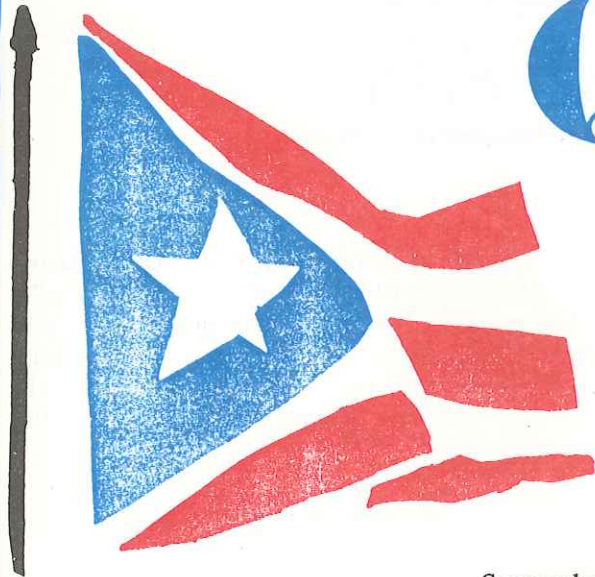


*"On the agenda is the supreme decision: Yankees or Puerto Ricans?"
Pedro Albizu Campos*



QUE ONDEE SOLA

September 1984, Vol. XIII, Num. 3

MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH IN STUDENTS' STRUGGLES

-Boycott Enters 4th Year

This fall student mobilization around major issues affecting latino students at Northeastern (UNI) have been initiated. On September 7th, 1984 the **Union for Puerto Rican Students (U.P.R.S.)** launched the 4th year of its boycott of Ignacio Méndez's Puerto Rican History courses.

In the past 3 years the success of the boycott has forced the History Department to reassign Mr. Méndez to teach courses outside his job description in order to attract students. Despite this latest attempt to break the boycott, Mr. Méndez's Puerto Rican History course continue with little or no students.

-Students Pack Intro Class to Mexican Caribbean Studies

The issue concerning former Puerto Rican History professor José López has taken a promising turn of events. The Center for Inner City studies (CICS) has hired him as a part time instructor to teach History and Cultures of Ethnic Groups. As of September 12, 50 students packed into Professor López's class.

Three years ago Professor López was fired under the pretext that he did not finish his doctoral dissertation. The latino students charge the History

Department and the U.N.I. administration of firing Professor López in order to keep him from getting tenure. The Puerto Rican History position was then offered to Mr. Ignacio Méndez. Mr. Méndez promised the students not to take the position because he supported the students rights. Mr. Méndez, within a week, broke his promise to the latino students and took the position. The latino students immediately initiated the boycott.

-New Minor Under CICS Sent to B.O.G.

The course History and cultures of Ethnic Groups is the proposed introductory course to the Mexican Caribbean Studies (MCS) minor (formerly known as Chicano-Mexicano Puerto Rican Studies). After many years of lobbying the MCS minor is on the final stage of approval. The minor program is presently being reviewed by the Board of Governors in Springfield Illinois. The Board will submit the MCS minor to the Board of Higher Education for final approval.

The CICS administration has taken an interest in the needs of the latino students housing the MCS

(continued on page 9)

COMMENTARY

Since 1980, the **Union for Puerto Rican Students (UPRS)** has struggled for the creation of a meaningful educational program. At first glimpse, the Chicano Mexicano/Puerto Rican Studies Program appeared to have what no other program which the Union has fought to create has — ensured student participation. After four years of struggle, the program has begun to experience major efforts by the university administration to institutionalize it.

The **UPRS** was informed last summer semester that the studies program had to go through a drastic change. The change involved the name of the program. They (the Union) were explicitly told that, if the name was not changed the Board of Governors (BOG) was not going to approve the program. Immediately thereafter, the administration was quick to suggest “Latino Studies” as a name to replace ChicanoMexicano/Puerto Rican Studies, a suggestion which the **UPRS** adamantly **opposed**. Forced by necessity, the Union then chose to rename the program “Mexican/Caribbean Studies”.

The Union’s refusal of “Latino Studies” was not due to narrow nationalism or to exclude other Latin American countries which do not reside within the geographically specified region. Instead, the refusal was a sound decision made in order to counter the administration’s subtle attempt to control the program.

