

# POPULAR REALITY

A VITAL ORGAN OF THE SHIMO UNDERGROUND

Number 1 June-July 1984

25¢

THE CAMPAIGN TO NOWHERE  
by Terry Epton

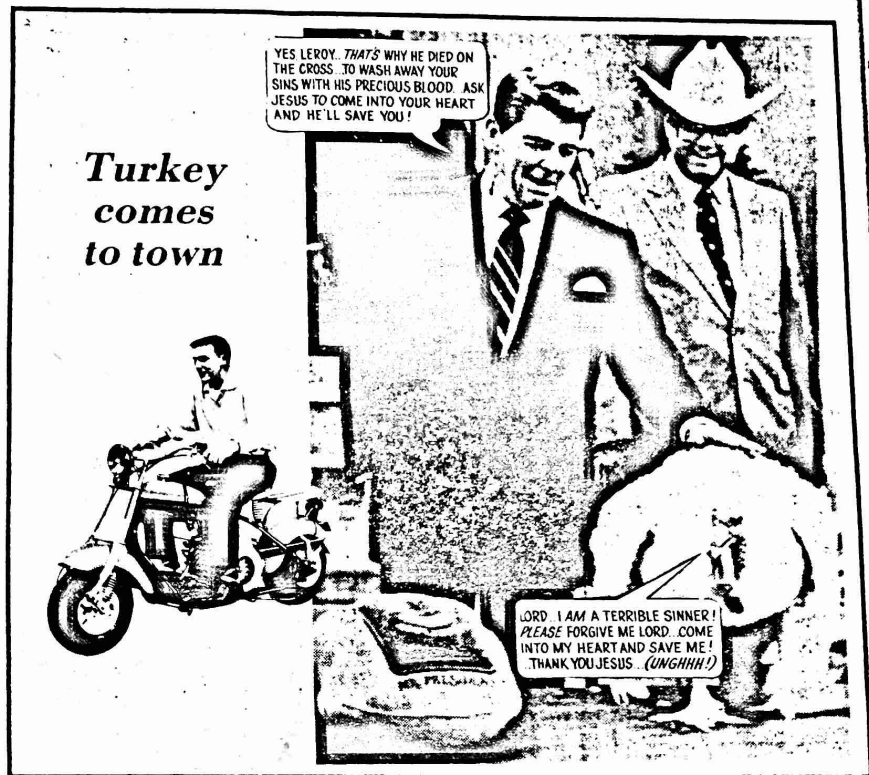
With Democratic primary battles raging and the presidential election a few months away, radicals are asking themselves: "So what?" It is a good question, because anti-authoritarians invariably reject electoral politics. All of the candidates, both mainstream and third party, represent shadings of the status quo. Anyone who would be president is dangerous.

However, some candidates are more dangerous than others. In evaluating different presidential aspirants, it is necessary to be clear on what we want from our political leaders. The most essential quality is that they be easy to hate.

America's president is the living symbol of our enemy, the State. We need someone to focus our scorn, distrust, and abuse on. From this perspective, the best recent presidents have been Lyndon Johnson and Richard Nixon. Both were ugly, inept, and tangibly evil. Each did as much to disrupt and discredit government authority as the generations of radicals who struggled against them.

Inoffensive, mild presidents like Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter were frustrating disappointments. Despite their persistent bungling, it was impossible to get really worked up over them. They were good for a chuckle or yawn, at best.

From a disruptionist standpoint, by far our worst recent president was John Kennedy. His style, youth, and good looks charmed most of the nation. He could assassinate foreign heads of state, lay the groundwork for the Vietnam War, and wire-tap Martin Luther King without



subsequently tarnishing his progressive image. The Bay of Pigs and the Cuban Missile Crises would have provoked furious demonstrations under LBJ, but Kennedy was able to pull both off with barely a murmur of opposition.

Ronald Reagan is widely considered to be the central threat in 1984. However, the politician with the greatest potential for inspiring trust and confidence in government is Gary Hart. His Kennedy-esque image and youthful good looks will make it nearly impossible to get millions into the streets, cursing his name.

Either Ronald Reagan or Walter Mondale would make ideal targets for the radical opposition. Single-handedly, Reagan has already re-ignited the peace movement and re-invigorated environmentalism. Half the country despises him and every-

thing he stands for. Walter Mondale would be almost as good. His shrill style, hooded eyes, and reputation as a lackey of special interests make him easy to loathe. With very little effort, Fritz could become the LBJ of the 1980's.

In the early 1930's, when Adolph Hitler was on the verge of assuming power, the German Communist Party muted their opposition to him. Believing a Hitler victory would alienate the progressive masses, the German CP reasoned that a brief Nazi incumbency would touch off a people's revolution. The tragic consequences of this miscalculation have made later generations of radicals wary of similar strategies.

