

SOA Watch Update

Winter/Spring 2000



Photo: Linda Panetta

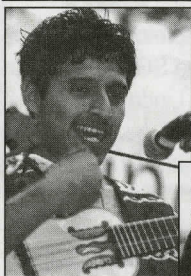


Rufina Amaya: massacre survivor
Photo: Linda Panetta



Funeral Procession "crossing the line"
Photo: Jonathan Moller

12,000 Gather at Ft Benning! Thousands Risk Arrest



Member of Llajtasuyo,
Andean music group
Photos: Linda Panetta



Joan Staples, White Earth Chippewa

On November 20th-21st, thousands of veterans, students, Grandmothers for Peace, nuns, unionists and others came to stand at the gates of Ft. Benning -- home of the School of the Americas (SOA). They came to remember six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper and her daughter murdered ten years before by SOA graduates in El Salvador. They came 12,000

strong from across the U.S., Latin America, and

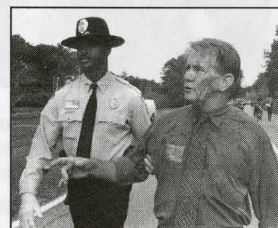
elsewhere to honor the countless SOA victims throughout Latin America. And they came to tell the Pentagon and the U.S. Congress that the "School of Assassins" should be shut down.

Rep. Jan Schakowsky (IL) sounded the call as did actor Martin Sheen, Fr. Dan Berrigan, SJ and the many eloquent speakers. Rufina Amaya, survivor of the El Mozote massacre, spoke powerfully of the day SOA trained soldiers murdered everyone in her village, and she wept as the names of her children and 900 friends and neighbors were sung as part of the funeral litany.

Mexican labor organizer Eduardo Diaz told the familiar SOA story of military and paramilitary union busting tactics in his country. Colombian TV journalist, Richard Velez, described how he was beaten in 1996 by military troops under the command of an SOA graduate.

The crowd clapped and joined the singing as musicians from the U.S., Latin America, and Native America shared their songs and inspirations. Veteran peace activist, Pete Seeger led the way.

During the memorial service Sunday morning, Socamgi Lakota, Grace Menard, honored SOA victims with a Lakota Ceremonial Dance that signaled the beginning of the funeral procession. Dressed in liturgical garb Catholic Worker, Steve Jacobs (MO), student, Laurel Pagent-Seekins (Oberlin College), and peace activist Margaret Knapke (OH) led the procession of mourners across the line onto Ft. Benning carrying coffins, crosses and other symbols. Of the 4,408 who risked arrest as part of the nonviolent civil disobedience action, 65 were detained, and 23 charged. Those 23 face six months imprisonment. (See page 2)



Martin Sheen being arrested
Photo: Jonathan Moller



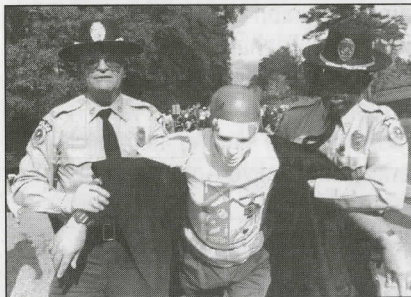
Members of High Risk group simulate massacre
Photo: Jonathan Moller

65 Arrested, 23 Face Prison

Military police arrested 65 of the 4,408 who "crossed the line" onto Ft. Benning in Georgia to protest continued operation of the School of the Americas (SOA) combat training school run by the US Army for Latin American military. Most of those taken into custody were "High Risk Line Crossers" who led the massive funeral procession from the main-gate vigil site onto Ft. Benning.

The High Risk group wore black mourning cloths and carried adult and child-sized coffins to honor SOA victims. The procession moved forward to a litany of victim names sung by the thousands who stood vigil at the main gate of the US Army base.

When military police confronted the procession about one mile in, the High Risk group staged a massacre, pouring blood-colored paint on themselves and the coffins. Oberlin College student, Laurel Pagent-Seekins, Catholic Worker, Steve Jacobs, and Margaret Knapke from the Dayton Pledge of Resistance acted as a liturgical team ministering to the massacre victims. Veteran peace activist, Fr. Dan Berrigan, SJ and actor Martin Sheen joined the team as they knelt by the dead among the coffins.