It is our stern belief that the administration’s attempt to change the name of the program hoped to accomplish two things. First, if the name “Latino Studies” would have been accepted, it would have allowed the administration to place Ignacio Mendez (see front page) as an integral part of the program’s coordination. Secondly, if Ignacio Mendez gained control of the program, it would automatically mean that the administration would control the program. With this the administration would have also found a *home* for an *isolated* Ignacio Mendez.

Although they were not enthusiastic about the name change, the Union still believes that Mexican/Caribbean Studies will serve the program’s basic purpose: to give latino students a quality education. With Mexican/Caribbean Studies it would limit Ignacio Mendez’s probabilities of entering the program, and it would enable the larger spanish-speaking student population, which come from the Mexican/Caribbean basin to give support around this issue.

With the gradual elimination of services to latino students, Mexican/Caribbean Studies is the only vehicle in the future that will not only ensure student participation in their education, but it will also ensure continual service to latino students. These are the reasons why students should work to have this program approved.

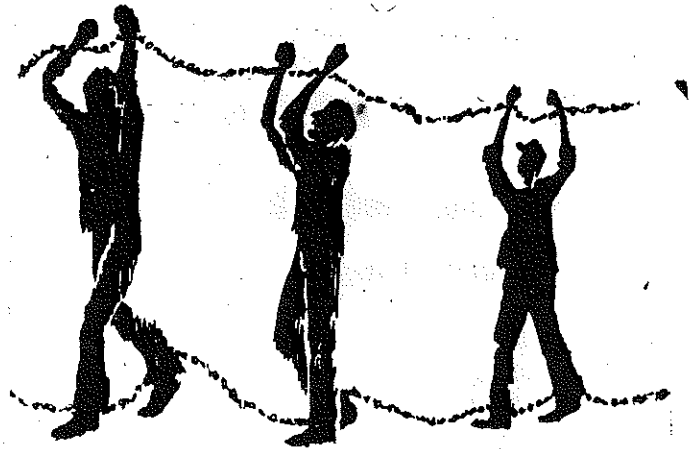


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EDITORIAL

An interesting development that is taking place in universities across the country is the presence of the R.O.T.C. in the university setting. Recently at U.N.I., a group of students have begun to organize a chapter of R.O.T.C. in cooperation with Loyola University.

The R.O.T.C. is the abbreviation for "Reserved Officers Training Corp." Its function is to recruit youth of all levels into the armed forces of the United States. The R.O.T.C. enjoys popular support within many institutions of this society. A good example is the American Public School System.

The public school system forces each high school student to choose between taking a gym class or to become part of a four year R.O.T.C. program before graduating from high school. Aside from the aesthetic appeal to youth, i.e. flashy uniforms, light training in arms, etc., many youth join because of the false promise made by the R.O.T.C. about the life-time advantages that the military can bring.

It projects that the military can provide one with educational and professional skills that will be of great use once you leave the service. Due to the military's propaganda campaign, many high school students, especially students of color, who are unable to continue their education or find a job, usually end up enlisting into the military.

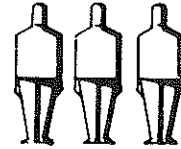
In the past, the R.O.T.C. has recruited on universities with one specific goal: to recruit better educated and prepared men into the military. By promising automatic higher rank, the R.O.T.C. entices many college students to join, thus creating a potential officer elite corp. The advantage of recruiting at the university is the proportion of white students to students of color, i.e. Blacks, Mexicans, Puerto Ricans and Native Americans.

Due to the relatively low percentage of students of color who enter the university, the R.O.T.C. is guaranteed increased white enrollment, who will later join the military. Most likely, the present delicate world situation dictates that the military can no longer trust Third World people in their company. The overriding question to the United States Government is "Can people of color be trusted to combat in the Middle East, Africa, the Caribbean or Central America?" Their answer is no. By technologically advancing the military, it eliminates most Third World people, who come from poor educa-

tional back grounds, and it makes the military more accessible to white middle class youth. Although there are some people of color in the R.O.T.C., their use is of limited value.

Few Third World people have the technological skills (because they are deprived of having these skills by this racist society) to operate computers. The only use that Third World people have to the military is that of front line cannon fodder.

If one studied the world wide oppressive system, led by U.S. imperialism, it would not be a surprise that the R.O.T.C. is recruiting on campuses throughout this country. The fact is that the mere survival of this country depends on it, as demonstrated by the increased surge of U.S. militarism in Lebanon, El Salvador and the rest of the Third World.