Is Ronald Reagan a potential Hitler? Does the increased danger of nuclear war under Reagan require us to support any liberal who runs against

**Vote for me**

him? It would be nice if things were that simple. But unfortunately, all the mainstream candidates are committed to American military hegemony. Despite their support for modest reforms like the nuclear freeze, all the serious presidential hopefuls represent confrontational cold war policies. We cannot escape Reaganism simply by dumping Reagan. Radicals inevitably lose by selecting between several horrendous choices.

The essential point is that we avoid contaminating ourselves and legitimizing electoral politics through our participation. Never vote for anyone no matter what they promise. Only a depraved, masochistic, egomaniacal degenerate would want to be president. Whoever leads this country is automatically my enemy. Here's hoping we don't get stuck with a villain in hero's clothing.

**Vote for me too**

**elections 1984**

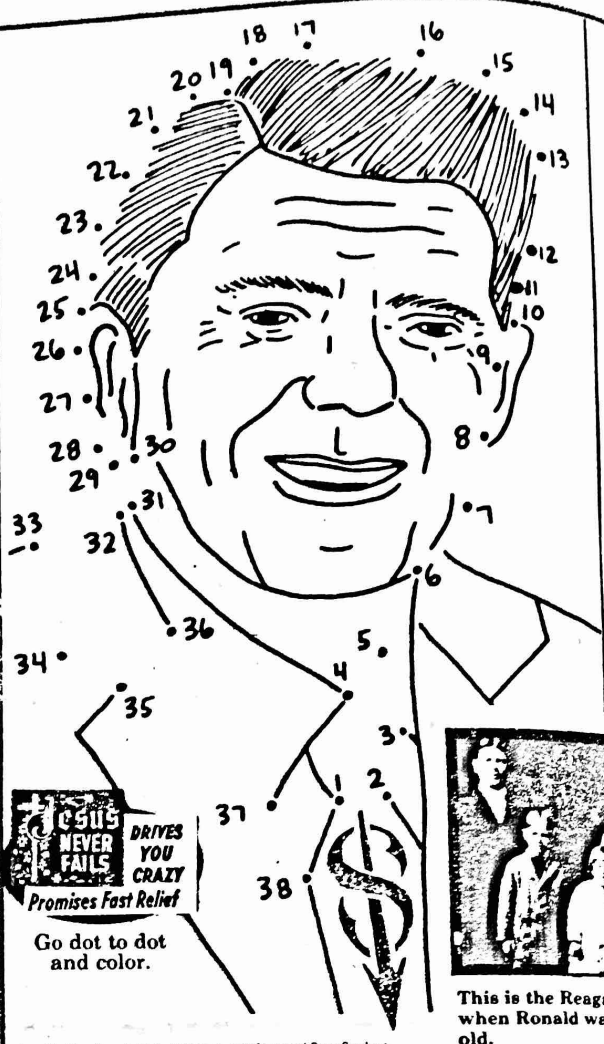
**PLACEBO**

NO HOSTAGE NECESSARY IF JAILED IN THE UNITED STATES



**Special of the Week!**

**Bat Guano 30 lb. keg \$49**



**JESUS NEVER FAILS DRIVES YOU CRAZY Promises Fast Relief**

Go dot to dot and color.



This is the Reagan family when Ronald was 2 years old.

from The Mini Page by Betty Debnam © 1984 Universal Press Syndicate

... a picture drawn in black and white, with little or no modulation, [and] including only a few of the many elements that go to make up the role of the mature male. Thus we find overemphasis on physical strength and athletic skills, with almost a complete omission of tender feelings or acceptance of responsibility toward those who are weaker. It is, after all, a picture drawn by children, and it is not enough.

(Hartley, 1959, p. 459)

**DON'T WASTE YOUR VOTE... DON'T CAST IT.**

ELECTIONS ARE DUMBOCRACY IN ACTION. Politics is like a pond: the scum rises to the top. No matter who wins, we lose. In polytricks, left is right and right is wrong. Politicians lie for a living. Only one thing about them you can count on: if elected, they'll hurt you if you don't do what they say.

VOTERS ARE THE TOOLS AND FOOLS of the overlords of their "choice." All voting is voting for voting. If you make the System work, you better believe it'll return the favor!



EVERY POLITICIAN'S "PLATFORM" IS A SCAFFOLD. The Constitution is a suicide pact. Just read "between the lies": "If any form of pleasure is exhibited, report to me and it shall be prohibited." We see the statist skull beneath the democratic skin.

THE PARTY FAITHFUL don't know it but the party's over. The electoral sheep still bleat about "majority rule," oblivious to the unruly majority. "The harder you look, the bigger the crook." Politicians ought to be cannonized, not canonized. For bullies, bullets, not ballots! Who needs Them?

The Last International-2000 Center St. #1314 Berkeley, California 94704.

