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CLARK FORK Currents

Vol. 1 No. 4

A Publication of the UM Student Action Center

April-May 1985

Small World Festival

University of Montana — April 22-27, 1985
"An Environmental Awareness Celebration"



Editorial

Being a short explanation of why there is a Student Action Center and why certain students are inactive

I think it's time we talked about the Student Action Center, the Clark Fork Currents and the 'charge' of bias against SAC.

Its been brought to our attention that in a certain newspaper on campus there is a certain column that has dedicated itself to being a fountain of disinformation about the Student Action Center (I think the column is entitled "In Defiance of Logic" or something like that). Let's turn off the spigot on this bigot right now.

The Student Action Center is, under the director of Co Carew, what it always has been: a non-partisan campus organization which functions as a resource center for all students. That means our basic philosophy is not what can we do for you, but what can we help you do for others?

Those groups which come to SAC with constructive, on-going programs will get SAC's help. Those groups which come to SAC composed of two or less people who want us to do the work for them will be shown the door.

It's not our place to take sides. Nor is it our place to manufacture a side.

If this leads to 'bias' in our activities it is because the only truly active groups on campus are liberal. That's the bottom line.

All of the members of all of the campus right-wing groups put together could hold their next meeting in a phone booth.

In all of the whimpering, whining, bald assertions to have been printed about SAC it's a simple fact that not once, repeat, Not once has anyone substantiated how a single dollar of student funds has been misappropriated by the Student Action Center.

The crybabys who accuse SAC of being 'Leftist' are jealous because they lack the drive to put any muscle behind their propaganda. As a certain right-wing thug used to say, it's just the facts, ma'am.

This issue of Clark Fork Currents is a good example. Each article herein represents the viewpoint of its author, period. To make it official, let me put it this way: The opinions expressed in Clark Fork Currents in no way represent the views of the Associated Students of the University of Montana or the UM Student Action Center.

All they show is that we have a number of individuals who are willing to put a little work behind their beliefs.

To the bullshit artists who whine about "where's the other side?" I give my magic words: Give me 1,000 words, typed and double-spaced on any significant political thought you want by deadline time and I'll print it. Those are magic words because as soon as you say them, the questioner disappears. Poof! Hey man, uh, I'm too busy, ya know? I got lotsa schoolwork to do.

Well tough toenails. So do I. So do our other writers.

If you don't have the ambition to get off your dead butt to represent yourself, don't bitch because the Student Action Center doesn't do it for you. We're not here to flush your toilet for you either.

I have one further piece of advice: Don't believe everything you read.

That's right. For an unlimited time SAC is offering a genuine gold-plated Question Everybody card.

As an editor of a non-partisan political magazine I'm here strictly to provide a vehicle. I don't supply the driver.

Co Carew
SAC DIRECTOR

Lance Grider
EDITOR

Kim Barta
ENERGY COORDINATOR

Doe Shulman
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

John Zelazny
ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR
Patricia Gittins
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

Why Small World Festival? Why is there air?

From April 22 to April 27, 1985, the Student Action Center and the Wilderness Institute of the University of Montana are sponsoring a Small World Festival. Every day will feature different presentations and activities. Efforts have been made to involve area public schools in the week's festivities. The purpose is to encourage environmental awareness and a sense of unity with each other and the earth. It is no coincidence that Monday, April 22, is the 15th anniversary of Earth Day.

by John Zelazny

We don't like to think of our planet as small. Maybe as individuals we concede limits to growth, population, energy, but as a group we humans act as though the land were infinite. We all plan for the future as though we and our children's children are assured ample room to live and grow, ample supplies of clean water, air to breath, food to eat. And why not? Especially in the American West we can look onto broad expanses of mountains, forests, plains, clear running rivers and endless skies, a land still rich in wildlife, natural resources, a land abundant and pleasing to the eye.

Ah, but how deceptive an image that is. We are so willing to overlook the precarious balance of ecosystems all over the world. We refuse to acknowledge the costs of our dreams and visions, our hopes for the future. Even as we stand on the threshold of all our tomorrows, we look back to our yesterdays for guidance and permission to proceed. Our dead yesterdays whose time is past, never to live again. The message of those yesterdays is, "Think only of yourself. Go out and grab all you can, and hold onto it for as long as you can. Be wary of those who preach otherwise. They only want what is yours." And so we live and act, growing more ugly in spirit as we perceive shortages in the things we want most. And we harden ourselves so as not to be affected by the cries and screams of the planet as it is raped, gouged, scalped and thoroughly manipulated in order to sustain the closest facsimile to our vision of the good life. The earth has what we want. We take it.

But why can't we realize we are only taking from ourselves? Not only do we take away from future generations what we know allows for a high quality of life, but

we blind ourselves to a much better alternative in the process. That alternative is simply this: Love the earth. Love the earth for what it is — a magnificent self-perpetuating garden, designed for one specific purpose: to sustain life as we know it.