Que Ondee Sola is published at Northeastern Illinois University. The opinions expressed in Q.O.S. do not necessarily reflect those of the administration. Responsibility of its contents lies solely with its staff. We appreciate and encourage any and all suggestions or contributions.

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QUE ONDEE SOLA

The following letter was submitted to the Board of Governors with the proposal for the Mexican Caribbean Studies minor.



NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
5500 N. ST. LOUIS AVENUE ● CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60625 ● (312) 583-4050

OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

July 10, 1984

Dr. Robert A. Pringle
Deputy Executive Director for
Academic Affairs
Board of Governors of State
Colleges and Universities
544 Iles Park Place
Springfield, Illinois 62718

Dear Bob:

On behalf of Northeastern Illinois University, I am writing to request Board of Governors approval of a proposed Minor in Mexican Caribbean Studies as a reasonable and moderate extension of existing courses in sixteen academic departments.

The purpose of creating the Mexican Caribbean Studies Minor is to provide a framework for coordinated study in an area of considerable interest to many Northeastern students and faculty. The minor will fulfill the General Education requirement for "a second area of study in addition to the major," and will provide advisement for students who otherwise might take many of these courses as uncoordinated electives.

The proposed program has considerable support among students, and has received approval from the appropriate governance and planning bodies on campus. Attached are a brief summary of the program features and objectives, the curriculum chart appropriate to reasonable and moderate extension requests, and a listing of the participating departments and their relevant courses.

This proposal is consistent with Northeastern's development in international and intercultural studies in recognition of the heterogeneous composition of the urban area. We will appreciate your support in gaining approval of the Mexican Caribbean Studies Minor as a Group IV B program.

Sincerely,

John Cowrie

bc: Barbara Hursh
Jacob Carruthers

jb

U.P.R.S. WELCOMES FRESHMEN STUDENTS

On Friday, September 7, 1984 the Union for Puerto Rican Students (U.P.R.S.) sponsored an Orientation for Freshmen students. The reception was held in the Special Services Portable and was attended by a large group of students. In attendance were representatives of different student organizations, as well as professors and special programs counselors.

Representatives from the U.P.R.S., Chimexla, Comité Colombia, Black Caucus and Black Heritage clubs welcomed the students and spoke about student unity on campus. Dr. Angelina Pedrosa, Spanish Department Faculty member spoke about the importance of students becoming active participants in their education. Dr. Pedrosa also spoke about the importance of maintaining the Spanish Language and feeling proud of our Latino Heritage.

Professor López spoke about the importance of students struggling to obtain a better education. He mentioned some of the services to the Latino students on campus accomplished by previous student struggles. Mr. López highlighted his speech by quoting Frederick Douglas.

"...Those who profess to favor freedom and yet depreciate agitation, are men who want crops without plowing up the ground. They want rain without thunder and lightning. They want the ocean without the awful roar of its waters. This struggle may be a moral one; or it may be a physical one; or it may be both moral and physical; but it must be a struggle.

The activity culminated with a few words from Santos Rivera coordinator of Proyecto Pa'lante. He stressed the need for student involvement in creating programs to service the Latino student body.

The U.P.R.S. thank all the people that helped make this activity a success.

Union For Puerto Rican Students

Meets Thursdays at 12:30 p.m.

Services offered:

Tutoring
Cultural Awareness
Study Groups



Dr. Pedrosa Welcomes Students at U.P.R.S. Activity

The following presentation was given by Dr. Angelina Pedrosa at the U.P.R.S. reception to the Freshmen students.

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to your first academic year at Northeastern Illinois University, and I take this opportunity also to welcome back to a new trimester those of you who are continuing your studies with us. As a faculty member I feel happy to see so much enthusiasm and to see Black and Hispanic students ready to work together and to support each other in their efforts to get a college education. To the Hispanic students I would like to say that when I began to teach at UNI there were only four Black students and two Hispanic students. That was 19 years ago. Today there are hundreds of Black and Hispanic students at the university. This was made possible through the work of many individuals and groups such as the UPRS, Proyecto P' alante and Project success. As a member of the Hispanic Community I am so happy you are here. Our Community knows that you are our only hope to better ourselves. You are our future. We need teacher, we need lawyers, we need doctors, we need counselors.