**THIS IS A LETTER TO THE PUNKS**

**FOREIGN PUNKS**

**5000 PUNKER SIND DA**

**SATURDAY AUGUST 4TH 1984**

**CHAOIS DAT**

**HANNOVER FIRST WORLD WIDE MEETING**

**das Chaos von Hannover**

... a dense collage of text, images, and slogans. Includes phrases like 'SORRY WE CAN'T GIVE YOU OUR ADDRESS', 'I AM JOE'S', 'I AM JOE'S by Brother Righteous', 'Full of constantly', 'gling to', 'has cosed', 'brainchi', 'Not fo', 'what is', 'another', 'this muc', 'follow', 'is an a', 'so many', 'anyhow?', 'And y', 'well, I', 'I know', 'paper y', 'pressed', 'that y', 'that e', 'is oka', 'access', 'some t', 'ahold', 'the a', 'print', 'accou', 'whate', 'under', 'crim', 'The', 'flaw', 'fash', 'the', 'tive', 'hear', 'ing', 'fru'.

IF YOU'RE OLD ENOUGH TO VOTE, YOU'RE OLD ENOUGH TO FIGHT

## Vote for me

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## Vote for me too

Elections  
1984

**PLACEBO**

NO HOSTAGE  
NECESSARY  
IF JAILED  
IN THE  
UNITED STATES



**Special  
of the  
Week!**

**Bat  
Guano  
30 lb. keg '49**

2  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
33  
34  
Pro  
Go  
8

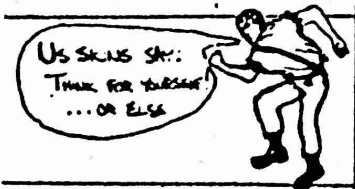
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The Last International - 2000 Center St. #1314  
Berkeley, California 94704.

IF YOU'RE OLD ENOUGH TO VOTE, YOU'RE OLD ENOUGH TO FIGHT

I AM JOE'S REALITY...  
 by Brother Wretched, the  
 Righteous Derwish

Full of paradox and conflict,  
 constantly changing and strug-  
 gling to remain the same, Joe  
 has cosen Popular Reality; the  
 brainchild of a senile society.

Not for adults only, after all,  
 what is an adult anyway but  
 another dead child? And if  
 this much is true, doesn't it  
 follow that the only good child...  
 is an adult? And why are there  
 so many adults in El Salvador  
 anyhow?

And yet people say I'm mad-  
 well, I am mad. I'm mad because  
 I know that when you pick up a  
 paper you don't want to be de-  
 pressed. No, you want to be told  
 that you're doing a great job,  
 that everything you do and say  
 is okay. But because of the  
 accessible nature of the press,  
 some DEVIANT MANIAC might get  
 ahold of such printage, and we,  
 the alleged editors of such  
 printage, would be held morally  
 accountable as accessories to  
 whatever horrors he/she committed  
 under the influence of our indis-  
 criminate condonement.

Therefore we are forced to  
 flaunt convention, (as is the  
 fashion), and once again turn  
 the camera obscura of our collec-  
 tive mind into the zenith of our  
 heart's desire, producing amus-  
 ing visionary feedback for a  
 frustrated age.



Meditate  
 on this.



"BOB" Dobbs  
 for  
 Big Brother  
 in '84

BOTTOMS  
 UP.

## FREEZE REAGAN-BUSH AUG 18-23 DALLAS, TEXAS

### JOIN THE PEACE CONVOY

(SAN FRANCISCO)—A river of buses, campers, vans, cars and home-  
 made vehicles is expected to wend its way from the annual  
 Rainbow Gathering for World Peace near Mt. Shasta and the  
 Oregon Border down to San Francisco for the Democratic  
 Convention, on down for the Olympics in Los Angeles and then on to  
 the giant Peace Protests at the GOP convention in Dallas.