We humans love to fight — especially for what sustains our lives. We fight over rights. Rights to land, water, soil, minerals, plants, animals; in short, the rights to a certain freedom. This is the freedom to live, to breath, to breed, to own a brand new 4-wheel drive Ford Bronco and drive it straight up the mountain if we want to. And we will fight anyone who says or implies we can't do these things. Of course, the irony is that we defeat ourselves through such a selfish stance. We fight the earth for its resources, devising ever more grandiose systems of extraction to support an ever-growing and ever-consuming and ever-polluting global population. As though our mission, as it were, is to determine what the absolute maximum carrying capacity of this planet is — then go one step beyond. All the while we fight those who have an interest in what we deem ours, be they Nicaraguans, Afghans or Irish.

We cannot (or will not) see the earth as part of ourselves. We don't acknowledge our bonds with physical reality, can't relate to the planet as a system of systems which naturally seeks a balance. We tend to view all natural systems as needing human management. Thus, pine beetles populations explode in timber stands whose natural fire cycle has been interrupted by human management — and yet nature is perceived to be at fault.

Today, in 1985, 4.5 billion people share

this globe along with some 4,060 species of mammals, 8,600 species of birds, 750,000 species of insects, 107,000 species of mollusks — not to mention reptiles, amphibians, fishes, plants of all kinds and all the other myriad manifestations of growing, evolving life. The earth sustains it all, in concert with the sun and all the physical properties of the universe. And we fight this system in the interest of achieving a better quality of life for ourselves. Isn't it time we started fighting for this system, and against those (including ourselves) who think we should use and pollute and contaminate and overpopulate this earth? Fifteen years ago, on April 22, 1970, the first Earth Day was celebrated in America. Over 20 million people participated, and a generation supposedly dedicated itself to cleaning up this planet. Denis Hayes, then National Coordinator for Environmental Action, said, "We are systematically destroying our land, our streams and our seas. We foul our air, deaden our senses and pollute our bodies. And it's getting worse. America's political and business institutions don't seem yet to have realized that some of us want to live in this country 30 years from now. They had better come to recognize it soon. We don't have very much time. We can't afford to give them very much time."

Fifteen years later, how have we fared? The truth is, until we can celebrate the fact that we are as much a part of the earth as is everything else, we cannot progress. Yet we can celebrate this fact with great joy, to know that we grow with all other things, share with all other things — and yes, die with all other things. It is in the living and sharing that we find the cause for celebrating our Small World Festival.

John Zelazny has, for the past year, distinguished himself as the Environmental Coordinator for SAC.

HALL CREEK DRILLING BEGINS

Guess what's going on just 2 miles from Glacier National Park?

A position paper by the Glacier-Two Medicine Alliance

The Glacier-Two Medicine Alliance is a non-profit organization dedicated to the protection and wise use of the resources of the Rocky Mountain Front. Its members consist of American Indians, non-Indians, young and old — essentially people from all walks of life. The scope of interest extends to all lands surrounding Glacier National Park and the Bob Marshall-Great Bear-Scapegoat Wilderness complex.

The Rocky Mountain Front is a pristine, rugged, wildlife-rich area which comprises the eastern border of the Bob Marshall-Great Bear-Glacier Park ecosystem. This 100 mile-long piece of back-country runs east of the Continental Divide from Canda almost to Helena, Montana. Grizzly bears and gray wolves roam the area, going about their lives as they have from time immemorial. Bald eagles and peregrine falcons wing across the skies. Blackspotted cut-throat trout inhabit the streams.

The National Audubon Society has described the Rocky Mountain Front as containing perhaps the largest concentration of threatened and endangered species in the continental United States. The ecological well-being and integrity of the Bob Marshall, Great Bear and Glacier National Park depends of the Rocky Mountain Front. The Rocky Mountain Front is an integral, biological part of this ecosystem. The elimination or degradation of the Front would remove essential winter range for the Bob Marshall.

Despite its importance, very little of the Rocky Mountain Front is inviolate because a very small portion of the Bob Marshall laps over to the east side of the Divide.

The Badger-Two Medicine Management Unit of the Lewis and Clark National Forest forms the northern part of the Front adjacent to the southern boundary of Glacier National Park. This area consists of more than 130,000 acres and is the largest intact, unprotected roadless tract adjacent to the Bob Marshall Wilderness. It is a major part of the important wildlife corridor between Glacier National Park and the Bob Marshall Wilderness, essential for the genetic well-being of the grizzly bear, gray wolf and other wildlife species. According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, "From a habitat standpoint, the Badger-Two Medicine Biological Evaluation Unit

represents the best grizzly habitat along the Front." Ream and Mattson of the Wolf Ecology Project consider the Northern Rocky Mountains east of the Continental Divide "ecologically ideal" for the recovery of the gray wolf.

The Badger-Two Medicine has been particularly abused through the years. Cattle and sheep grazing, uncontrolled illegal hunting, snowmobiling, trail biking, and widespread seismic activity have combined to severely impact the wildlife potential of this area. The Rocky Mountain Ranger District of the Lewis and Clark National Forest has been woefully remiss in its unwillingness to bring the negative aspects of these activities under control. Despite these impacts the Badger-Two Medicine still retains much of its wild character, but this is in great danger of dissipating due to the above abuses. It is not too late to reverse the trend. Moose, elk, whitetailed and mule deer, mountain goats, mountain sheep, mountain lions and coyotes are found. Existing numbers are below the carrying capacity of the area. Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks biologists feel that the Badger-Two Medicine probably has the highest biological potential for all big game species (including the grizzly and gray wolf) on the Rocky Mountain Front.