Military Police arrest High Risk Line Crosser
Photo: Jonathan Moller

Over 4,000 mourners holding small white crosses and other symbols honoring the dead reverently filed by the massacre scene as military police attempted to escort them onto waiting buses. Several large groups of protestors refused to board and instead

maintained their vigil inside Ft. Benning until dark. At that time they re-formed the funeral procession and returned to the main gate where thousands waited in solidarity with the nearly 4,500 who had risked arrest on the Army base.

Of the 65 taken into custody, 23 were charged with criminal trespass and violation of a "ban and bar" order previously issued to each at past SOA protests. The ban order prohibited their re-entry into Ft. Benning. The 23 will go on trial as early as February before the US federal district judge in Columbus, Georgia. The maximum sentence is six months in federal prison and a \$5,000 fine.

Who are the SOA 23?

The SOA 23 represent 16 different states and a variety of religious and justice groups. They range in age from the late 20s to early 70s.

Brooks Anderson, Duluth, MN ~ Judy Bierbaum, Albuquerque, NM
Tom Bottolene, St. Paul, MN ~ Charles Butler, Rochester, MN
Charles Carney, Chicago, IL ~ Sr. Kathleen Desautels, SP, Chicago, IL
Gerhard Fischer, Brookfield, WI ~ Kathleen Fisher, Portland, OR
John Honeck, Hamlin, NY ~ Ann Huntwork, Portland, OR
Steve Jacobs, Columbia, MO ~ Margaret Knapke, Dayton, OH
Sr. Mary Dennis Lentsch, PBVM, Apison, TN
Charlie Liteky, Columbus, GA ~ Linda Mashburn, Brevard, NC
Sr. Kathleen McCabe, OSF, Newton Square, PA
Sr. Dorothy Pagosa, SSJ-TOSF, Chicago, IL
Sr. Megan Rice, SHCJ, Baltimore, MD
Francisco Javier Risso, Morganton, NC
Abby Schlaff, Ann Arbor, MI ~ Bruce Triggs, Tacoma, WA
Cliff Willmeng, Homewood, IL ~ Steve Zavodnyik, Flagstaff, AZ

Help Close the SOA!

✓ Urge Your PBS Station to Air *Father Roy: Inside the School of Assassins*, the hour-long documentary about the School of the Americas and the campaign to close it down.

This program has aired on 140 PBS stations in 33 states. Some of the major cities where it has not yet shown are: Philadelphia, Baltimore, Cleveland, St. Louis, Des Moines, New Orleans, San Diego, Rochester, Tampa, St. Petersburg, Birmingham, Austin, Oklahoma City, Richmond, VA, Washington, DC, Portland, OR

✓ Get Your Bishop and the Bishops' Conference on Board

Over 200 Catholic bishops from the US and Latin America support a resolution initiated by Bishops Gumbleton (Detroit) and Williams (Lexington) calling for closing the SOA. Check the www.soaw-ne.org for the complete list or call Linda Panetta (215) 473-2162.

1. Thank your bishop if he has signed the letter. If he has not, urge him to do so immediately.
2. Please also write Tom Quigley, USCC, 3211 4th St. NE, WDC 20017. Urge the US Bishops' Conference to issue a support statement to close the SOA

✓ Call Your Rep. & Senators. Urge them to Co-sponsor SOA bills.

HR 732, the bill to close the SOA, has 154 cosponsors. The companion Senate bill, S 873, has 15. Another SOA vote is likely this summer. Check to see if your Rep. & Senators have signed on. www.soaw.org or call SOAW (202) 234-3440.

✓ Write a Check to Support the Work

As the movement grows, so do the basic expenses. For example, printing and mailing the SOA Watch UPDATE will cost over \$60,000 this year. Please make a contribution -- even a small one -- if you can. Please use the enclosed envelope or send gifts to SOAW~ POB 4566 ~ WDC 20017. Contributions to SOAW are not tax deductible.

Fast 2000

to close the School of the Americas!

In Washington DC

White House Rally

Sunday, April 2 ~ 11 AM - 5 PM
(Lafayette Park)

Issue Briefing/Lobby Workshop

Monday, April 3 ~ 8:30 AM - 12 noon
Caucus Room - Cannon House Office Bldg.
(Sponsored by Peace Action Education Fund)

Capitol Steps Vigil and Lobby Day

Monday, April 3 ~ 12 noon - 6 PM
(US Capitol East Center Steps)

At 2,000 Locations Nationwide

Juice-Only Fast ~ April 6 - April 19

We call upon at least 2,000 campus, church & community groups or individuals nationwide to join in a juice-only fast to close the SOA.