### THE FREEZE REAGAN/BUSH VISION STATEMENT

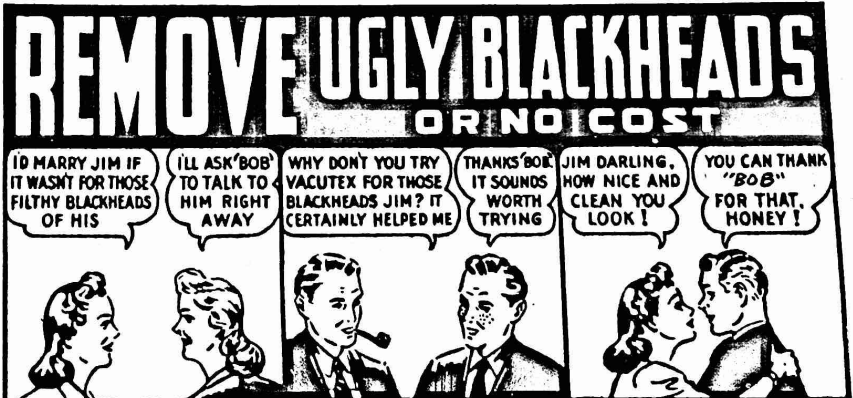
In 1984, Dallas has been chosen as the site for  
 the upcoming G.O.P. convention. We are  
 seeking to provide an opportunity for individuals  
 and affinity groups around the world to engage  
 in creative, non-violent civil disobedience in  
 Dallas. It is time for anti-nuclear, anti-war, anti-  
 draft issues to be addressed DIRECTLY. Labor  
 organizations, students and youth organizations,  
 environmental and ecology groups, independent  
 truckers and farmers, women's groups, gays  
 and lesbians, the economically disadvantaged,  
 drug reform organizations and others will be  
 gathering in Dallas to say NO to the threat of  
 global holocaust and death. We gather to say  
 YES to a world where people, animals, plants,  
 and the earth itself is respected and valued.  
 Our solidarity in anger is our power, in our  
 numbers is our strength.



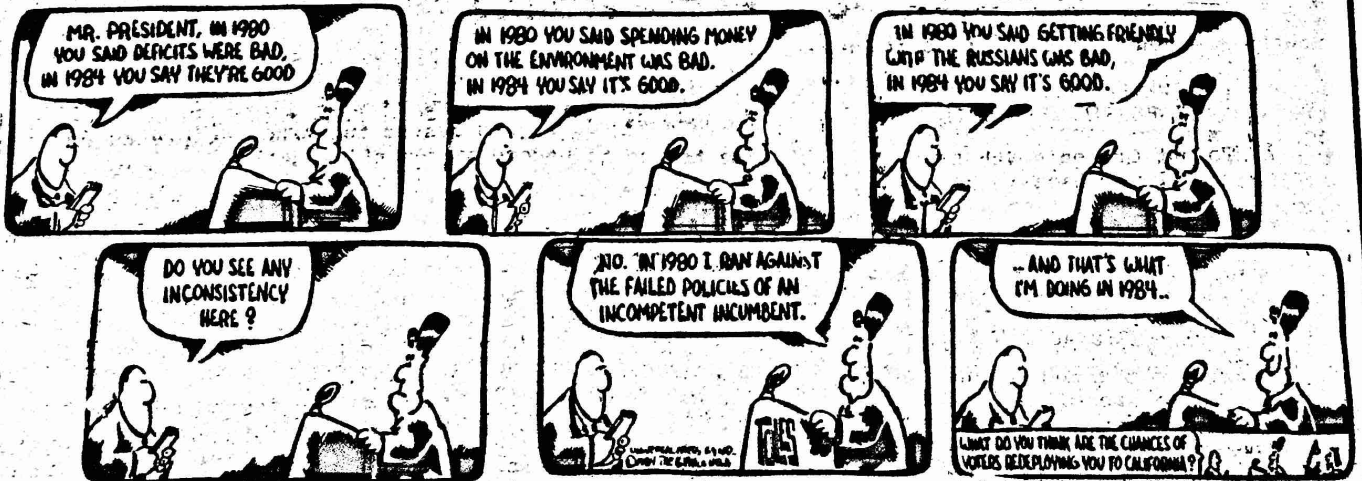
DIE GRUENEN  
 D-53, Bonn

The impact of political processes no longer stops at national borders. We object to being  
 made the theatre of Ronald Reagan's war. Therefore the Green Party of Germany and the  
 affiliated groups active in peace movements across Europe welcome and endorse the Freeze  
 Reagan/Bush campaign. We plan to take an active role in Republican National Convention  
 protests here in Dallas, and to hold simultaneous actions on the Continent.  
 DIE GRUENEN im Bundestag, DIE GRUENEN, Hessen; GRUEN-ALTERNATIVE Liste, Hamburg;  
 ALTERNATIVE LISTE, Bw; FKO, BUU, BBU Germany ("Peace-Movement")

FOR MORE INFO: (312)363-4466



## A New Leash on Life



CATCH ANY SUCKERS, DOUGHBOY?  
by Scarecrow

Buying has become sacred, so let's get down on our knees, peek through the keyhole and try to get a look at the ropes and pulleys that have hoisted it into heaven. Not surprisingly, it's most pious exhortations are the revelations of none other than those abject devotees who indubitably have merchandise they want to be rid of. Buying, as all the priests of wholesale and prophets of retail will be sure not to mention, shares in that mysterious quality which is the raison d'etre of all 'Ideals' and deities. Their common secret being that none of them exist! Yes, buying is