"The public right to know . . . is well-founded in NEPA. . . . This level of planning was not reflected in the Hall Creek APD Environmental Assessment."

Of major immediate concern to the Glacier-Two Medicine Alliance and other environmental groups is the *Hall Creek APD*. In November of 1983, American Petrofina Company of Texas submitted an Application for Permit to Drill (APD) a 13,510-foot exploratory well in the Badger-Two Medicine, adjacent to the southern boundary of Glacier National Park. Plans called for a six-mile road and a permanent bridge to be built in connection with this project.

The Endangered Species Office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service originally filed a jeopardy opinion on the project in June of 1984, stating that the Hall Creek APD, as it stood with permanent bridge and road, would jeopardize the continued existence of the grizzly bear and gray wolf. The Endangered Species Office gave the Forest Service two options with which to resolve the jeopardy situation. The first option stated that the road and bridge would have to be eliminated and reclaimed. The other option stated that activities would have to be limited to helicopters.

However, in January of 1985, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, much to the dismay of Montana sportsmen and conservationists, reversed this position and lifted the jeopardy decision allowing the permanent bridge and road to be built. New restrictions imposed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service simply emphasized strict interagency law enforcement and the closure of certain marginal jeep trails. The Forest Service has been unable to enforce road closures in the past. Gates have been destroyed or roads have been re-routed around them. In the new approved plan, law enforcement guidelines call for only a limited number of patrols per year, none during the winter when big game populations are most vulnerable.

It is our belief that the construction of a permanent bridge and road system into this biologically sensitive area constitutes an irreversible and irretrievable commitment of resources which is not allowed under existing conservation law. Further, this proposed project could have been planned in a manner that would have avoided these impacts.

The oil and gas resource on the East Front of the Rocky Mountains cannot be

(cont'd on page 12)

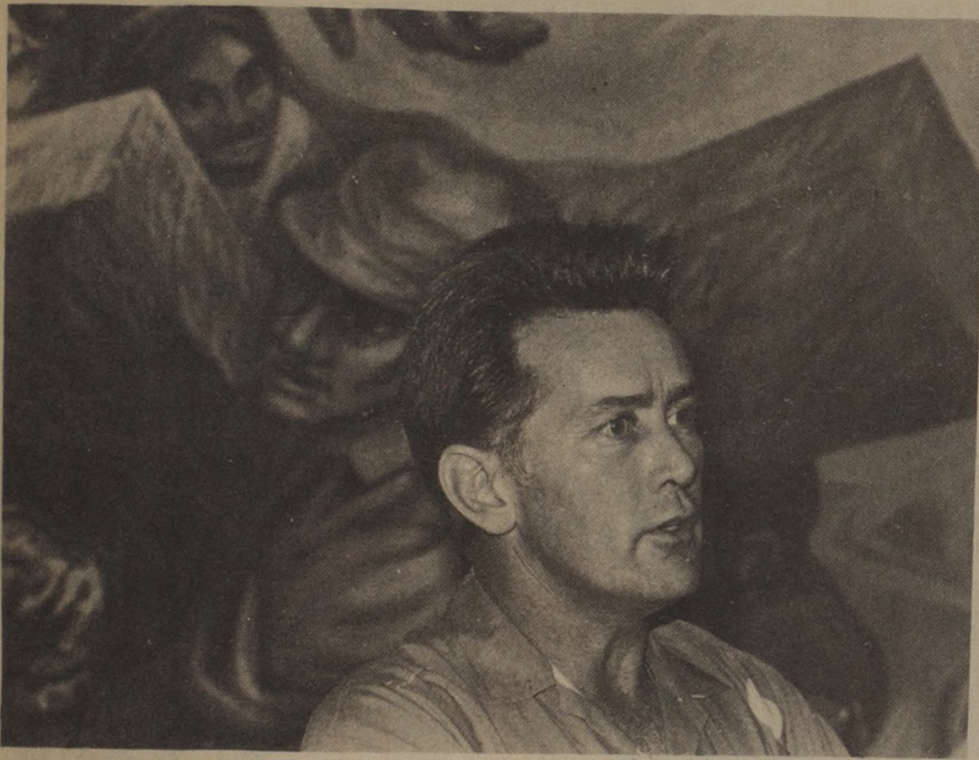


Photo by David Knox

"Our mission here was to see the effect of the government on the people and to find out if what our government in the United States has been telling us for the last five years is true. We had our suspicion that the White House, the State Department and various other government agencies were lying to us about Nicaragua. It didn't take us long to have that confirmed in our visit here. What we found is a government responsible to the people; in fact, a government of the people, by the people and for the people. If Nicaragua is any threat to the United States it is in teaching what the United States professes to believe in."

