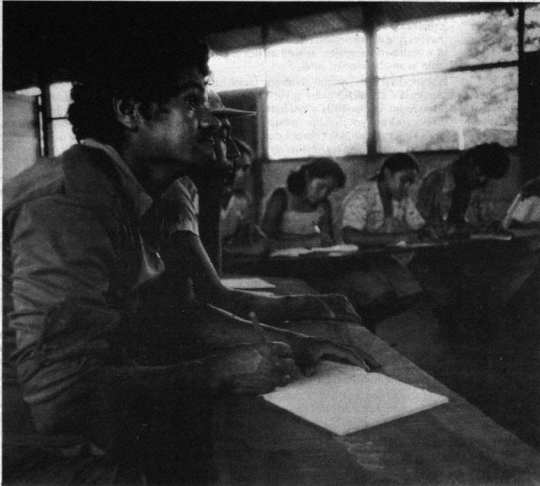


Nicaragua 1987:

Revolution, war and daily life

In five weeks you can see and learn a lot, but also not a lot, in Nicaragua. During my stay there last June, the fifth visit in as many years, it was brought home to me just how complex and contradictory are the realities of revolutionary Nicaragua.



The schoolhouse, built collectively three years ago, is used from morning till late evening. Almost everybody studies: grandfathers, mothers, sons, and granddaughters, most of whom seem to be in grade three.

This is reflected in the variety of feelings one can experience in Nicaragua, from shock and revulsion at the poverty of the country to exhilaration at a rousing political event. One can feel frustrated by unrealized meetings and by lack of transportation in Managua, saddened by the daily reports of atrocities committed by the Contras against civilians, buoyed by a conversation with a hard-working children's librarian. There is admiration for the energy and staying-power of so many Nicaraguans, living and working and "putting their grain of sand" into the revolution under conditions most of us in Canada would find intolerable. There is surprise at the number of foreign journalists, the delegations of students, professionals, working people from Europe and the U.S., a feeling that the eyes of the world are on this small country and its revolutionary process. And, yes, there is pain and anger.

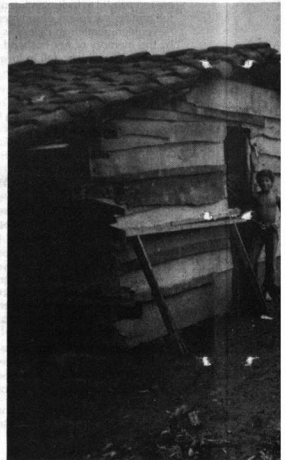
I had expected to find that material living conditions for most inhabitants of Managua, the capital city and home for nearly one third of Nicaragua's three-plus million people, had deteriorated since living there in '85-'86. Even for those who do not follow Nicaraguan affairs closely, the news items available in the Canadian media had conveyed a fairly grim picture.

It was, in fact, worse than I

had feared. Inflation, which really took off in 1986, and reached well over 500%, has increased in 1987. Street conversations, talk at the research institute where I was based this June, friends from before, all indicated to me that daily life had become quite hard. It is not outright hunger — there are many other things which citizen have to cope with. Frequent shortages of various food items, scarcity of medicines, of clothing, of school and home supplies, of spare parts for vehicles and machinery, fewer buses on the road, power and water cuts are all problems most Managuans face on a daily basis. My impression of that the deterioration in the economy and material life in the one year from June 1986 to June 1987 amounts to the same as what occurred in the three years from 1983 to 1986.

The city of Edmonton has 789 transit buses for 576 249 people. Managua is a city of

one million, 150 buses in this means cups are our visitors who Managua be physical inti with strange than those good friend bers at hon Nicaragua, may be fou challenge a chance to se close." But t buses every- to go shoppi to a hospital, or day-care matter. Ther must catch town from rush to tran and at rush may pass the they are tox bus, fiders i fight their v the exit, or t



Nicaraguans at home: Dona Luisa and son

The Ü of A Ski & Rugby Clubs

present from Vancouver



WEA Recording Artists

54.40 and guests

Saturday November 14

WOODS LOUNGE

New Hours: 5:30 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.

Tickets: Jubilee Box Office, World House, 800 & 528 Sts. Seattle & Club Members. No Minors — Age 13, Required

THE GERMAN ACADEMIC EXCHANGE SCHOLARSHIP

FIELD OF STUDY: Open
VALUE: Tuition fees and living allowance for ten months beginning October 1.
NUMBER: 1
CONDITIONS: Applicants must be Canadian citizens, have a first degree by the date of tenure, not more than 32 years of age, and be sufficiently fluent in the German language.
WHERE TENABLE: At a German university or an academy of art or music.
DONOR: The Federal Republic of Germany.
APPLY: By letter to the Director of Student Awards by December 1. Letter should include academic background, study plans in Germany and projected plans after return.

THE KILLAM EXCHANGE SCHOLARSHIP WITH FRANCE

FIELD OF STUDY: Open
NUMBER: 3
CONDITIONS: Each year the University recommends to the Government of France three graduating students "Assistants" in either secondary French education or French literature. Students participate in this for nine months (October to June) at a reduced rate of living allowance. Applicant must be a Canadian citizen, at least 18 years of age and a resident of British Columbia for the past five years.
DONOR: The Killam General Endowment of the Government of France.
APPLY: Director of Student Awards