**THERE ARE LOTS OF GOOD REASONS TO SHOP**

TOO MUCH DESIRE **YES!**

**Urgent Must sell**

WHY THE PLEASURE? **Must Sell**

**COME IN AND SEE OUR WIDE SELECTION**

**Must Sell!**

**Just Arrived!  
2 loads  
from the  
East.**



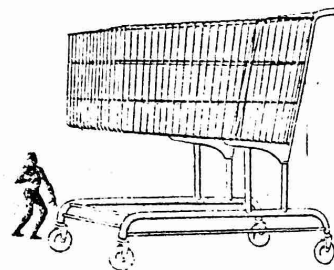
merely a trompe l'oeil, a phantasmagoria, a mirage created by the ubiquitous voice of the marketplace which saturates the psychosphere with it's own peculiar brand of delusion. As the chameleon masquerades beneath it's camouflage, so selling shrouds itself in buying. It is like that clever horse trader who uses the appellation 'donkey' as a means of covering his 'ass'.

Behind the mask, beyond the facade, there lurks the glowering countenance of selling. Buying is a protracted leaching away of self, a selling of time, the coin of memory, the irreplaceable blood of life. Erosion is it's currency. It's specious image is worn smooth, except for an eye, frozen open full of inanition, and the universally acknowledged epithet 'ARBEIT MACHT FREI' which still remain discernable. The turbid vapors exuded by the swamps of advertising envelop it in mystique. Hypnotic suggestions triggered by the symbols on grocery coupons drown the thirst of it's victims in induced frenzies. Subliminal mesmerization dons an evolutionary posture in order to ape free will.

Inside the walls of paradise, at the center of the supermarket labyrinth, a virulent beast with a horned head grafted onto the decapitated torso of the Piper

of Hamelin. A textbook operation. A beast whose convulsive laughter has the carts rolling in the aisles.

Postscript: Some friends in Maine have an uncle who suffers the repercussions of 'shell shock' acquired in that great entrepreneurial bonanza, the Second World War. His detachment from earthly considerations is akin to that of a hot air balloon which is held from drifting irretrievably away into the void of an opaque sky by two slim guy wires. One is the routine he has developed of walking the two miles to the post office in order to mail a post card back to the very people he lives with telling them how much he is enjoying himself. The other is the intensity with which he composes grocery lists, meticulously specifying, in a careful hand, the exact brand of each item desired along with notations as to precisely which size, weight or volume is to be purchased.

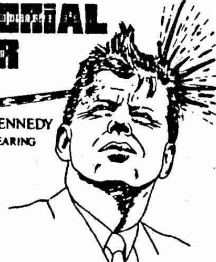


# BE OFFENSIVE!



**JFK**  
**ANNIVERSARY**  
**MEMORIAL**  
**TOUR**

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IN MAJOR CITIES  
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[overseas add \$11.50 more]  
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# Isn't It About Time You Had Some Fun?



## REVERSE THE AGING PROCESS!

LIFE IS REALLY EXCITING \* EXPERIENCE ALL OF IT \* DON'T BE LEFT BEHIND!



Meditate on this.

- ★ Increase your mental clarity and alertness.
- ★ Turn on your creative juices. Work longer, be more productive and cut back on your appetite.
- ★ Produce the positive effects of cocaine and amphetamines without harmful side effects.
- ★ Activate your mind and body while your energy level continues to soar.
- ★ Lets you feel the delight as your awareness grows and your senses expand into new realms.
- ★ Open up a new world of fun, pleasure and excitement.

THIS IS YOUR CHANCE  
DON'T BLOW IT

Now maybe this sounds like a bunch of "mumbo-jumbo" to you. If so — let us suggest this:

Put your doubts aside for awhile and give yourself a chance.

Notice we said "give yourself" a chance.

This principle works ... and all the doubts in the world won't change that. But if you let your doubts get in your way — and you don't at least give it a try — you'll be selling yourself short



THIS METHOD IS FRIENDLY!

*Yes, this is a Real advertisement! So if you have a Real Need for this attractive 2½" PARTY WITH GOD button, just send one thin dollar to: The Righteous Dervish, 1816 Seminole St. Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007*

Are you prepared to receive the shocking literature enclosed?

YES NO

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**SURVIVAL NETWORK INFORMATION CENTER PUBLICATIONS**

The Survival Network is offering a series of publications including some out-of-print booklets and some totally new ones. Included are a series on the Haymarket riot, a series on early anarchist/feminist Voltaireine de Cleyre, a large booklet on surveillance techniques, a publication on Marion Federal Penitentiary, original anarchist fiction, excerpts from The Anarchist Black Dragon Anthology, and the comprehensive SURVIVAL NETWORK GUIDE TO USEFUL RESOURCES, PUBLICATIONS & GROUPS. Write for a list: Survival Network, P.O. Box 52282, New Orleans, LA, 70152

**WE ARE IN SOLIDARITY WITH MOTHER EARTH**

## DON'T LAUGH.

- In November 1983 Congress approved a Reagan budget request funding "training to law enforcement officials of friendly countries on combating terrorism." This Anti-Terrorism Assistance Program is similar to the Agency for International Development's former Office of Public Safety Program (OPS). Congress had closed down the OPS in 1974 after learning that students were trained in torture techniques and bombmaking.
- Under 1983 revised guidelines, the FBI has authority to spy on legal organizations and to infiltrate political groups "in a manner that may influence the exercise of rights protected by the first amendment."
- Domestically, the administration has used the specter of terrorism to give greater power to police and intelligence agencies.
- It has given the CIA legal authority to conduct domestic operations.