Martin Sheen

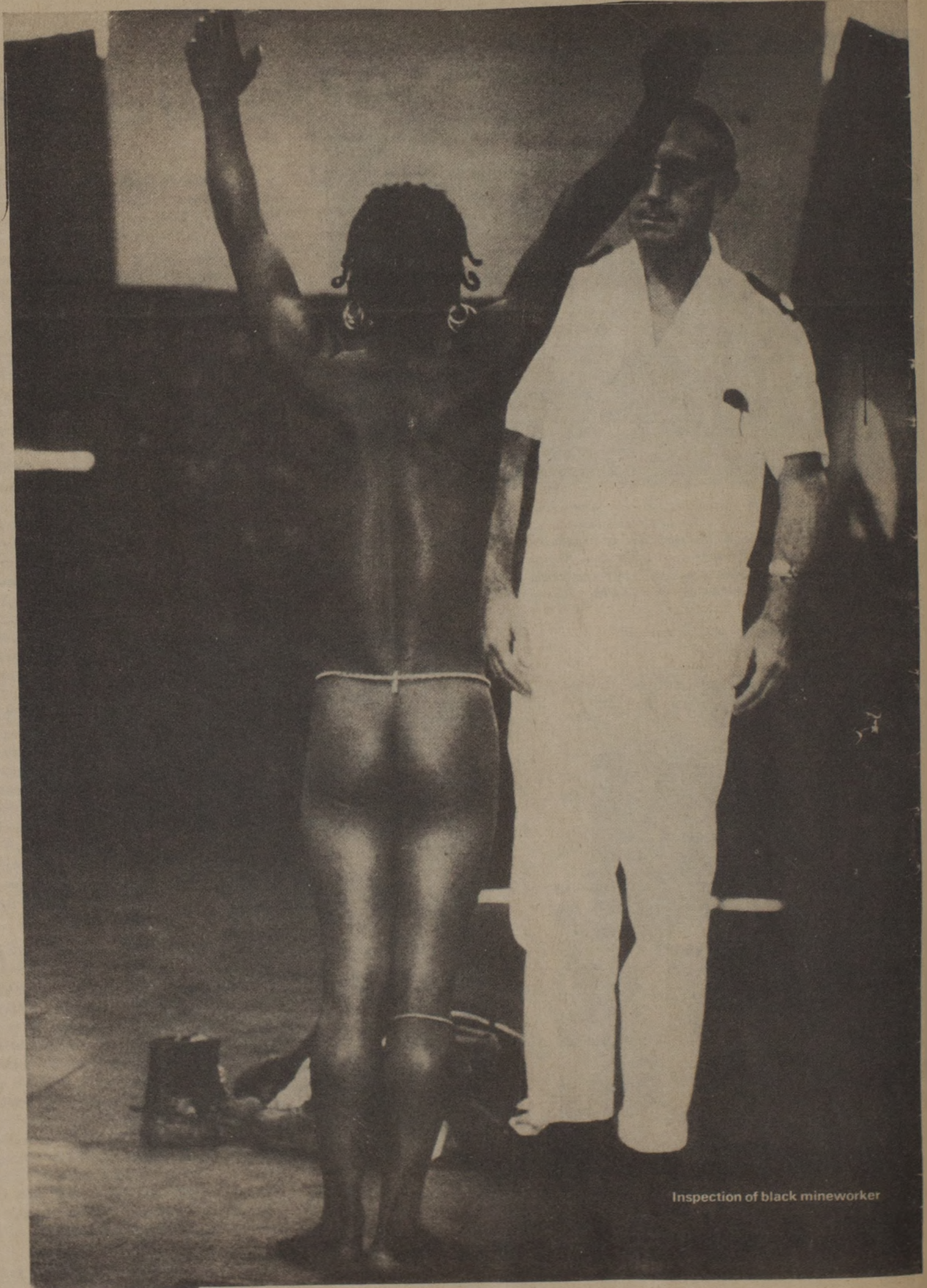
The Compesino Mass in Managua
December 15, 1985



Religious celebration of first communion during feast of Immaculate Conception of Mary.



photos by Jerry Schneider



Inspection of black mineworker

APARTHEID DOLLAR\$

and the UM Foundation

by Butch Turk

On April 2, James Smith of the Associated Press reported:

"Uitenhage, South Africa — Police lieutenant Fouche said Monday he ordered his men to fire into thousands of black marchers after a woman threw one stone. . .

"Nineteen people were killed in the confrontation March 21. . .

"Fouche said Louis le Grange, the white minority government's law and order minister, had been incorrect in saying his 19-man police unit was surrounded and pelted with rocks, sticks and gasoline bombs."

The day of the massacre, President Reagan repeated the minister's false assertions and attributed South Africa's racial troubles to those who want "violence in the streets" — meaning blacks.

On April 8, Amy Carter, daughter of former President Carter, was arrested while protesting at the South African embassy in Washington, D.C.

These incidents represent the background to a controversy which has now appeared at UM.

South Africa's government, with its institutionalized system of racism, apartheid, is perhaps the world's most despised regime. The March massacre is seen as but one instance of the brutality which has fostered this hatred.

Reagan's justification of the killings was hardly surprising. The administration has supported loans to South Africa, loosened controls on aid to South Africa's military and police, and has allowed the export of computers that could be used for nuclear programs.

Congressional representatives, union leaders, Republicans, Democrats, and now a president's daughter have lost faith in the federal government's will to push for change in South Africa. Between Thanks-

giving and the end of January, over 1,100 Americans participated in anti-apartheid civil disobedience. Other apartheid opponents have been working for the removal of public and institutional funds from corporations which operate in South Africa. They want an end to U.S. business support for apartheid.