You are so young and we are putting such a great responsibility on your shoulders. We are saying to you that not only do you have to do well, but that you also have to motivate others. You cannot raise your fists as a sign of power if you do not open your hands first to assist other young men and women in our community. We want you to be proud people, willing to work hard in this university. You do not want anyone to give you a grade. We want you to work hard for your grades and we know you can do it. It saddens me to see how you are forgetting your mother language, because the day you forget your Spanish language you will have broken communication with 330 million people who speak Spanish. You will never have the pleasure of reading a book or a newspaper published in one of the Spanish countries. At the same time we insist that you master the English language and become fully bilingual. We know you can do it. We know you have the abilities. We are here to support you. Welcome to Northeastern.

U.S. IS CALLED READY FOR A LATIN COMBAT ROLE IF REAGAN SHOULD GIVE ORDER

The following perspective was taken from the April 23, 1984 edition of the New York Times.

Washington, April 21 — The Pentagon is now in a position to assume a combat role in Central America should President Reagan give the order, in the view of military specialists and members of Congress.

They say the Defense Department has achieved this state of readiness over the last year through the coordinated buildup of United States forces in the region and construction of new military installations.

"What has been set up is a forward base structure that enables the U.S. South Command in Panama to act quickly if they have to," said Edward L. King, a retired Army lieutenant colonel who formerly served as liaison for the Joint Chiefs of Staff with the Inter-American Defense Board.

"Now," he said, "they can operate in Central America without having to operate out of Panama, which goes against the political grain of the Panamanian Government."

The President and Secretary of Defense Caspar W. Weinberger have both said repeatedly they had no plans to send United States soldiers to fight a war in El Salvador or Nicaragua. But over the last year the guerrilla forces in El Salvador have increased their strength and scale of operation, holding off the Salvadoran Army and pushing the United States toward deeper involvement.

Last spring, when Mr. Reagan was appealing for public support for his policies in Central America, he promised in a speech on March 10, 1983, not to "Americanize the war" by sending a lot of combat advisors or by committing American soldiers to combat. He has kept his pledge not to send United States fighting units into action.

But critics in Congress contend that the Administration is being drawn in that direction. The last year has brought a dramatic expansion of the United States presence and role in Central America. It has seen a gradual growth of United States involvement in actual operations in El Salvador and Nicaragua, the first reported incidents of Americans coming under hostile fire in the field and the rapid development of a network of bases in Honduras.

A year ago, the Pentagon reported a total of about 150 American military advisers in El Salvador and Honduras. Today, the number has increased more than tenfold. By Government count, roughly 1,800 American military personnel are on continuous duty in those two countries and 800 more on a temporary exercise.

Americans now fly regular tactical missions over El Salvador, man radar outposts that scan Nicaraguan waters and airspace and work closely with Salvadoran brigade commanders in contested provinces, where they must carry more arms than last year because of their increased exposure.

The operations of the Central Intelligence Agency have grown, Administration and Congressional sources say, to a point where the three Nicaraguan rebel forces it arms and finances now total 15,000, nearly triple their size in early 1983.

Six airfields in Honduras have been built or improved by United States Army engineers or Navy Seabees at a cost of more than \$50 million; two more are now being built. They serve as landing and jump-off points for thousands of United States troops engaged in a stream of quick-notice military exercises or larger, longer war games. They also serve as supply depots for Nicaraguan rebels, officials say privately.

Major War Game Conducted by Navy

The Navy, which has also made a visible show of force, is now conducting its most extensive exercise in the Caribbean this year. This maneuver, called Ocean Venture I, began Friday and will eventually deploy 350 ships led by the aircraft carrier America and involve 30,000 American servicemen.

"I don't think a year ago outside of the Administration we had any inkling all of this was coming," said Representative Michael D. Barnes, a Maryland Democrat and prominent critic of Administration policy. "There is a constant continued escalation of the war down there and since we're running it, there's been a constant escalation of our activities."

"We've been misled consistently about where we're headed," Mr. Barnes went on. "They do seem to want to keep the direct involvement of U.S. personnel out of it, but the line they have drawn appears to be difficult to adhere to."

Facing renewed questions about the Administration's intentions, Defense Secretary Weinberger on April 8 reasserted the Administration's position that there was "no plan, no strategy, no thought of putting U.S. combat troops" into Central America.