Strikes are OUT.  
First-strikes are IN.

## 'Land of the free'

The spirit of Sen. Joseph McCarthy is still chilling free speech in the U.S.

The Reagan administration has repeatedly invoked the McCarran-Walter Act, passed in 1952 at the height of the McCarthyite anticommunist hysteria, to prevent foreign communists, other leftists and progressives from expressing their views in the U.S.

Most recently, Guillermo Ungo, president of the Democratic Revolutionary Front (FDR) of El Salvador, had his visa invalidated in March. Earlier, Hector O'Quell, an international representative of the FDR was denied permission to enter the U.S. to take part in a forum on the Salvadoran elections. Anamargarita Gastazorro, a leader of the youth group of one of the moderate organizations in the FDR was not granted a visa to participate in a tour of international student leaders sponsored by Democratic Socialists of America.

Others who have not made it past the Statue of Liberty since Ronald Reagan took office include Nobel Prize winner Gabriel Garcia Márquez; Tomas Borge, Nicaragua's minister of the interior; the late writer Julio Cortazar; Italian playwright Dario Fo; and Hortensia de Allende, widow of Salvador Allende. Nino Pasti, a retired Italian general who was a member of the NATO Military Committee stationed at the Pentagon from 1963

through 1966, was denied entry after he became a vocal opponent of the decision to place cruise and Pershing 2 missiles in Europe.

Even the State Department concedes that these people aren't out to promote political violence and terrorism in the U.S. Speaking of the denial of entry to Dario Fo, a State Department official said, "Nobody in State thinks that Fo is going to foment revolution or throw bombs. It's just that Fo's record of performance with regard to the U.S. is not good. Dario Fo has never had a good word to say about [the U.S.]" In other words, it's their ideas, not their actions that the U.S. government is afraid of.

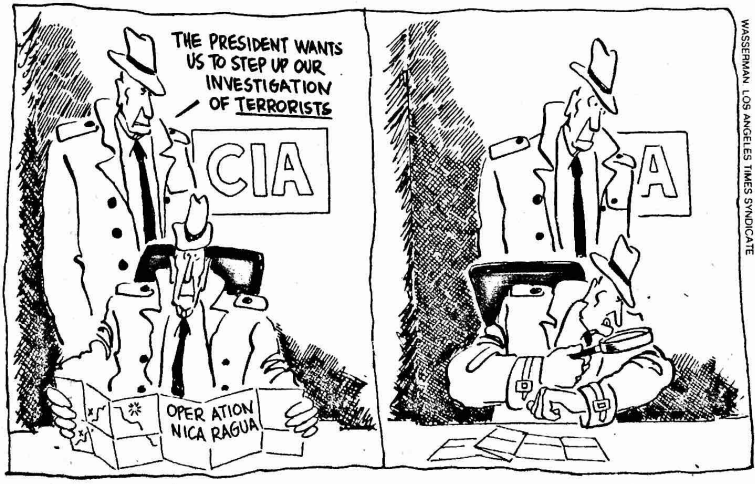
The "ideological exclusion" provisions of the McCarran-Walter Act are so broad and sweeping that they declare foreigners ineligible to receive visas, for example, whenever a consular officer or the attorney general "has reason to believe" that the person seeks entry "to engage in activities which would be prejudicial to the public interest." The result is that people in the "land of the free" are not free to hear dissenting views from abroad.

This archaic and antidemocratic ghost should be exorcised once and for all.

### SURVIVAL NETWORK GUIDE TO USEFUL RESOURCES, PUBLICATIONS AND GROUPS

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8229.



THE LIBERAL: Whenever anybody  
menbans revolvers, he reaches for  
his culture. Progress? The future is  
passee. Why let culture take its  
course? *Misanthropologists*, 55  
Sutter, #487, S.F., CA 94104.

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RULINED MEMBERS OF A CRUMBLING  
SOCIETY! Screwed-up suburbanite  
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0185, 345-7679. (a)

(H)EL(L). SALVADOR? Peace is too  
important to be left to the pacifists,  
much less left to the left. Less  
passivism, more pacifism! Peace-  
mongers, 55 Sutter #487, S.F., CA  
94104.