In Missoula, a group of students, faculty and community members have focused divestment efforts on the UM Foundation, which raises private donations for the University of Montana. In the past the Foundation has funded scholarships, labs, research, new buildings and other worthy projects. Future goals include support for theatre, business research, archives and collections, and a new football stadium.

The Foundation is governed by 33 volunteers, each of whom have given \$25,000 or more to the Foundation. Three of the board members are officers for firms that operate in South Africa. Some of the \$6 million UM Foundation controls is invested in IBM and at least four other firms which operate in South Africa. More detailed information is unavailable since this private organization keeps its meetings closed and its investments secret. Some people question whether an entity which has on-campus office space and raises money in UM's name can be considered entirely private.

In response to appeals for divestment, the Foundation's executive director has said the trustees will consider whether it is in the interest of black South Africans and whether it is wise financial policy. Answering these questions, as well as mounting a campaign to persuade the trustees, are the goals divestment supporters have set for themselves. Efforts are being directed at educating the university community on the

numbing facts of South African life:

- Infant mortality is 282 per thousand for blacks, 12 for whites.
- An average black earns 1/5 the wage of white.
- There is one doctor for every 400 whites, one doctor for every 44,400 blacks.
- Desertion from farm labor is a criminal offense, thus guaranteeing a cheap (slave) labor pool.
- Blacks cannot own land except within the infertile, water-short Bantustans which they've been forced on to.

People in many parts of the world are poverty stricken. Others are oppressed or are the victims of racial discrimination. Nowhere else, though, are all these elements brought together in the form of deliberate governmental policy. To many, U.S. corporate support for this policy is appalling.

The U.S. is South Africa's second largest foreign investor and our investment there constitutes over 25 percent of American investment on the African continent. Apartheid has enabled economic exploitation, as reflected in high profits.

"There is in fact good evidence to show that the problems of the poor were accentuated during periods of escalating foreign investment." — South Africa's United Democratic Front.

Some blacks would lose jobs as a result of U.S. corporate withdrawal. Most blacks, though, would rather be hungry and free than well-fed slaves. U.S. firms employ less than two percent of the workforce, yet economically support the oppression of all black South Africans. For this reason divestment is endorsed by black South African Nobel laureate Albert Luthuli, the Black People's Convention of South Africa,



Over 160 killed, over 1000 detained as anti-apartheid protests swept South Africa in 1984.



Resistance to apartheid brings arrest. Demonstrations and outdoor meetings are usually illegal and even funerals are often banned.

the African National Congress, and the Federation of South African Trade Unions.

"What we have to say to those who invest in South Africa is that your investment is a moral as well as an economic choice. Freedom is coming. . . We are concerned only about how and when. It should be soon and we want it to be reasonably peaceful." International economic pressure against the regime "is the only alternative to violence." — Bishop Desmond Tutu, 1984 Nobel Peace Prize winner.

Divestment has already caused many corporations to leave South Africa. One is Citibank, America's largest bank. In February, it announced that it will make no loans to South Africa "in the foreseeable future." Total U.S. bank loans to South Africa have dropped from \$32 million in June 1982 to \$343 million in September 1984. The impact of these withdrawals is demonstrated by recent government pro-

posals for cosmetic reforms. Major changes, such as the adoption of "one-person-one-vote," are further off.

UM Foundation board members have stated their belief that divestment would harm the portfolio. The divestment record indicates otherwise. A study by Chemical Bank shows that divestment often increases return. Washington, D.C.'s City Pension Fund trustees reported that divestment caused no measurable financial impact on their portfolio. Firms that manage South Africa-free accounts, such as United States Trust Company, Shearson/American Express, Working Assets, Calvert, and Favia, Hill have done so quite profitably.

"Massachusetts State divestment improved the quality of the portfolio, improved current cash flow. . . and will ultimately gain the fund up to \$36 million over the life of the new bonds." — Joan Bavaria, president, Franklin Research and Development Corp.

Besides demonstrating that divestment both promotes nonviolent changes and is financially prudent, divestment supporters are making one more point. Most divestment has been carried out by states, cities, schools and other institutions which have significant black populations. Divestment by a Montana institution will show blacks in South Africa and here at home that, even where blacks have no political power, some people care enough to put their money where their morals are.

"Whatever you have received more than others — in health, in talents, in ability, in success, in a pleasant childhood, in harmonious conditions of home life — all this you must not take to yourself as a matter of course. In gratitude for your good fortune, you must render some sacrifice of your own life for another life." — Albert Schweitzer, as quoted by UM President Neil Bucklew in an address supporting the UM Foundation-administered University of Montana Campaign (Homecoming 1984).

The UM Foundation Board of Trustees will meet on August 1 and 2. South Africa divestment will be on the agenda.

Destabilizing is not a nice thing to do to a country. What you're trying to do is make the people so miserable that the farmer can't haul produce to market, children can't go to school, women can't leave their homes for fear of being attacked, hospitals are treating wounded people instead of sick people. To make a people of the country so miserable that the economic and social fabric tear apart as a technique to put pressure upon the government you don't like — it's not a nice thing to do to people.