Significant Policy Shift Reported

He said the Pentagon had no contingency plans for using American combat forces, but other high-ranking Pentagon officials said the Defense Depart-

ment had recently begun drafting contingency plans for possible use of combat troops. In what they called a significant shift in Pentagon thinking, the Defense Department, they said, has adopted the political policy of being prepared to use combat troops if leftist forces cannot be defeated any other way.

Within the Administration and on Capitol Hill, the steady expansion of the American military role is seen as a deliberate strategy promoted by some senior military commanders with support from top civilian officials, outflanking the slower-moving diplomacy of the State Department.

"I think American policy toward Central America is largely dictated by military concerns," commented Senator Jeff Bingaman, a New Mexico Democrat, expressing a view widely held on Capitol Hill.

"The military, mainly in the South Command, has a fairly well thought out, long-range plan," said Mr. Bingaman, a critic of Administration policy. "The Administration's lack of any real diplomatic strategy in the region has meant that the military strategy of increasing our pressure has taken the place of a foreign policy down there."

Area Commander a Key Advocate

The most vigorous proponent of the military buildup, officials say, is General Paul F. Gorman, commander of the Southern Command with headquarters in Panama, an officer with a reputation as a hard-charging, vocal anti-Communist and with command authority over all military operations in Central America.

Other important advocates of the buildup in the Administration are reported to be Gen. Wallace T. Nutting, commander of the Readiness Command based in Tampa, Fla., and Lieut. Gen. Robert L. Schweitzer, a former Reagan White House national security aide who is now chairman of the Inter-American Defense Board affiliated with the Organization of American States.

This policy approach is also said to have strong support among policymaking officials like Robert C. McFarlane, national security adviser to the President; William J. Casey, Director of Central Intelligence; Fred C. Iklé, Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, and Vernon A. Walters, a retired general with long experience and acquaintance in Latin America, who is now an ambassador at large in the State Department.

State Department Role Said To Be Weakened

According to some State Department officials and Congressional specialists, the expansion of C.I.A. paramilitary operations through the Nicaraguan rebel groups has reinforced the general military cast of the Administration's strategy.

Last year, Secretary of State George P. Schultz won President Reagan's agreement for the State Department to oversee and coordinate Central American policy through an interagency group headed by Langhorne A. Motley, Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs. But in fact, Administration

officials say, the Defense Department often has the prevailing voice on policy towards Honduras and El Salvador and the C.I.A. on policy toward Nicaragua. Officials say that Mr. Schultz and some other State Department aides have more moderate objectives and prefer more emphasis on diplomacy than the other two agencies.

Recently, for example, the opposition of Mr. Casey and the C.I.A. persuaded President Reagan to reject Nicaragua's proposed Ambassador to the United States, Nora Astorga, although Secretary Shultz recommended accepting her.

Moreover, Administration officials say, the State Department is generally reluctant to oppose an increase of military involvement for fear of losing influence by being out of step with the President's thinking and the dominant mood in the Administration.

"Not Very Much Wallop"

"State does not have very much wallop on these things," said one longtime diplomat. "They have to look tough. If they wind up as naysayers all the time, they lose clout. So people are careful when they buck the prevailing trend in this area. Shultz has not stood up. He just floats along, particularly on Nicaragua."

The sharp debate in Congress this spring was kindled not only by unease about the growing scope and depth of American involvement but the danger of American casualties as the military effort gains momentum and, ultimately, the risk of being drawn, perhaps unintentionally, into combat engagement.

This fear has been fed by disclosures that Americans working for the Central Intelligence Agency directly supervised the mining of Nicaraguan ports this spring and speedboat raids against Nicaraguan oil storage facilities last fall, and by an incident in Honduras last Wednesday in which an unarmed American Army helicopter carrying two United States Senators, Lawton Chiles of Florida and J. Bennett Johnston Jr. of Louisiana, both Democrats, came under Salvadoran rebel fire. The rebels said the craft had flown over guerrilla-held territory on a reconnaissance mission.

Senators Escaped Injury

Although both Senators escaped injury, the incident was seen as a symbol of the rising perils of the widening American role.

"The more people you have on the spot, the more chance you have of casualties and the more chance you have of confrontation with Sandinista troops and their Cuban advisers or the Salvadoran guerrillas," Senator Bingaman said.

