

# Terrorism claims 782 lives

By CARMEN MISENER

In 1985 alone 782 lives were claimed by international terrorism, an article in *Newsweek* suggests that terrorism may become part of everyday life as governments prey on each other for revenge. On April 14, 1986 American F-111s flew over Tripoli and Benghazi Libya, hitting the cities with 2,000-pound laser-guided bombs. 37 Libyans and 2 Americans were killed in the 11 minute raid.

All of the above have the common link of terrorism, but it was in 1985 that Mideast political violence took a turn for the worse. As usual it was the innocents who paid the

heaviest price. On May 22, a carbomb exploded in Beirut, killing scores of people. On June 14, Shiite Muslims hijacked a TWA flight and redirected it to Beirut; one American was killed. On September 16, a Palestinian terrorist hurled a grenade at a cafe in Rome, injuring 38 people. On September 30, four Soviet Embassy staffers in Beirut were kidnapped. One was later killed. On October 7, Palestinian gunmen seized the Italian ship Achille and murdered an American tourist. On November 23, an Egyptian plane was hijacked; 57 lives were taken. In December, gunmen, allied with Palestinian causes, murdered 14 peo-

ple in the airports of Rome and Vienna.

This all happened in 1985 and led to the American bombing of Libya in April of the following year. The bombing was condemned by many of the United States' allies, but there have been few proven incidents of Libyan-sponsored terrorist attempts since.

The latest target for the U.S. government to blame is Iran. Secretary of State George Shultz said recently that all the Lebanese kidnappers had connections to each other - and to Iran. Iran has also been a sore spot to the Reagan administration. The U.S. arms deal with Iran, which has had Reagan in trouble for the last 3 months,

was motivated by several complex reasons, one being the freeing of hostages held by terrorists.

The irony of the Iran arms

deal and increasing Mideast terrorism illustrates the helplessness which governments feel - for when dealing with terrorists there is no definite solution.

## One year ago

Almost one year ago on February 28, Olaf Palme, Prime Minister of Sweden was assassinated by a lone gunman as he and his wife walked down a snow covered Stockholm street on their way home from a movie. Called the "Dove of Peace" Palme's death sparked a wave of speculation about his death, which has been linked to West German terrorists. However, one year later, his death is no closer to being solved than it was the day it occurred.

One year ago this month, the world was delighted to hear of the overthrow of two of the most notorious dictators to grace this planet - Ferdinand Marcos and Jean Claude "Baby Doc" Duvalier. Marco's, from his estate in Hawaii has at various times threatened to return to the Philippines while in contrast, Duvalier spends his days in leisure in France, waking up at noon and heading off to a fun-filled day of tennis and a luxurious meal at one of the only restaurants in the resort town in which he lives.

Meanwhile in the Philippines, Corazon Aquino is attempting to consolidate her power after having won a landslide victory in a national referendum which will see a

revision of the Philippine constitution. By all appearance, the Philippines have accepted her government but not without some reservations. The economy is still in dire straits, unemployment is rampant, and the Shining Path Guerilla's, a pro-communist anti-government group is making inroads in the small island on the outskirts of the country.

Despite all the odds, however, the "housewife" turned "politician" has overcome some insurmountable obstacles during her short reign as President of the Philippines. Attempted coups, guerilla fighting, riots in Manila streets as well as threats from Marco's that he will return have kept Aquino with a shaky hold on power.

In Haiti, one year after Duvalier's ouster, bitterness and unrest persist as the same social inequalities and economic problems which plagued the Duvalier regime still exist. In fact, as one farmer said in an interview with *Time*, "It is worse now because we were expecting so much." Almost half of Haiti's three million strong labour force are unemployed and it is estimated that eight out of ten of the country's population are illiterate.

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This spring the Forum on Faith, sponsored by St. Paul's United Church, centers on the theme "Art, Religion and You." In the first of 7 Sunday evening sessions, musician Lutia Lauzon will focus on the topic "Music." It will be held in the church parlour of St. Paul's (York and George Streets), Sunday, February 22, at 7:30 pm.

The campus ministry team invites you all to join us in a series of 6 ecumenical services during the Lenten season. These services, which promise to be inspiring with lots of good music, will be held on Sunday evenings in the chapel of the Old Arts building, beginning March 8, at 8:30 pm.

Christ Church Cathedral is holding a pancake supper on Shrove Tuesday, March 3, at 5:30 pm, in the Cathedral Memorial Hall, 168 Church Street. Everyone is invited.

We wish all of you a relaxing mid-term break.