Sign up below.

Very Important!

Be sure to meet with your
Representative & Senators
in Washington, DC and/or local office.
Capitol Switchboard: 202-224-3121

What is the School of the Americas?

The School of the Americas (SOA) located at Ft. Benning, GA, is a US Army combat school that trains Latin American soldiers. SOA graduates have committed atrocity after atrocity -- including massacres of entire communities, assassinations, rapes, torture, and "disappearances." SOA Watch is a grassroots movement working to close this "School of Assassins."

What is Fast 2000?

Solidarity with our sisters and brothers in Latin America who fast involuntarily each day as a result of poverty and oppression that are the consequence of the SOA and linked foreign policies.

Lobby Blitz to make thousands of visits and calls to Representatives and Senators to gain support for HR 732 and S 873 the bills to close the SOA!

Media Hook to spread the word about the SOA through newspapers, TV and radio stations across the nation.

What you can do?

- ◆ Organize a local Fast 2000 on your campus or in your church or community. Order the packet below.
- ◆ Come to Fast 2000 events in Washington, DC

Fast 2000 Commitment Form

In Washington DC

- ☐ I/We will be at the White House April 2 to tell President Clinton to close the SOA.
- ☐ I/We will attend the Peace Action lobbying workshop April 3.
- ☐ I/We will be on the Capitol Steps April 3 & lobby our Representative and Senators to close the SOA.

In my local area

- ☐ I/We will personally join in the juice-only fast during April 6-19.
- ☐ I/We will organize a local Fast 2000 between April 6-19 on my campus or in my church or community.
- ☐ Please send the Fast 2000 Organizing Packet. I have enclosed \$3.
- ☐ I/We have enclosed an additional gift of \$ _____ to help organize Fast 2000.

Name _____

Address _____

Return to SOA Watch ~ PO Box 4566 ~ Washington DC 20017 ~ 202-234-3440 ~ www.soaw.org

Why a Fast to Close the SOA?

"A movement does not depend for its success on the intellectual or material resources of its sponsors; but it depends solely upon the spiritual resources, and fasting is the most known method of adding to those resources.

Fasting is an institution as old as humans. It is my conviction that a fast undertaken out of a genuine love cannot have any negative result. It will only bring good in its wake."

- Gandhi

Those who participate in Fast 2000 to close the SOA do so as an act of love and solidarity with our sisters and brothers in Latin America. They fast involuntarily every day as a result of the poverty and oppression that are the consequence of the School of the Americas and related US military and economic policies.

Some Rules for Fasting

- ◆ Pace yourself. Avoid strenuous activity & get enough rest & sleep.
- ◆ Drink plenty of water. Drink enough so that you urinate frequently & your urine is clear.
- ◆ Drink only 100% juice. Do not drink the sugared fruit drinks that are only part juice.
- ◆ Vary the juices you drink.
- ◆ If you have ongoing health considerations, check with your doctor before beginning to fast.
- ◆ When it's chilly, wear extra layers of clothing. Fasters are vulnerable to the cold.
- ◆ Go off the fast gradually by eating clear soups and broth for a few days until your stomach gets used to food again. Avoid fatty food. Resuming regular eating habits too quickly can result in painful cramping.
- ◆ Trust what our body is telling you with regard to how long you should continue to fast.

Fast 2000 In Washington DC

Some places to stay in Washington DC

Pilgrimage

202-387-6615

Grace Lutheran Church

202-726-6014

William Penn House

202-543-5560

Red Roof Inn

202-289-5959

Best Western Capitol

800-528-1234

Super 8

800-800-8000

Budget Motor Inn

202-529-3900

Travel

By Air: National Airport is closest, but flights to BWI or Dulles are often cheaper. Door-to-door shuttles available from BWI or Dulles - Call (800) 258-3826.

By Train or Bus: Union Station & Bus Terminal are a short taxi ride to the Capitol & Lobby Workshop in Cannon Bldg. (15-min. walk from Union Station)

In-City Travel: Closest Metro train stops to Capitol & training site: Red Line to Union Station or Orange and Blue Lines to Capitol South. The closest Metro stops to White House/Lafayette Park: Orange and Blue Lines to McPherson Square or Farragut West or Red Line to Farragut North - Check map in Metro station for walking directions.

Lobby! Lobby! Lobby! Lobby! Lobby!