*John Stockwell, ex-Marine
13 years in the CIA.
Mr. Stockwell managed the
secret war in Angola.*

DESTABILIZING NICARAGUA

In his book, *In Search of Enemies*, Mr. Stockwell talks about the suffering third world which has unwillingly gotten in the way of the two fighting super powers; the result is the death of thousands of innocent people. In our global struggle, it is not the Russians killing people from the United States, and it is not the people here who kill Russians. The victims are from the Third World. Vietnam, Afghanistan, Thailand, Angola, the people in the Mitumba mountains of the Congo and most recently in the hills of El Salvador and in the low mountain villages of Siuna, Ocotal and Chinandega in Nicaragua. The Africans say that when elephants fight, the grass gets trampled.

The current aim of this administration is to make it very bad for the Nicaraguan government because Mr. Reagan does not like the Sandinistas. Covert work began in 1981 to subvert the new system of government by destabilization: the burning of crops, the mining of harbors, the raping of women, the torture and killing of civilians and soldiers. Seven thousand civilians have died since 1981 in Nicaragua at the hands of the CIA-backed Contras.

According to Stockwell, the Contras "have put grenades in wounded men's

mouths and blown their heads off with families watching, and they have put grenades in seven-year-old's mouths and blown their heads off with parents watching." (Speech given at Gainesville, Fla. — 1984.) The Contras attack workers in order to scare them off so that coffee and cotton and bananas are not picked, in order to weaken the economy. On the plantation where we picked coffee, 1,600 people were needed, but only 400 were picking. Throughout the harvest season, from early December through January, coffee trucks were attacked. The first two weeks in December, 52 civilians were killed. Many were bayoneted to death and shot at close range. People hitching rides and children were caught in the fire. A five-year-old girl with her mother and father was burned in early December after they hitched a ride on a truck that was ambushed and lit afire with diesel fuel.

The American people are not told about the atrocities. Not until the mining of the harbors of Corinto brought the situation of covert activity to light in the condemnation by the World Court did many Americans know there was an effort on the part of the current administration to squeeze Nicaragua. They are still squeezing.

International Law

In the process of destabilization, our government is in violation of international law according to the Geneva Accords of 1954 and according to the OAS charter:

No State or group of States has the right to intervene, directly or indirectly, for any reason whatever, in the internal or external affairs of any other State. The foregoing principle prohibits not only armed force, but also any other forms of interference or attempted threat against the personality of the State or against its political, economic, and cultural elements. (Art. 18. OAS)

We talked about this with Robert Fretz, consul general of the U.S. embassy in Managua. We asked him if we, the United States, were in violation of international law. He said, "Well, if mining ports is that. It's my understanding there is no international law which provides for that except in a declared war."

We asked Mr. Fretz about the "black-bird" fighters flying over Nicaragua. He answered, "If you have an airplane that flies over a foreign country's territory, you have to ask that country's permission before doing so. If you don't, that is a violation of international law."

by Jerry Schneider

David Knox, a reporter from Ohio, then made sure that Fretz said what he meant. "Then you grant that the mining of the ports and the overflights are violations of international law?" Knox asked. Fretz answered, "If that's what in fact happened, then the answer is, to the best of my knowledge, yeah."



Juan—a boy in El pochote. At age 14 he's already killing a contra in self-defense.

Lies

In addition to facts being kept from the American people regarding the atrocities committed against civilians, and illegality of our involvement in Central America, this administration is also lying to its people. The United States is given the impression from speeches by the president and vice-president that the Nicaraguan people are communists and that they are part and parcel of Russia. In a December 12 letter to his flock, Jerry Falwell said:

I am deeply concerned about the political and military victories the Soviet Cuban-backed Communists are achieving right on our own doorstep in Central America. . . just two short hours from the shoreline of the United States. And I am convinced that we must wake up this nation immediately and tell them the truth. . . that Fidel Castro and his friends with Soviet support in Nicaragua are exporting their atheistic brand of communism in Central America through violent revolution. . .

Mr. Falwell is lying. Nicaragua is 85 percent Catholic and practice their faith openly and have their revolution based in

the theology of Christ's opting for the poor and the oppressed. Nicaragua has a non-aligned policy and would gladly tell the Cuban and Russian military advisors to go home if they did not have to fear the CIA, which has orchestrated the Contra killings already mentioned. Who is being violent? Who is violating international law when

ports have been mined and 7,000 civilians killed?

We took this concern to Mr. Fretz also. Fretz admitted that there are good things in Nicaragua. "Their modis operandi is not to kill people, not to abuse them in any way." He told us the Nicaraguans have a very clean record in human rights for a country which has just had a revolution. We asked if Nicaragua was a communist country. "No, it is not," the consul general answered. Is it Marxist-Leninist? "No, it is not." Is it totalitarian? "Is it totalitarian? No, it is not. I mean, obviously you wouldn't have La Prensa and opposition parties if it was."

Fretz went on to compare the current Sandinista government with that of U.S.-backed Anastasio Somoza. "If you go to Somoza, you have some of the most spectacular economic growth anywhere in the world, if you go back to the '60s and early '70s — eight, nine, ten, eleven, twelve percent a year, year in and year out growth. But that was the cotton and the high prices of the Vietnam war — coffee,

so on and so forth. But that money did not reach the people and he could have cared less about social development. . . On the other hand, you have a government now which could care less about economic growth — obviously because they haven't taken any of the steps which you need to promote it, but for which social growth is much higher — social development is much higher on the scale."

