" initiative (Prop. 130). Veterans Hall, 7 p.m.

Planning Meeting for the October 22 Livermore Action. Pre-action spokescouncil meeting, 2 p.m., 2925 Ashby (near Claremont), Berkeley. Info: Bay Area Peace Test, (415) 863-9105.



Social change singer/songwriter Mark Levy celebrates his 40th birthday with a 6th album release party at the Santa Cruz Art League on Sunday, October 21.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21**

Green Talk - "Green Economics: The Coop Alternative." A video will be shown on Spain's fifth largest corporation, a system of linked cooperatives. Loudon Nelson Center, 7-9 p.m. Info: 335-3216.

Social change singer/songwriter Mark Levy's 40th birthday and 6th album ("Sheroes/Heroes") release party. Celebration begins 2 p.m., concert and sing-a-long begins 7:30 p.m. Santa Cruz Art League, 526 Broadway.

Lifelong Learners at U.C.S.C. meeting. 11 a.m., Cardiff House (Women's Center). Tea, coffee and pastry will be served. Info: 479-8582.

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 22**

Action to Stop Nuclear Testing. A nonviolent direct action and commemoration ceremony will take place at Livermore Weapons Labs, where U.S. nuclear weapons and tests are designed. It will mark the one-year anniversary of the wave of mass demonstrations by the Soviet anti-nuclear/anti-testing movement that has halted Soviet tests since last October. Begins at 10 a.m., Robert Livermore Park, Livermore. Info: Bay Area Peace Test (415) 863-9105.

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23**

HIV Positive Drop-In Support Group. Meets every Tuesday night at 7 p.m. at the Santa Cruz AIDS Project (SCAP) office, 1606 Soquel Avenue. All HIV+ individuals are welcome. No fee. Facilitators: Terry Cavanagh and Mark Evans. Info: Wendy at SCAP 427-3900.

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24**

Support group for heterosexual couples coping with HIV/AIDS, where one or both partners is HIV positive. Focus on coping, communication, and specific issues couples bring to group. Every Wednesday, 7-8:30 p.m. for 8 weeks, October 3 to November 21. Facilitator: Mark Zalona, LMFC. No fee. Pre-registration is required. Info: Wendy at SCAP 427-3900.

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25**

Santa Cruz AIDS Project Support Groups. See October 4.

Open Gatherings. Small group discussions sponsored by the Corporation for Shared Responsibility, a non-profit educational organization. Cafe Pergolesi, 418 Cedar Street, 7 p.m. Cafe Cameleon, 320-C Cedar Street, 9 p.m. Info: (415) 322-4303.

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**"After the Cold War: Voices for Global De-militarization"  
Speaking Tour to Visit Santa Cruz**

A controversial Peruvian senator, an East German economist, and a Japanese disarmament organizer will highlight a public panel discussion in Santa Cruz on Wednesday evening, October 17, as part of an international speaking tour called "After the Cold War: Voices for Global De-militarization." The panel will also include a national organizer from Mobilization for Survival, the group sponsoring the tour, speaking on the Persian Gulf crisis and the Mobilization's national organizing against military escalation in the Middle East.

The speakers will offer their perspectives on the Middle East and world economic crises, and the relation of these events to global de-militarization. The event, starting at 7:30 p.m., will be held at the Loudon Nelson Community Center on Laurel and Center Streets in Santa Cruz. The local appearance is being co-sponsored by the Santa Cruz County Nuclear Weapons Freeze and Stop First Strike/Lockheed Action Collective, in cooperation with the Resource Center for Nonviolence.

Senator Hugo Blanco of Peru is in the process of defeating an attempt by the U.S. State Department to keep him from speaking in the United States, declaring him a "politically excludable" individual. Senator Blanco is General Secretary of the Peruvian Peasant Federation, the oldest and largest organization of its kind in the war-torn Andean nation. He was recently elected to the Peruvian Senate as a candidate of the United Left coalition.

Senator Blanco will speak about the critical human rights situation in his country, its relation to the international drug trade and U.S.-Latin American relations, as well as the rapidly expanding role of the U.S. military in the Peru's escalating civil war — which has already claimed over 20,000 lives.

Petra Opitz, of the Institute for Peace Conversion Research in (East) Berlin, has been deeply involved in the profound changes which have swept through her nation in the past year. She will speak on the re-unification of Germany and the continuing challenge of peace and social justice in the new Europe of the 1990s.

Rieko Asato represents Gensuikyo, the Council Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs, which is the largest peace and disarmament organization in Japan. Gensuikyo works closely with thousands of Hibakusha, survivors of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic blasts. Ms. Asato will discuss the Japanese movement to oppose U.S. military bases in her country and the presence of increasingly sophisticated nuclear missiles on ships in Japanese ports.

The public is invited and a sliding scale donation of \$3 to \$6 is requested. People seeking more information on the event should call 427-0322 or the Freeze at 458-9975.

— Peter Lumsdaine

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26-  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27**

**West Coast Christic Institute Conference.** A time for Christic volunteers to get together and learn to become more effective. Pigeon Point Lighthouse Youth AYH-Hostel, Pescadero (50 miles south of San Francisco). \$10 one overnight, \$17 two overnights, no charge for day use. Info: 426-3254 on Monday and Wednesday evenings; or (415) 788-0475.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28**

**Earth Day Santa Cruz Thank You Potluck Picnic and "What's Next?" Event.** A belated party to celebrate our successful Earth Day last April, and an informal opportunity to begin plans for next year. An afternoon of fun, games and music for the whole family. Bring food or snacks to share, and your own dishes. Frederick Street Park, at the end of Frederick Street, off Broadway. Info: 458-3676.

**"Send the Troops Home: Voices of Dissent on War in the Mideast,"** a Consider the Alternatives radio program on KAZU (90.3 FM). President Bush and Congressional leaders claim broad public support for military action in the Persian Gulf. Yet many Americans, including some in the armed services, object to this war — or any war — as a way of solving political problems. This program features some of the voices of dissent, emerging at anti-war gatherings across the country in September. 9-9:30 p.m. Info: 375-7275.

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 30**

**HIV Positive Drop-In Support Group.** Meets every Tuesday night at 7 p.m. at the Santa Cruz AIDS Project (SCAP) office, 1606 Soquel Avenue. All HIV+ individuals are welcome. No fee. Facilitators: Terry Cavanagh and Mark Evans. Info: Wendy at SCAP 427-3900.

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31**

**Support group for heterosexual couples coping with HIV/AIDS,** where one or both partners is HIV positive. Focus on coping, communication, and specific issues couples bring to group. Every Wednesday, 7-8:30 p.m. for 8 weeks, October 3 to November 21. Facilitator: Mark Zalona, LMFCC. No fee. Pre-registration is required. Info: Wendy at SCAP 427-3900.

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10**

**Dance Your Nukes Off!** The third bi-annual 12-hour dance marathon to benefit the Santa Cruz Nuclear Weapons Freeze. Dance teams are forming now. The dancer who raises the most money will win a \$500 gift certificate to fly anywhere in the world. Live music includes Worlds Collide, Killah Natives, Pele Juju, Santa Cruz Steel, Harmony Grits and Colorwild. There will be DJ's, MC's, filler acts, prizes and much, much more. Get your sponsor sheets now. Call 458-9975 to register and get your sponsor sheet. Form a team, win prizes, raise money and have fun. Get started now.

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