Whether you travel to Washington or organize a local Fast 2000, be sure to visit, write, or call your Representative and Senators. Urge your Rep. to co-sponsor HR 732. Urge your Senators to co-sponsor S 873. To check the current co-sponsor lists and to determine if your Rep. voted to cut SOA funds in 1999, see www.soaw.org or contact SOA Watch at 202-234-3440. Capitol Switchboard 202-224-3121

2,000 locations nationwide

Organize an SOA Fast 2000 on your college or high school campus, in your religious community, or city.

Starting April 6th, each day of Fast 2000 will focus on one of the countries where people have suffered from SOA violence.

April 6 ~ Argentina	April 10 ~ Colombia	April 14 ~ Honduras	April 18 ~ Peru
April 7 ~ Bolivia	April 11 ~ El Salvador	April 15 ~ Mexico	April 19 ~ End Fast
April 8 ~ Brazil	April 12 ~ Guatemala	April 16 ~ Paraguay	Ceremony
April 9 ~ Chile	April 13 ~ Haiti	April 17 ~ Uruguay	

Order the Fast 2000 Local Organizing Packet from SOA Watch ~ POB 4566 ~ Washington, DC 20017. \$3

Colombia: 10,000 SOA Graduates

"I saw soldiers, shooting their rifles (at demonstrating workers) and as they passed in front of me, they began to beat me with the butts of their weapons and tips of their boots. I held tight to my camera, still running, until the blow from a rifle butt broke the camera gear...I gave a colleague the tape and that night everyone saw those images while I recovered in a hospital with a perforated liver and testicles destroyed by the blows. One year later I sought political asylum in the United States due to threats."

—Colombian TV journalist Richard Velez describing 1996 incident involving troops commanded by an SOA graduate

By Lisa Haugaard, Latin America Working Group
Heather Dean, SOA Watch

Colombia is enduring the hemisphere's worst human rights crisis. Some 10 people per day die in political violence; 1.5 million people have been displaced since 1985 in a refugee crisis greater than Kosovo's. Human rights, union, university and religious leaders are among the many people living under death threats or forced into exile. Guerrilla groups and rightwing paramilitaries both target civilians which they claim are supporters of the other side.

Guerrillas commit serious violations, including extrajudicial killings and most kidnappings, but paramilitaries committed 78% of violations in 1999. The army, though directly responsible for fewer violations, has extensive links with paramilitary forces at a local and regional level. Some army officers facilitate the work of paramilitaries or look the other way as violence occurs.

Colombia has sent more troops to train at the SOA than any other Latin American country, with chilling results. The 1993 human rights report *State Terrorism in Colombia* cites 247 Colombian officers for human rights violations. Fully one half of those cited were SOA graduates. Some were even featured as SOA guest speakers or instructors or included in the "Hall of Fame" after their involvement in such crimes. For example, Gen. Farouk Yanine Diaz was a guest speaker at the School in 1990 and 1991 after his involvement in the 1988 Uraba massacre of 20 banana workers, the assassination of the mayor of Sabana de Torres, and the massacre of 19 businessmen. According to a U.S. State Department Report, he was also accused of "establishing and expanding paramilitary death squads, as well as ordering dozens of disappearances, and the killing of judges and court personnel sent to investigate previous crimes."

SOA graduates have been linked to some of Colombia's most heinous massacres, including the 1988 massacre in Segovia in which 43 people were killed, the Trujillo chainsaw massacres, which took place between 1988 and 1991, and the 1993 Riofrio massacre. In one instance, the Colombian legislature asserted that a military officer was sent to the SOA to avoid having to

answer questions about the Fusagauga massacre of a peasant family.

A 1998 U.S. State Department Report on Colombia states that the 20th military brigade was disbanded for its involvement in human rights abuses, including the targeted killing of civilians. The commander of that brigade was SOA graduate Pancelino Latorre Gamboa. The report also links SOA graduates to an illegal raid on the offices of a non-governmental human rights group, and implicates an SOA graduate for his complicity in a 1997 massacre. More recently, Colombian General Rito Alejo del Rio was dismissed in April 1999 for allegedly fomenting paramilitary violence.

Clearly the abuses are not a thing of the past, yet US-Colombian military ties are growing rapidly. Our government has funded the creation of a 950-troop counternarcotics battalion and provides intelligence support, training and equipment to other units of the Colombian armed forces. Some 250 to 300 US military personnel are on the ground in Colombia on a typical day, many carrying out training missions. The US Army School of the Americas has been one of the Key training sites for Colombian military, but the training being initiated and debated now goes far beyond the School. Most will be provided by US trainers in Colombia.