## WEIRDOS:

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you, but constantly stomped back?  
CUT LOOSE with the insane  
SubGenius Foundation,  
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a society for the bizarre.  
Unbelievable booklet, \$1.  
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Dallas, Texas 75214

MORALISM: Service to causes  
causes servitude. The I's have it!  
Marxist Strikerists, 55 Sutter #487,  
S.F., CA 94104.



FAILING MARK: Maoists: Marxist  
Moonies Trotskyism: Stalinism's  
loyal opposition. Leftism: Too many  
causes, not enough effects. Why not  
go so far left you've left the left  
behind? The left is gauche, make  
your own revolution! Nothing:  
Leftists, 55 Sutter, #487, S.F., CA  
94104.

## Letters to the editor

To the Editor:  
"Fair use" has limitations.  
Remember: the new law  
is not a hunting license.

### TOUCHING A NERVE

as Nicholas Delbanco  
points out: "Good writers borrow and  
great writers steal. What Shakespeare  
did to Holinshed would nowadays put  
him in court. The whole notion of origi-  
nality is modern and, to a degree,  
peculiar; it failed to interest those  
who composed 'Gilgamesh' or 'Beo-  
wulf.'" By the time we are 5 years old

we are already "familiar with gain,  
loss, love, hate, life, death, riches,  
poverty, laughter, sorrow, the very  
marrow of society." If we choose to  
write about these subjects — and  
there are no others — our problem is  
"to find some sufficiently innovative  
context." Other writers help im-  
mensely.



## Hop to it.

ADVERTISERS: Popular Reality is an inexpensive  
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proles, hip young kids and aging cynics.  
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BULK ORDERS- Distributors, Stores, & Hawkers-  
\$10 per 100 plus postage.

To the Editor;

Just who in the hell do you  
think is gonna read crap like  
your Popular Reality? I can  
find no socially redeeming  
purpose for such ilk.

-Dr. Cohen, Kalamazoo

Editor's response:

Our extensive market surveys  
show that the vast majority of  
Americans are pampered, fright-  
ened, bovine recluses who only  
hope that by ignoring abbera-  
tions like PopReal they will go  
away. However, we have pin-  
pointed an extensive lumpen  
element who live to brave the  
streets and alleys of the real  
world, venturing beyond the  
safety of their homes to gather  
in drooling crowds wherever  
there's a fire, suicide, acci-  
dent, riot, or natural disaster  
or oddity in hopes of viewing  
the grotesque or gorey.

This is our audience; the  
morbidly curious, grinning  
Avant-Proles not satisfied with  
the limited viewing allowed of  
the pain and confusion of the  
real world through the easily  
disposable mediums of television  
or corporation-owned daily news-  
papers. In their lust for grue-  
some yuks these sorts crave  
POPULAR REALITY.

R. Bobb of Santa Barbara has  
suggested that PopReal readers;

cannot be stereotyped. They can be lav-  
ish on items that most people wouldn't  
dream of buying and stingy regarding  
what others regard as necessities. The  
most offensive—and they are surpris-  
ingly numerous—are those who are vor-  
acious when it comes to having their own  
work read, yet almost never read words  
written by others and, especially, never  
buy books—small press or other. Some  
are idealistic to the point of martyrdom,  
and others are egotistic to the point of  
psychotic delusion. Some are genuine  
bibliophiles, and others regard books and  
magazines as merely expendable items of  
the communication process—the cheaper  
the better. Grub Street has always been  
populated by unworldly artists living  
cheek-by-jowl with fanatics, idealists and  
hacks.

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No Shame!

Avant-Prole

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Superior Mutant

We are all put here to  
suffer and die

I'd rather be pissed off  
than pissed on

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pages- various articles

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P.O. Box 4900, Chicago, IL.  
60680.



# WORKERS OF THE WORLD...

# RELAX!

(WORKERS AGAINST WORK has received the following  
communique, signed "D.B. Cooper, Land of Cockayne.")

FELLOW LUMPENS:

WORK is what makes the System — work. Anybody  
who isn't revolting against work is working against  
revolt. To get the System out of our systems we  
need to shirk, not work. (As our Polish comrades  
proved when they got tired of being treated like  
kielbasa — and that's no Polack joke.)

SHOW ME a geek who says work is necessary and I'll  
show you a fat cat who doesn't do any.

SOME PEOPLE SAY we need full employment. I say  
we need full unemployment.

SOME PEOPLE SAY "anarchy won't work." That's not  
an argument against anarchy; that's an argument  
against work.

SOME PEOPLE SAY, "Sure, work sucks, but at least  
you get some free time afterwards." Well, the only  
reason they call it "free time" is that the boss  
doesn't have to pay you for it.

LIVING and earning a living are as different as  
capital punishment and the punishment of capital.

ON BEHALF of the working wounded everywhere, I  
hereby issue the following non-negotiable demands:

- FIRST, it's time to commute the sentences of  
everyone sentenced to commute;
- SECOND, it's time to stop paying and start  
playing!