Nicaragua is in the midst of an unnecessary war conducted by the CIA. This war drains people from the harvest. It takes 30 percent of the country's income to pay for the amenities of war — soldiers, guns, clothes, food, doctors, medical supplies, etc. The new government inherited the national debt from Somoza when he fled the country and went to Miami with Nicaragua's treasury, making him the ninth richest man in the world (he was later assassinated in Paraguay). The United States has also boycotted bank loans, machine parts, medicines and sugar imports from Nicaragua.

There is reason then that the Nicaraguan government is not doing so well economically. However, one has to ask if, by virtue of their "economic muddling," the Nicaraguans deserve the atrocities inflicted by the Contras. The Contras kill and use torture, and not in isolated instances. It is part of the policy to destabilize. Is this something which possible economic mismanagement deserves?

Nicaragua is the size of Iowa. Half its population is under the age of fifteen. When in Nicaragua, one is impressed by the number of children. You see young boys in the army and in the militia. There is so much muscle flexing and money just across their border. They have grown afraid. They look up at the airfields in Honduras, the eleven revamped C-130-capable airfields. They look east and west to the naval maneuvers, the flexing of naval power off their coasts. American ships. They look at the sophisticated American guns and rockets and ammunition, fatigues the Contras wear. Nicaraguans hear the president of the United States calling the old Somoza guard his brothers. But they can never go back to Somoza. This is one reason the Nicaraguans might be leaning toward Cuba and why they have Russian military advisors in the country. Not in a spirit of alliance. It's AK-47 or die.

We saw John Deere tractors on the plantations where we picked coffee. We saw a few of them operating and we saw a few lying idle in the fields because the

(cont'd next page)

United States no longer deals spare parts. We also saw the Russian tractors, and you can look at this two ways. Either the government of Nicaragua is moving willfully toward the Russians, or they are being pushed. Mr. Fretz has said that the Nicaraguans are not copying Russia.

Miguel D'Escoto, a Catholic priest who is also in the Sandinista government, said that if the United States wishes to see the Cubans and Russians leave, they need only to withdraw the CIA and get out of Nicaragua. This administration has not considered D'Escoto's proposal very seriously. We are still in Nicaragua, illegally, using tactics which the average American would find appalling.

50,000 people died in Nicaragua's struggle for justice, and they will not go back. "Free country or die, my bones continue fighting," said Mario Fajardo in a letter to his mother in 1982. And his mother's reply, when she stood in the cemetery at her son's grave, was, "Good-bye, Mario. Free country or die. Always to victory."

Thomas Jefferson said that if the people did not watch out, the government could become a wolf. It is the people with one eye open who can catch the wolf. We must see through the lies which are reiterated

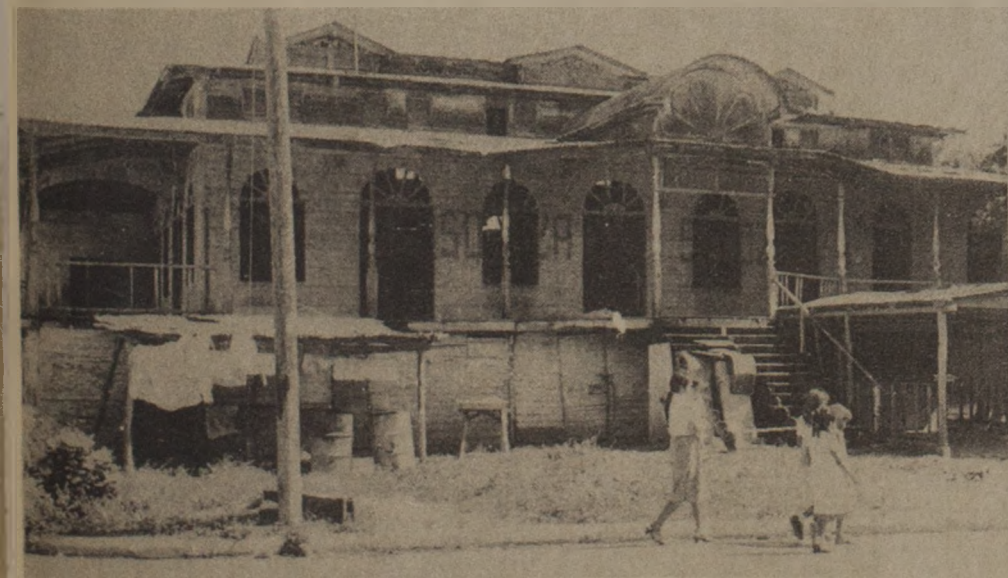
day after day.

Witnesses for Peace delegations visit much of western Nicaragua, meeting with the sons and sisters and fathers and the mothers of those who have died, soldiers and civilians. The Nicaraguans cannot change U.S. policy in their country. "Tell your government we want peace," they tell us. "Go back and tell your people we want peace. Tell President Reagan we are tired of fighting. We are tired of the deaths. We want peace. Let us have our revolution in peace."