US military aid to Colombia is being promoted by the Pentagon and other supporters under the guise of the drug war. Some US policymakers make a simplistic equation of guerrillas equal drug traffickers, so aiding the army is the solution offered for the drug problem. The reality is more complex. While guerrillas profit by taxing the drug trade, paramilitaries are directly tied to traffickers. Aiding the army risks aiding the paramilitaries and deepening Colombia's human rights crisis. Further, evidence shows that the military solution does not stem the drug epidemic. Despite a 17-fold increase in US drug war spending since 1980, illicit drugs are now cheaper, more potent and more easily available than when the "war on drugs" began.

The United States should help Colombians in their hour of need not with military aid but with long-term, peaceful solutions to civil conflict, drug production and violence.

In October 1999, an astonishing 10 million Colombians marched for peace, calling for an end to violence from all sides. US activist can be in solidarity with their Colombian counterparts by opposing US aid to the Colombian army and by supporting a positive aid package for Colombia -- including: relief aid for people displaced by violence; crop substitution for small farmers to switch from coca to legal crops; programs to strengthen government investigations into human rights violations and drug trafficking; aid for civil society peace and human rights initiatives. Further, US activists can support Colombian human rights groups by working to close the US Army School of the Americas.

For more information contact:

Latin America Working Group, 202-546-7010 www.lawg.org
SOA Watch, 202-234-3440 www.soaw.org



Mexico and the "reformed" SOA

"The School of the Americas is part of a larger project to protect and defend U.S. corporate interests in Mexico at the expense of workers and indigenous peoples. The movement to close the School of the Americas is an important expression of solidarity with the Mexican people."

—Eduardo Diaz, Mexican labor leader

Chiapas Update December 1999

By Tom Hasen, Director, Mexico Solidarity Network
Heather Dean, SOA Watch

Christmas is a time of contrasts in Chiapas, Mexico. Two years ago paramilitaries, aligned with the ruling PRI party, armed and trained by the Federal Army -- whose leadership is, in turn, trained at the School of the Americas -- entered a Catholic Church during the celebration of mass. They murdered 45 Indigenous civilians, mainly women and children. Every year since thousands come to the highland community, Acteal, on December 22 to commemorate the massacre. It is a time of sadness, anger and healing.

Nine days after the Acteal commemoration, Zapatista communities around the state celebrate the 1994 beginning of their uprising for democracy, justice and dignity. The New Year's Eve celebrations symbolize Indigenous resistance to neoliberalism (in the US we call it globalization), and thousands are

drawn to the vision of a better world.

Even this is a time of contrasts, as January 1, 1994, also marks the signing of NAFTA, the epitome of corporate domination in our hemisphere.

Christmas 1999 in Chiapas was not a pretty place. Fifty thousand troops wage civilian-targeted warfare against several hundred thousand Zapatistas -- the vast majority are unarmed civilians. Nearly every indigenous community in resistance has a military base or a checkpoint at its edge or troops stationed in the local church or school. Arbitrary arrests of men who disappear for days, weeks or months, convince many that it is too dangerous to work their crops. Rape is the "low intensity" instrument of choice for intimidating women. The result? Widespread food shortages -- with all of the medical problems that accompany malnutrition -- and endemic psychological problems that often manifest as physical ailments. And what the army is unwilling to do during the day, a dozen paramilitaries do at night, sowing the seeds of terror through extra-judicial murder. The aim is nothing short of the destruction of culture.

An important part of civilian-targeted warfare is control of information, and the government is diligent, if clumsy. For example, to draw attention away from Acteal and New Year's Eve commemorations, government spin-masters invented "an impending attack by armed Zapatistas" to justify the mobilization of 4,000 additional troops to southern Mexico.

Mexico and the School of the Americas

Consistently the countries with the worst human rights records have sent the most students to the SOA during the peaks of repression. Given that history, it is no coincidence that Mexico is now among the top clients of the SOA. In the first 49 years of the School, Mexico sent a total of 766 soldiers to be trained at the SOA. That number escalated sharply in 1996 and rose to 333 in 1997, 1,177 in 1998 and close to 700 in 1999. Proponents of the SOA claim that this training is necessary because of Mexico's increased involvement in the "war on drugs." However, that is just a smokescreen. The truth is that in 1997, only 10% of Mexican students took counter-narcotics courses. No Mexican soldiers were slated for the counter-drug operations course in 1999. However, 40 were projected to take military intelligence training.

