

Will 'umbrella' stop rain?

Cruise agreement slammed

by Ken Lenz

Several anti-nuclear groups including the University of Alberta Group for Nuclear Disarmament organized a protest last Friday at City Hall.

Over 200 people turned out to protest the signing of the "Umbrella Agreement" between Canada and the United States.

This agreement will result in permitting all future testing of any weapons (excluding nuclear, biological and chemical) through consultation with the defence departments of Canada and the U.S. according to a pamphlet which was distributed at the rally.

"The agreement means that we the public have no say as to whether or not the cruise missile is tested," said spokesperson for the University of Alberta Disarmament Group Sarah Heisel.

Spokesperson for Edmontonians for a Non-Nuclear Future (ENNUF) Rick Lundrigan stated, "The reason there are so many people demonstrating here today is because all recent polls indicate

that the majority of people who have an opinion on the subject don't want the cruise tested in Canada."

"They (the government) are trying to play this issue down and bring the cruise missile in step by step so the people don't know where to draw the line," said Coalition for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) spokesperson Mike Walker.

"Allan MacEachan says it (the Umbrella Agreement) doesn't necessarily mean the Cruise, but we all know he wants to test it here," said Walker.

Peter Doering, an individual citizen sporting a placard stating "Nikita (Kruschev) said we'll bury you" was the single voice of the pro-cruise opinion. "I have no quarrel with these people, they mean well. It's just that they are misguided and misinformed," said Doering.

The rally climaxed with about 20 more resolute demonstrators occupying the Armed Forces Recruitment Center.

About half an hour into the rally Walker received word that the Armed Forces office had been occupied and, although not endorsing the action, suggested that some of the protestors show their support by marching to the office located blocks away.

Many of the protestors marched to the site where police had already proceeded to lock the door and were stationed comfortably away from the protest. Protestors then began chanting the catchy slogan, "There's no death like it."

At about 5 pm police carried the protestors out of the building one by one.

The protestors were entertained during the demonstration by folk singers Cathy Palmer and Lynne Weeds.

Overall, the protest, including the illegal occupation of the office, ended peacefully and without any charges laid.



photo Bill Inglee

Protesters march in front of City Hall. They really start 'em young don't they?

Families control country?

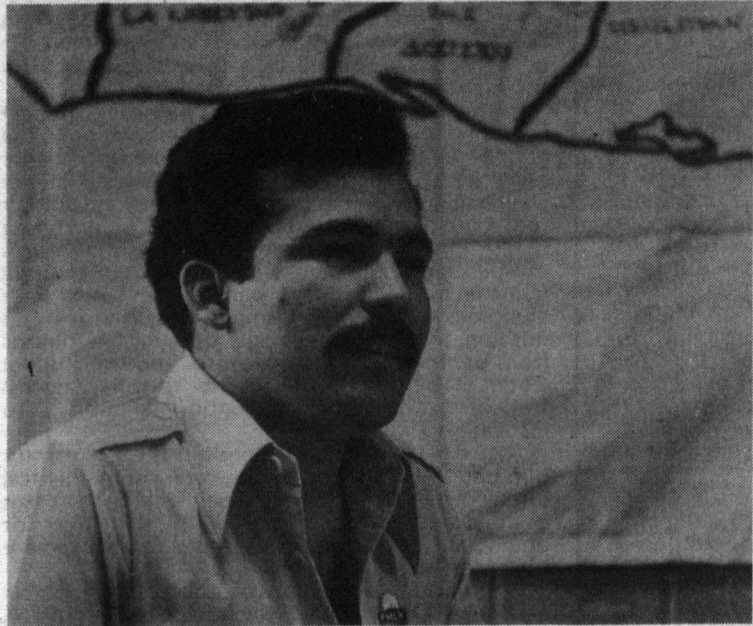


photo Zane Harker

JP Cedillos pointed out how 14 families rule El Salvador.

by Richard Watts

The Political Science Undergraduate Association played host to JP Cedillos, a revolutionary spokesman from El Salvador last Friday.

Cedillos is a member of the FDR-FMLN (Democratic Revolutionary Front-Farabundo Marti for National Liberation) and has been in Canada for several months.

With Oscar Ammar of the PSUA translating Cedillos' Spanish, the forty odd people were given an analysis of the present situation in El Salvador.

According to Cedillos, a

"dominant class" of approximately 14 families has, through a military government maintained a monopoly control of El Salvador's banks, industries, commerce and ownership of 60 per cent ownership of the countries arable land.

The political economic conditions of El Salvador keep the working and peasant class living in inhuman conditions.

These conditions which the majority of people in El Salvador are forced to live has "obliged the people of El Salvador to resort to political and military methods in a desperate attempt to solve the

problems of our country."

To date the revolutionaries in El Salvador have achieved control of approximately one third of that country. Within these "zones of control" the revolutionaries are not only maintaining bases for their guerilla forces they are also attempting to establish a new order.

"The new democratic revolutionary government is being formed through a unique process without any specific ideological alignment," said Cedillos.

Cedillos also lambasted the efforts of the United States' efforts to undermine the revolutionary movements in South and Central America.

Cedillos claimed the United States was deliberately trying to undermine the credibility and stability of Nicaragua and indeed Central America in general. Cedillos fears that by doing this the U.S. hopes to lay the groundwork for an excuse for an invasion of Central America.

Cedillos also stated that within the United Nations seventy one nations had confirmed the violations of human rights within El Salvador, 18 nations with military regimes voted against the motion and 55 nations (including Canada) abstained.