"The risk-taking has increased," he said, "and so have the chances of an incident that would be used to justify direct American military involvement."

Recently, for example, the Pentagon disclosed that American pilots at bases in Honduras and Pana-

ma now provide regular tactical support for Salvadoran Army units by flying reconnaissance missions over battle zones.

A military official in San Salvador said that he and other Americans based there had flown with Salvadoran pilots on training missions on which they had occasionally made bombing runs against leftist guerrilla units. Others have reported that American military advisers are more regularly out in the provinces with Salvadoran commanders than a year ago.

Exposure of Advisers to Five Reported

During the Senate debate over emergency military aid for El Salvador in early April, Senator Jim Sasser, Democrat of Tennessee reported that mobile American military training teams had been exposed to hostile fire in three incidents in recent months when Salvadoran military compounds they were visiting were attacked by guerrillas.

Mr. Sasser and other Congressional sources have also reported incidents in which an American marine at the Tiger Island radar station in Honduras suffered a gunshot wound and American Special Forces troops operating nearby in Honduras was fired upon.

In one instance last January, a Honduran officer told Congressional specialists, a Honduran platoon with four American advisers stumbled into a fight with a Salvadoran guerrilla column near Chilotea, about two and a half miles inside Honduras from El Salvador. But the Honduran reportedly said that the Americans did not fire their weapons and were not hurt.

Strategy Role Laid to C.I.A.

Pentagon spokesmen decline to comment on such reports. The Defense Department has instructed American advisers in Honduras to stay at least 10 miles away from the Salvadoran frontier, officials said.

Congressional sources also reported not only that C.I.A. agents supplied and closely supervised rebel units of the Nicaraguan Democratic Forces operating from Honduras, but also that some American agents had flown on missions over Nicaragua on Honduran Air Force helicopters flown by Honduran pilots to supply rebel forces. In addition, the C.I.A. is said to have been directing the military strategies of Costa Rican-based insurgents, the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, by threatening to withhold aid if the insurgents did not pursue the agency's objectives.

The most striking symbol of the changed American presence in Central America since last year is the network of refurbished bases in Honduras. The main impetus for the construction was the large American military exercise known as Big Pine II, which began last August and ended in February.

When that exercise ended, Secretary Weinberger said that about 800 American servicemen would remain in Honduras to prepare for further exercises. Since then, the Pentagon has increased that figure to 1,700, most of them at Palmerola Air Base, the American military headquarters in Honduras.

The most expensive American-built installations in Honduras are Palmerola Air Base, which cost \$19 million, and a port, airfield and regional military training center at Trujillo, which cost \$28.6 million, according to the Pentagon. Other airfields at San Lorenzo, Aguacate, San Pedro Cula and Puerto Lempira and two radar stations at Tiger Island and Cerro La Mole cost a total of \$3.8 million, Pentagon officials say.

Ammunition Stockpiled

Large stocks of ammunition are being prepositioned for American troops at San Lorenzo and Trujillo and 13 miles of concrete tank obstacles have been built on the Honduran side of the border with Nicaragua south of Choluteca, according to the Pentagon.

Since April 1, 800 troops from the 864th Army Engineer Battalion at Fort Lewis, Wash., have been in Honduras improving airstrips at Jamastran and Cucuyagua as part of an exercise called Granadero I. During a second phase of that exercise, starting May 23, 1,000 American airborne troops will fly or parachute into regions adjacent to the Salvadoran and Nicaraguan frontiers.

The President of Honduras, Roberto Suazo Córdova, is urging the Administration to build a joint naval base at Puerto Castilla on the Atlantic Coast that could cost over \$100 million. The Reagan Administration has made no decision but General Gorman and John D. Negroponte, the United States Ambassador to Honduras, have publicly endorsed the project.

Funds for Airfield Held Up By Congress

Congress has already appropriated \$8 million for another airfield at La Ceiba but is blocking the funds as leverage to get the Pentagon to spell out the Administration's strategy more fully.

Democrats like Senator Sasser, informed by military officers that the Pentagon intends to hold military exercises in Honduras running into 1989, have charged the Reagan Administration with developing a permanent military presence in that country with wider objectives. "We're not being told the whole story," Senator Sasser declared.

The Administration and Republican backers like Senator Ted Stevens of Alaska and John P. East of North Carolina reply that all the American-built facilities in Honduras are temporary, not permanent, and that exercises are being conducted to serve as a deterrent to a potential Nicaraguan attack on Honduras.