The sudden rise in Mexican graduates corresponds to the growing movement for economic justice in Mexico. The voices of and for the poor—represented by leaders like Bishop Ruiz from Chiapas—threaten the powerful and wealthy. Thus, it is not surprising that SOA graduates have come out against the Church. One SOA graduate, General Jose Ruben Rivas Pena, wrote an analysis of the conflict in Chiapas in which he stated: "The Vatican is the indirect cause of the conflict in Chiapas with its contaminated thread of liberation theology." This rhetoric is frighteningly similar to that used in El Salvador prior to the assassination of Archbishop Romero by SOA graduates in 1980.

Those trained at the SOA are trained to silence the voices that speak out for justice. At least 18 top military officials who have played a key role in the civilian-targeted warfare in Chiapas, Guerrero and Oaxaca are SOA graduates. One of them, Juan Lopez Ortiz, commanded the troops that committed a 1994 massacre in Ocosingo in which soldiers tied prisoners' hands behind their backs before shooting them in the back of the head.

In late 1999, Immigration officials began a new campaign to expel foreigners -- partly to dampen the New Year's celebrations and partly to hide the truth of Chiapas from the world

In the midst of an appalling situation, there is reason for optimism. Zapatista communities are committed to their struggle. They are building autonomous Indigenous-controlled health and education systems, staffed by trained community members. At least 34 self-declared autonomous communities have functioning

councils chosen by community members, though the

In many ways, the future of the struggle in Mexico is the future of our hemisphere.

federal government does not recognize their legitimacy. Civil society, both nationally and internationally, has joined the struggle on innumerable creative fronts.

In many ways, the future of the struggle in Mexico is the future of our hemisphere. Will we be governed by the corporate bottom line or by the needs of real human beings? Will we allow globalization to destroy our culture or will we define real alternatives? Will we allow the continued US training of the military "muscle" that tries to intimidate and silence the resistance?

For more information contact the Mexico Solidarity Network, 773-583-7728 msn@mexicosolidarity.org
Chiapas Media Project, cmp@vida.com
SOA Watch, 202-234-3440 www.soaw.org



**20th Anniversaries:
A Time to Remember
A Time to Act**

On March 24, 1980, Salvadoran Archbishop Oscar Romero, beloved champion of the poor, was assassinated while celebrating mass. On December 2, 1980 four US churchwomen working with the poor were raped and murdered in El Salvador. In both cases, the UN Truth Commission cited military officers trained at the SOA. As we work to close the School of Assassins that trained the killers, Archbishop Romero's words offer inspiration:

"We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that. This enables us to do something, and do it very well. It may be incomplete, but it is an opportunity for God's grace to enter and do the rest."

Fr. Roy Bourgeois Speaks

Jan 22-29 - Vatican, Rome, Italy

Feb 8 - Mercyhurst College, PA
814-824-2539

Feb 9 - St. Bonaventure College, NY
716-375-2548

Feb 17 - Maryknoll Headquarters, NY
914-941-7590 ext. 2302

Feb 19-21 - Philadelphia, PA
215-473-2162

Feb 23 - Dickinson College, PA
717-242-3420

Feb 26-28 - VA Tech, VA
540-951-0032

Mar 2 - Dartmouth College, NH

Mar 3-4 - New Hampshire
603-778-0310

Mar 11-14 - Orange County, CA
714-544-4434

Mar 22 - St. Louis University, MO
314-867-1391

Mar 24-27 - Philadelphia, PA
215-473-2162

Apr 5 - St. Mary's College, MD
301-862-0490

Apr 6 - American University, DC
301-862-0490

Apr 10 - Framingham College, MA
508-626-4894

If Fr. Roy is coming to your community, invite others to go with you to the presentation. If your city or campus is not listed above, arrange a speaking tour in your area.
Call 706-682-5369

Organizing Opportunities for 2000

The Still Point Theatre Company Production of

"Points of Arrival"

A play about the life of Jean Donovan who was murdered along with three other US churchwomen in El Salvador. Their deaths at the hands of SOA graduates helped spark the movement to close the School of Assassins. To bring this powerful production to your community or campus at no charge contact: Charles Carney, Still Point Company, 1337 W Ohio St, Chicago, IL 60622, 773-539-7595



"Sing it Down"

A Complete Traveling Show to Close the SOA!

