

Excalibur

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Metro groups gather at the U.S. Consulate to express their support for the people of El Salvador.

David Himbara

Students rally for El Salvador

Reg Hunt

York students were among a crowd of over 250 Torontonians who celebrated Ronald Reagan's inauguration Tuesday by declaring their support for the people of El Salvador.

The demonstration, organized by The Committee for Solidarity with the People of El Salvador, braved the cold on University Avenue to gather in front of the United States Consulate.

The committee is made up of 25 student, church, and labour groups in Toronto. Waving placards they paraded in front of the Consulate for over an hour, chanting "Hands off El Salvador."

Their concerns, say committee spokesmen, are that the United States will increase military aid to the ruling junta of the tiny Central American nation, where approximately 10,000 people have died over the last year in guerilla warfare between the left and the right.

In addition to the York contingent, groups represented included students from Emmanuel College of the Toronto School of Theology and the University of Toronto and representatives of *In Struggle*, the Communist Workers Party, and the Trotskyite League. The demonstrations were well organized and behaved, allowing pedestrians to pass through their ranks.

Four Toronto police, shivering in the late afternoon chill, looked on, and personnel in the U.S. Consulate were observed at the

upper story windows, drinking wine and making obscene gestures at the demonstrators below.

Activities at York will commence on Monday January 26, with a slide presentation at noon in the Bear Pit, and the screening of the Film,

Revolution or Death, at Bethune J.C.R., 8:30 p.m. The film and slide show will be screened daily at various locations: Tuesday, Jan. 27, at 8:30 p.m. in Founders J.C.R.; Wednesday, Jan. 28, at noon in Room 106, Osgoode Hall; Thursday, Jan. 29, at noon, in the Bear Pit.

The final event of the week will be a benefit concert from 4:00 to 6:30 pm on Thursday, Jan. 29, in Curtis Lecture Hall "I". The Latin American group, *Los Campaneros*, will be playing, in addition to the well-known Uruguayan performer, Maria Rossini.

Typist and CYSF in pay battle

John Molendyk

A prolonged and bitter dispute over unpaid wages continues between former Council of the York Student Federation Typing Service Manager Vedwa Maraj and her former employers, more than a month after her resignation last December.

Maraj contends that she is owed \$1,016 in unpaid wages and vacation pay while CYSF Business Manager Gary Empey says that by his calculation CYSF owes her about half that figure.

Maraj also complains that "extreme harassment" by CYSF Business Manager Gary Empey was the cause for her leaving the service. Empey denies ever harassing her, but said that he "called her on the carpet" for her performance as manager.

Maraj began as the service's manager as May 1980. Her contract ran from May 1 to September 30, paying \$250 weekly. She was responsible for the service's promotion, financial affairs and personnel.

The current controversy began in September. Maraj said that in a

meeting with Gary Empey that month he held her personally responsible for the service's operating losses, and threatened to fire her if these losses were not reduced.

Empey denied making the firing threat, but said that he did hold her responsible for the service's losses, which he estimated to be on average about \$700 per month.

By the end of September Maraj's contract had expired and was not renewed. Maraj said that she was instead pressured by Empey to work longer hours at no extra pay.

Empey said that because of her managerial capacity he wanted her to do only what was necessary to keep the service a viable concern. He emphasized that a manager with a salary must meet this obligation.

Former CYSF President Keith Smockum said that in October he recommended Empey reduce the responsibility of Maraj's position, to a less managerial role. He also recommended a wage cut to \$170 a week.

Whether or not Maraj ever received formal notice of the wage

cut is unclear. Although Empey says she was told of the cut in October, Maraj denies this.



Vedwa Maraj

Jonathan C. Mann

Maraj advised the CYSF on December 5 of her intention to resign, and ceased working two weeks later. She said that when she tried to collect her final paycheck on December 19, Empey refused to release the funds.

See 'Lawyer', page 8.

Rape charge reversed

Greg Saville

Another charge has been laid for a recent alleged rape near campus but it seems the incident is not as serious as originally thought.

Metro Police 31 division Staff Sergeant R. Judge said a woman has been charged with public mischief after police discovered that her allegations of a rape and robbery were unfounded. Sgt. Judge could not release names of those involved in the January 2 incident at University City but did say, "there is no indication this person is a student at York University."

There still does not appear to be evidence of an alleged rape attempt recently on the York campus and according to Sgt. Judge, "these kinds of rumours are always flying around."

The allegations follow the rape of a Driftwood Ave. woman Dec. 30 and subsequent arrest of a juvenile last week.

York Security Chief George Dunn has stated he knows of no recent incidents at York. "Of course there's always the possibility these incidents may not be reported," he said, "but I doubt it."

Student rates urged

Berel Wetstein

Led by Downsview homemaker, Ruth Sisberg, Metro area student councils, including York's, will be circulating a petition in an attempt to have the Toronto Transit Commission introduce a student Metropass for \$20 a month.

Sisberg, who ten years ago took on the TTC and won, having a bus route re-established near her Bathurst Manor home, said, "I am again fighting for selfish reasons." She went on to explain that she has a son and a daughter attending Seneca College. "I don't see how you suddenly go from being a student to an adult fare just because it's Post Secondary school."

Her proposal is being sponsored at York by the Council of the York Student Federation.

Bill Frost, Executive Assistant to TTC General Manager Michael Warren, told *Excalibur* that the commission has studied the proposal.

See 'Move', page 8.