"The U.S. has no base in Honduras, nor are we seeking to establish any bases there," said Col. Richard Lake, a Pentagon spokesman. "The U.S. has access to airfields in Honduras."

Purpose of Exercise Explained

A Pentagon statement on Granadero I said that American participation in that exercise "reflects our resolve to reassure Central American nations of our continuing support and cooperation in the improvement of regional defense capabilities."

In practice, the American buildup in Honduras has enabled the Administration to get around its self-imposed limit of 55 American military trainers in El Salvador. And within El Salvador, the number of American military personnel has been modestly expanded to 97 by adding to the United States Embassy's defense attaché's office and stationing personnel in San Salvador temporarily.

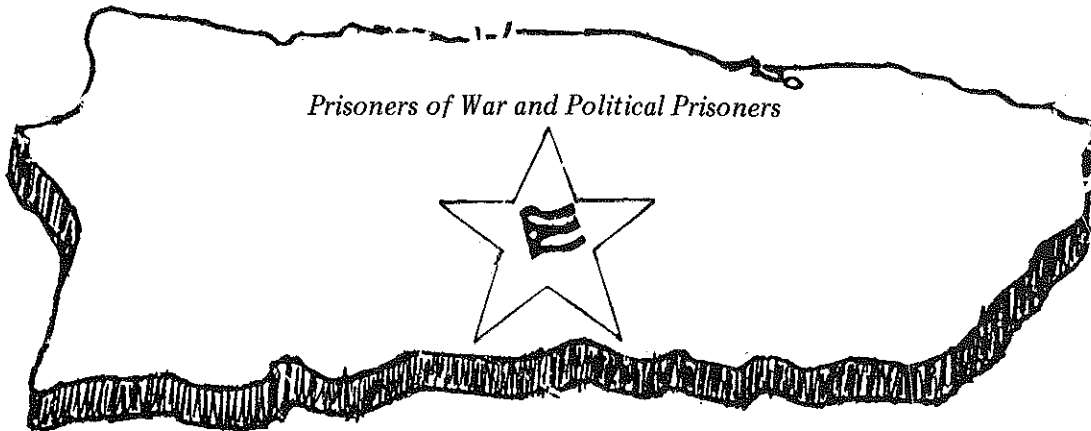
In addition, the burden of training several thousand Salvadoran troops this year has been carried by 160 to 170 Special Forces troops based at the Honduran training center near Trujillo.

Perhaps more significant, the Pentagon has reported that since mid-February the 300-man 224th Military Intelligence Battalion based at Plamerola Air Base in Honduras has been providing regular tactical support to Salvadoran Army units fighting leftist guerrillas in eastern El Salvador.

(continued from front page)

minor and hiring Professor José López to teach History and Cultures of Ethnic Groups. The latino students acknowledge the efforts of the CICS administration and is grateful to them for addressing the needs of the latino students on campus, which Sectors of UNI administration continues to ignore.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY.



ADOLFO MATOS

CARLOS TORRES

FELIX ROSA

JULIO A. VERAS

Sección Poética

El Techo

Me llevan al techo solo
acompañado por dos polizantes.
De su miedo nace lo absurdo
con un techo tan seguro.
Si me pudiera ir sería
como el famoso Pitirre en el aire.

Miro a un lado y
veo a la ciudad con sus inmensos edificios.
Son de un gobierno corrupto y de una agencia represiva;
Son las corporaciones multi-nacionales
que explotan al hombre y al mundo.
Veo a la gente con la prisa de llegar a tiempo.
Me pregunto ¿para que?
Para que los ricos sean más ricos y los pobres más pobres.

Miro para el otro lado
veo el lago
con sus aguas azules
y tan bonito
sueño con mi patria
libre y socialista.

Miro hacia el cielo
veo un jacinto sol,
mi cuerpo siente sus rayos,
respiro el aire . . .
Recuerdo que ahora intentan
una guerra nuclear contra ella.

Voy para el otro lado
me siento y pienso
de este maldito país,
donde el hombre es explotado por el hombre,
donde nuestras mujeres son abusadas como objetos,
donde nuestros hijos son maleducados,
donde nuestros prisioneros de guerra son maltratados,
y donde mantienen a nuestra patria colonizada.
¿Hasta donde llegará este maldito país?