Cedillos called these abstainers "silent accomplices in the crimes being committed within El Salvador."

"It is your duty, the duty of the Canadian people to pressure their government into taking a position that is in the interests of my people," said Cedillos.

Montreal gets Guardian Angels

MONTREAL (CUP) — Private volunteers will soon be patrolling Montreal's subway system in an attempt to prevent crime.

The Guardian Angels, a group that began three years ago in New York, began recruiting in Montreal at the end of January, following a series of attacks at some subway stations.

A similar group, the Western Protectors, established an Edmonton chapter in 1982.

The Angels patrol the subway system in groups of at least eight, attempting to prevent crime both by their high visibility and by intervening when they can.

Jean Boisvert, leader of the Montreal chapter, said if the Angels come across a crime in progress, "We would try to neutralize the assailant, without using violence. We will also be able to help the victim, and we hope to prevent crime by just being in the area."

Guardian Angels undergo a three-month training period where they are taught unarmed self-defence, how to neutralize someone, first aid, and the legal aspects of their work. Boisvert

expects to begin patrols at the end of April. He said the group will also run an escort service for the aged and shut-ins.

Lawrence Hannigan, chair of the Montreal Urban Community Transit Commission (MUCTC), said recently he would welcome the Guardian Angels, as he would any citizens' group willing to help.

But closer to the action, Chief of Metro Security Pierre Andre Duchesneau is not as eager to have the Angels in Montreal.

"They may start off as gentlemen, but I'm worried about the future. Will they start making the law by themselves, making their own justice? And one day they will have to fight, what happens then? What will they do when they see a woman being attacked?"

Duchesneau said the transit commission is taking advantage of the Angels' presence to avoid increasing their own security.

"Give me eight-man patrols and I could do as much as they will do."

Tony Emery, the dean of Fine Arts at Concordia University, issued a bulletin to students and

staff warning them to avoid the nearby Lucien L'Allier Metro station at night after some students and professors were recently mugged there.

"It's really the responsibility of the city and of the transit commission to maintain security," she said.

Boisvert contacted Emery about the situation at Lucien L'Allier, but said he did not know enough about the Angels to decide if they are a good idea.

"How will we know what patrols they have and when? What if they don't ask when or where they should be? It would be much better if they would elaborate a plan to co-operate."

Boisvert said his organization will make every effort to co-operate with the MUCTC. He said he has already sent a letter out to Hannigan on the subject.

Duchesneau said if the Angels follow the same pattern here as they have in New York, then in a few months they will request free monthly passes.

Will prez DIE?

Formal charge have been laid with the DIE (Disciplinary Interpretation & Enforcement) Board against SU President Robert Greenhill for breaking executive confidentiality.

The charges have been laid by Students' Council Arts rep. Dwayne Chomyn on two counts.

The charges are a result of Greenhill's reading of a confidential memo in Thursday's SU election forum. The memo was a confidential note from SU Business Manager Tom Wright to the University indicating a willingness by the SU to sell the space in SUB currently rented by the University Bookstore.

Greenhill read the memo to verify his claim that the Therrien Slate was using the sale of this space in their election financial platform unfairly since it had already been initiated by this

term's executive.

Chomyn is charging Greenhill with compromising SU executive Committee confidentiality and with jeopardizing the negotiations of the sale.

"I think he (Greenhill) violated his responsibilities to the SU for the purpose of getting himself elected," said Chomyn.

Greenhill counters that except for the date on the memo the knowledge had already become public in last Tuesday's Students' Council meeting.

Greenhill also stated, "I'm sure that it hasn't jeopardized our negotiations." Chomyn had other reasons: "I think there is a principle involved here that should be examined."

Greenhill concluded, "It's unfortunate the way it came out but in a sense I welcome the opportunity to clear myself."

Canada a super colony?

Southern comfort?

WINNIPEG (CUP) — There is a way to beat the system, and students are in an ideal position to learn how, according to American consumer rights advocate Ralph Nader.

Nader, a self-described "full-time citizen," told more than 300 University of Manitoba students Jan. 29 that many problems facing Canadians are because "you're not in control of your own country."

He called Canada "the world's leading super-colony for the U.S.," and urged Canadians to develop "citizen skills" such as learning how to lobby for certain issues.

Universities are an ideal place to practise these skills, Nader said, because students have an internal communication system and can combine activism with their daily routine.

Nader said that becoming effective citizens would aid students in examining their university.

He said students should look at how courses are chosen, and what type of information is and isn't taught. "I don't know what it's like here, but in the States the courses are a mere image of job market demands."

The humanities and social sciences are considered "flabby" in the U.S., he said. In commerce, "knowledge that could offend the powers-that-be is not offered. The

kind of knowledge that is taught is heavily shaped by corporate values."

Nader also used engineering as an example of courses inculcating students in corporate values.

"They teach you to be engineers for the corporation rather than teaching you the kind of engineering that would remedy the pollution the corporations are causing."

"Why did it take so long to find out what they were dumping into the Great Lakes? It wasn't the corporation's job to examine and reveal that."

He said citizens must gain experience and skills to fight corporate misconduct.

"More harm is caused by corporate violence than by street crime; but when was the last time you saw a corporate executive go to jail for polluting the St. Lawrence River?"

Nader said if students become involved, "the boredom that pervades students would be eliminated. You need subject matter that challenges the values."

He called on Canadians to organize a march on Washington, D.C., to bring attention to acid rain. He said Canadians have never marched in Washington before, and such a demonstration would command the attention of Americans who now ignore the issue.