## TAKE IT EASY... BUT TAKE IT!

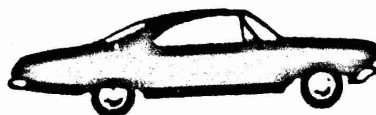
WORKERS AGAINST WORK  
2000 Center St #1314  
Berkeley, CA. 94704



D.B. COOPER SAYS:  
"PLAY FOR KEEPS!  
SELF-HELP MEANS  
HELP YOURSELF!"

## Never Work

I'm going to stay where you sleep all day,  
Where they hung the Turk that invented work,  
In the Big Rock Candy Mountains.

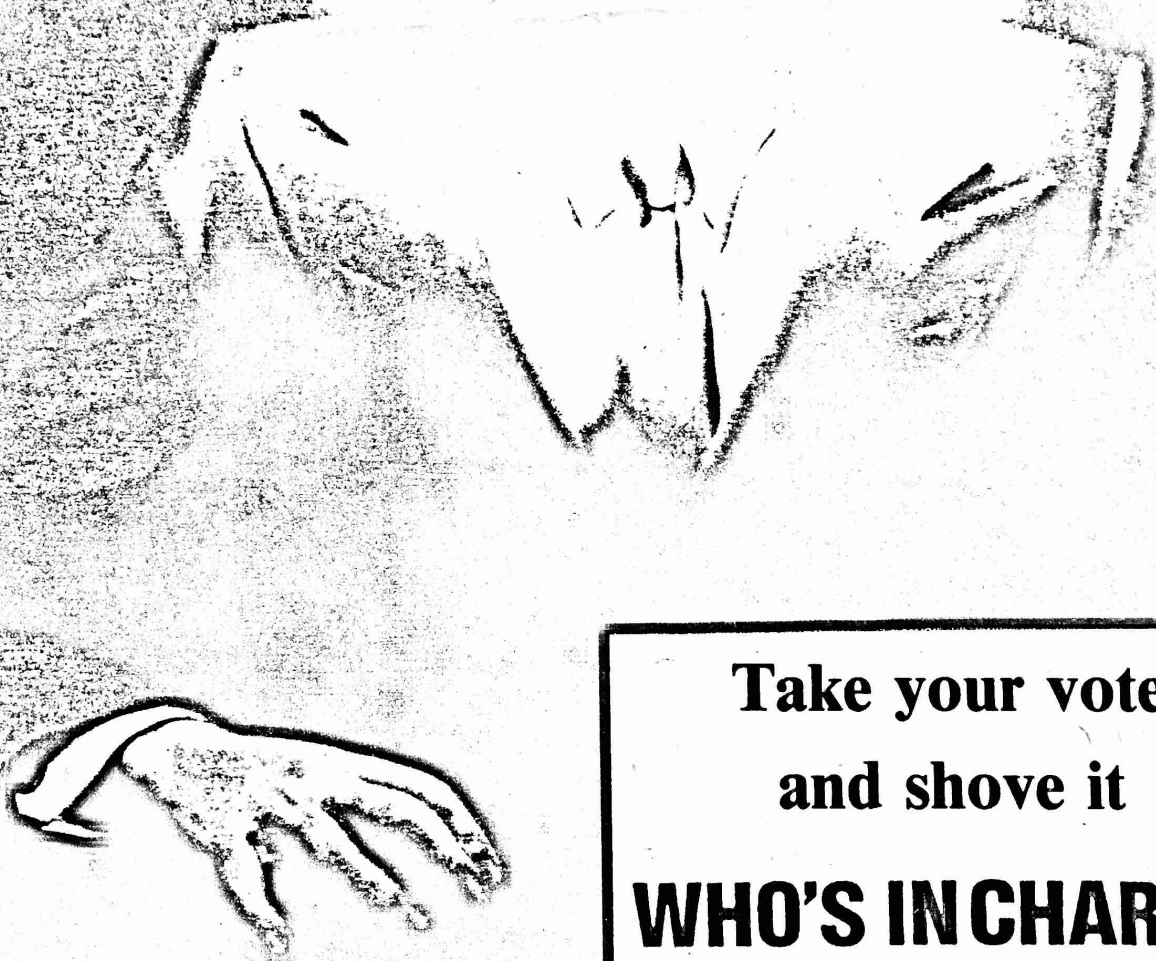


Anonymous activists threaten the employment level, generates division, and detracts from the GNP, therefore it is only improperly called work.

10 4 91

# POPULAR REALITY

25¢



**Take your vote  
and shove it  
WHO'S IN CHARGE?**

*We don't know*

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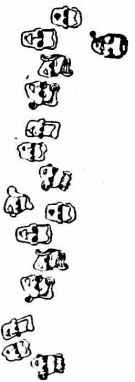
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