SOA Vigil musicians Jolie Christine Rickman and Collen Kattau lead 45 minutes of topical folk music about Latin America and closing the SOA. A 20-minute SOA video follows then a Q&A led by SOA former prisoner of conscience Ann Tiffany. The unique format is ideal for student, church, labor and grassroots events, SOA rallies and teach-ins. Reasonable rates. To book "Sing It Down" contact: Jamie McCallum at 206-985-1881 or singitdown@aol.com

Solidarity in Action!

A Guide to Grassroots Organizing to Close the SOA!

This hands-on resource guide contains all the basics to start an SOA Watch group in your community or on your campus. Topics include coalition building, media outreach, lobbying techniques, organizing tips for rallies and civil disobedience action, camera-ready flyers, and much more. Order from SOAW-NE, 215-473-2162, \$10 or \$5 for students + \$3 P&H

**A Spirit of the Martyrs
Delegation to El Salvador**

**20th Anniversary
of the Assassination of
Archbishop Oscar
Romero**

March 18-26, 2000

\$675 plus airfare includes meals,
lodging, translation, in-country
transportation

**Contact: EPICA
202-332-0292**

Partial scholarships available
to Latinas/os living in the US

Deepen your understanding of the
SOA's past and present

**Join the
SOA Delegation to
Guatemala and
Chiapas, Mexico**

August 3-19, 2000

\$1,050 plus airfare includes meals,
lodging, translation, reading materials,
and in-country transportation.

Sponsored by WFP. EPICA &
SOAW ~ POB 4566
WDC 20017 ~ 202-234-3440

Educate & Organize

Fast 2000 Organizing Packet

Hands-on resource packet for local groups and campus leaders organizing events for the April Fast 2000 to close the SOA. Contains country resource sheets, media tips, song sheet, closing litany and much more. Order from:

SOAW ~ POB 4566 ~ WDC 20017 ~ 202-234-3440. \$3

"Crossing the Line"

This 16-min. video narrated by Susan Sarandon captures the hope and commitment, the solidarity and determination of the amazing November 1998 Vigil. Order from:

SOAW ~ POB 4566 ~ WDC 20017 ~ 202-234-3440. \$13

"Solidarity in Action"

Handbook to start a local SOA Watch group. Order from: SOAW-NE www.soaw-ne.org ~ 215-473-2162. \$10 or \$5 for students + \$3 P&H

"School of Assassins"

18-min. video narrated by Susan Sarandon. Maryknoll 800-227-8523 (Spanish version also available) \$17.95

Paperback by Jack Nelson-Pallmeyer. Orbis Books 800-258-5838. \$15

"An Insider Speaks Out"

Former SOA instructor, Maj. Joseph Blair gives compelling reasons to close the SOA. 16-min. video. Order from:

SOAW ~ POB 4566 ~ WDC 20017 ~ 202-234-3440 ~ \$18

"Speaking Truth to Power"

The testimonies of 25 US citizens who served six months in federal prison for peacefully protesting human rights abuses by Latin American soldiers trained at the SOA. 40-page paperback. Order from:

SOAW ~ POB 4566 ~ WDC 20017 ~ 202-234-3440. \$2

REFUSING TO FORGET

A Study Guide on Guatemala: Never Again

Refusing to Forget is a 4-session interactive study guide ideal for local groups, classroom teachers and individuals. Testimonies from survivors, witnesses and perpetrators, along with human rights reports and other analysis offer a thought-provoking study of Guatemala's civil war and the controversy around US involvement. Order from EPICA ~ 202-332-0292. \$7.50+P&H 40% bulk discount for 10 or more.

JUST THE FACTS:

2nd Edition

Civilian's guide to US defense & security assistance to Latin America & the Caribbean

Just the Facts is an essential resource for understanding the United States' complex military relationships with Latin America and the Caribbean. This 250-page paperback details the dozens of US arms transfers, training programs and other activities -- including the SOA -- that involve the security forces of nearly every country in the Western Hemisphere. Order from Latin American Working Group ~ 202-546-7010. \$18.95+P&H

Check out the SOAW web page: www.soaw.org

and the SOAW Labor web page:

<http://members.tripod.com/~ranknfile>

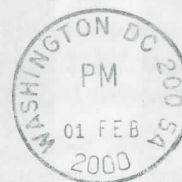
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URGENT ACTION NETWORK

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