Por Edwin Cortés
Prisionero de Guerra Puertorriqueño



"I'LL SURVIVE, CHECK IT OUT"

Vienen los días y
Pasan las noches
Siempre sufriendo
En un mundo cruel.

Many times it seems
Like an antisocial
Atmosphere, without
Your love one so
Tenderly near.

Ain't no love lost
I'll survive, esta
Cara latina will
Not have to hide,
From all the nega-
Tive people on
This planet.

Like I said I'll
Survive, I depend
On me and no one
Else.

That's by law
'Cause only I
Can guide my-
Self.

Check it out.

BY: MYRTA REYES
UNI Freshmen Student

Páginas de la Historia

Es un hecho que en esta universidad no se enseña la verdadera historia de Puerto Rico. La versión que pretende enseñar el Departamento de Historia, es una versión distorsionada e incorrecta. Como resultado de la necesidad imperante que tienen los estudiantes latinos de que se les enseñe su historia sin ninguna desinformación, Que Ondee Sola comenzará la sección "Páginas de la Historia."

EL GRITO DE LARES:

nacimiento de la nación puertorriqueña

El 23 de septiembre se conmemora en Puerto Rico lo que se conoce como, El Grito de Lares. Esta histórica fecha a pesar de ser conocida por muchos, hay todavía otros que la desconocen.

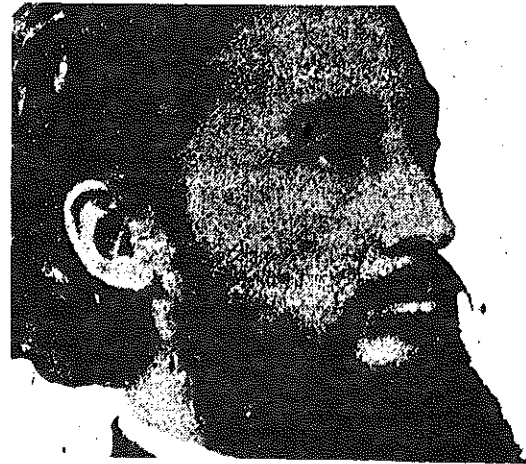
El Grito de Lares fue un levantamiento armado en contra de la tiranía del régimen español. Este levantamiento fue organizado por Ramón Emeterio Betances, conocido también como El Padre de la Patria. Betances, siendo médico tuvo la oportunidad de percibir las condiciones pésimas en que se encontraba Puerto Rico y comprendió que para cambiar estas condiciones era necesario hacer la revolución.

Betances junto a Segundo Ruiz Belvis, abolicionista y revolucionario, formaron un comité y establecieron un puesto de comando para el levantamiento. Betances se hallaba exilado en Santo Domingo, pero ya se había fijado una fecha para la insurrección. El 29 de septiembre sería el levantamiento y se había hecho saber entre la gente quienes estaban listos para luchar.

Betances en Santo Domingo contaba con lo necesario, 500 rifles, 6 cañones y una embarcación para llevarlos a Puerto Rico donde habrían de unirse con los combatientes en Lares. Desgraciadamente, el 22 de septiembre, una semana antes de la rebelión un miembro de la organización revolucionaria. Manuel González, fue arrestado encontrándosele nombres y planes relacionados con la revolución.

Este hecho llegó a oídos del comité revolucionario en Lares, y fue entonces que Mariana Bracetti, Matías Bruckman y Manuel Rojas, todos miembros del comité, decidieron atacar cuanto antes.

Así que, el 23 de septiembre, 400 personas armadas con machetes, palos y algunos rifles, rodearon el pueblo de Lares y luego de una corta batalla marcharon victoriosos por las calles principales. El al-



Ramón E. Betances

calde y seguidores de la corona española fueron arrestados. Los trabajadores se deshicieron de las denigrantes libretas de trabajo y los esclavos fueron puestos en libertad.

En la plaza de Lares ondeó la bandera de la república, diseñada por los combatientes y hecha por Mariana Bracetti y la bandera de la revolución con las palabras, "Libertad o Muerte, Viva Puerto Rico Libre! 1868".

Estos patriotas declararon en aquel glorioso día la república de Puerto Rico. Lares fue una victoria y un momento de cambio histórico en Puerto Rico. Se había definido y había nacido "La Nación Puertorriqueña"

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