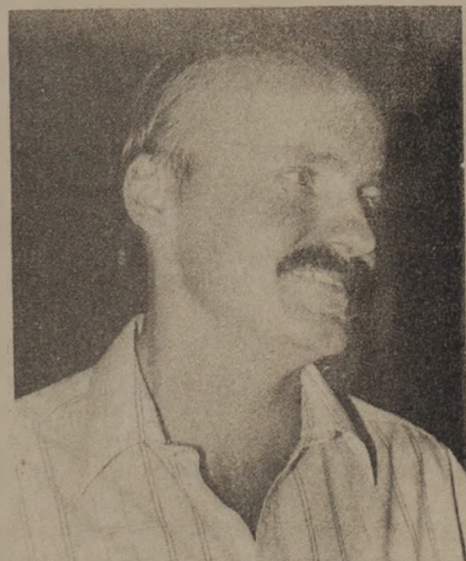
In spite of the economic blockade and the support by the United States of the Contras, public support for the Sandinistas has not weakened as the Reagan administration had hoped. The administration must look more closely at Nicaragua's history with Somoza and the history of U.S. Marine involvement in order to understand Nicaragua's will to be self-determined. This administration must hear the people and see their new pride and dignity. The people recognize that the Sandinistas are not saints, but they also recognize the will of the new government to help banish hunger, illiteracy, disease, unemployment and humiliation. They know the hearts of their governors. They know what their

government has done for social development. It is not as President Reagan has said, that the Nicaraguan people feel betrayed by the revolution. This administration sees what it wants to see and uses the tactic of gun-boat-diplomacy which will not bring stability to the region but will make the region more unstable, and the price in civilian lives has already been too great.

There are other solutions. One is to study our own revolution again and to see how we experimented with forms of government, and how we muddled through the first part of the revolution just as the Sandinistas are doing. In the beginning of our revolution, our new government, the aims were much the same as in Nicaragua: to seek out a government that would feed the people and give them dignity and self-determination, free from the rule of other countries. It takes no great stretch of the imagination to see that Nicaragua wants those freedoms that we desired in our break with England. The course of this administration must change to allow Nicaragua those liberties, to experiment in order to feed their people.



A house on the beach in San Juan Del Sur. The name of its former owner—Somoza—is still visible. Once a party house for the dictator, his friends, and prostitutes, the building is home to several families.



Robert Fretz, Consul General of the U.S. Embassy in Managua.

Hall Creek (cont'd)

described meaningfully unless it can be described within the context of the land, ecology and land use situation. As stated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in their June 26, 1984, biological evaluation, "This can best be accomplished by developing an area development plan in which the constraints necessary to protect all surface resources including wildlife and endangered and threatened species are used to identify the parameters within which filed development could occur." This has not been achieved to date since there has not been a balanced financing for in-depth ecological studies, threatened, endangered, and sensitive wildlife species studies, soils, hydrologic and fishery surveys, and other resource inventories. This has created a severe lack of basic planning information in an area of national wildlife significance. Inventorying the wildlife and fish (all living resources) on the Lewis and Clark National Forest requires more than a textbook census of a few animals. It's not numbers of any given species that is important; the vital consideration, as mandated by the Endangered Species Act and the National Forest Management Act, is protecting or enhancing the habitat of the diversified species occurring on the Lewis and Clark National Forest.

The public right to know the anticipated impacts of the proposed actions in advance is well-founded in the National Environmental Policy Act.

The Glacier-Two Medicine Alliance believes that before this or any other project should proceed, the most thorough planning and consideration for all resources must be completed. There is a need for a five- to ten-year comprehensive program for developing and locating energy resources along the Rocky Mountain Front, establishing appropriate exploratory and developmental areas and removing, in advance, those tracts which are environmentally unacceptable at the beginning. Exploration and development for oil and gas should begin on our least ecologically sensitive lands. This level of planning was not reflected in the Hall Creek APD Environmental Assessment. As a result, we request that the approval for this project be withdrawn and the Environmental Assessment be redone.

SMALL WORLD FESTIVAL

Schedule of Events

Monday, April 22

15th Anniversary of Earth Day, afternoon pilgrimage to the "M" and an evening poetry reading on Jacob's Island near the university, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 23

Agricultural, Environmental and Energy Issues for Montanans, 7:00 p.m., U.C. Lounge (several guest speakers will present their area of expertise).

Wednesday, April 24

Grassroots Political Involvement, a how-to discussion, Mt. Sentinel Room, UC Center, 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 25

Philosophies on Ecology and Aesthetics, 7:00 p.m., U.C. Lounge.

Friday, April 26

Wilderness Allocation and the Montana Wilderness Bill - Where are We?, 7:00 p.m., rm. LA11.

Saturday, April 27

Small World Festival — Environmental Information Fair, U.C. Mall and vicinity, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Exhibits, horsepacking demonstration, information tables, live music, films (Next Year Country, Heartland and Dr. Seuss' Lorax), games and more. . . Also a special, healthy menu offered by the Copper Commons cafeteria.

Matthew Hansen Benefit Dance at the Moose Lodge. Chili feed beginning at 7:00 p.m., live music and dancing from 9:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m.

SMALL WORLD RUN — registration at 9:00 a.m., run beginning at 10:00 at Jacob's Island. 10 K (approximately 6 miles).

How would you like to help fight famine in Africa? We are joining a national effort to raise money for drought-stricken African countries. The money we raise from the university will go to OXFAM AMERICA and the AMERICAN RED CROSS. If you would like to donate money, please come to the Student Action Center or look for donation cans on campus.