

VISIONES de AZTLAN

EL GRITO DE LA RAZA

OCTOBER 1992

VOL. 1, NO. 2

September 16th a return to the 69 Blow-outs



OVER 500 STUDENTS JOIN IN FOR THE SEPTEMBER 16TH WALKOUT

PHOTO BY LAZANO LOVATO

MOVING FOWARD, CHICANOS TAKE ACTION!

The State-wide Chicano/Chicana Student Network has entered new territory this year. In addition to providing a clearing-house of information to all college and high school campuses involved, the Network has entered the community as a task force. Close work with the State-wide Parent Coalition has resulted in a true family relationship between progressive students and parents around the state. The Chicano Student Network and the State-wide parent Coalition stand for the empowerment of Chicano/Mexicano students and parents. For the Parent Coalition (of which 80% are Mexicanos), the involvement of the Chicano Student Network has provided the valuable student input necessary to the success of their 13 year old organization. The parents in the coalition have given inspiration to the Chicano student activists who have joined nuestros padres in fighting for the necessary education our hermanitos y hermanitas deserve.

On Sunday, September 20th, our two groups confronted Governor Roy Romer. The "Colorado Children First" initiative is the governor's attempt to remedy the meager funding the state provides for K-12 children. Our alliance demanded stipulations to end the 50% push-out rate of Chicano/Mexicano students, revision by Chicano scholars of the Euro-centric curriculum, and the formal input of the Chicano community and the students into the educational policies of the state. A press conference, community forums, another meeting with the governor, and other strategies have been planned.

The State-wide Chicano Student Network has planned two conferences for November. The first is the "Aztlán and Beyond: Political Activism

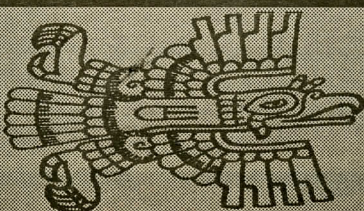
Outside Colorado" conference, co-sponsored and hosted by Estudiantes Unidos at Adams State College in Alamosa on November 7th. It will feature Chicano/Latino activists from the Midwest and around the Southwest. The second conference is the "State-wide Chicano Student Resolution Conference", co-sponsored and hosted by UMAS/MEChA at CU in Boulder on November 20th and 21st. This conference will host workshops on each of the ten State-wide resolutions from the State-wide Chicano Student Conference last spring. The purpose of each workshop is to develop a working implementation plan for every campus and their surrounding community. Finally, the next monthly meeting of the State-wide Chicano/Chicana Student Network is October 17th at Adams State College in Alamosa at 1:00pm. We invite all Chicano students, professors, and community to unite with us in struggle. For more information, please call: Arturo Jimenez II-President (303) 433-3308, Adriana Nieto-Vice President (719) 589-2329, or Dr. Luis Torres-Faculty Advisor (719) 549-2082.

BY:ARTURO JIMENEZ II



ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

KLU KLUX KOPS
Chicano State-wide student report
Romer a child, or Children First?



There are a lot of rumors around North explaining the reasons for a WALKOUT on the sixteenth of September, Mexican Independence Day. These rumors like all others are either good or bad. Either way, I want to take the time out to present the reasons in a non-hostile manner.

The big rumor is this, people walked out to ditch, celebrate a holiday they would not normally celebrate, or get an early lunch. While these reasons may be true for a number of people, they were not true for the vast majority of the organizers and/or participants. The students I am referring to are those genuinely concerned with the deterioration of public schools, lack of a relevant curriculum, racist administrators and faculty, as well as many other issues. These were the students that beared the incredible heat, walked down Federal or carpooled, then continued down Colfax to unite with other Raza from around the Metro area, on the Auraria Campus.

At Auraria, there were college students, high school students, faculty from both sectors, and many parents to support these students. Some of the high schools represented: North, South, West, Lincoln, Kennedy, Manual, Adams City,

Skyview, Ranum, and Escuela Tlatelolco. The number of students only reiterated the seriousness of the issues addressed. There were about six to seven hundred Raza students gathered at the campus event. Roughly three hundred of those students were from North. In fact, North had more representation than any other school present. North demonstrated unity among our people, representing the Chicano-Mexicano community of North High as it should be, as ONE!

The campus event sponsored by M.E.Ch.A. had free food, refreshments, and speakers. At about noon the students took over the streets of downtown Denver in a charismatic march to the Denver Public Schools Administration Building. During the March, M.E.Ch.A. did Security. When the contingent finally arrived at the Administration building, they were greeted by the historical, political, as well as inspirational words of Ernesto Vigil, Rafael Tapia, LeRoy Lemos, Anthony Vigil, and many others. A list of demands was given to the administrators who curiously ventured outside to calm the crowd of at least four hundred students left to block the 900 block of Grant St., support the demands, and the gente speaking.

The WALKOUT and rally at the Administration building presented issues old and new to those in positions designed to govern our schools. Those issues are: Chicano-Mexicano Studies as part of core curriculum, RAZA unite to end barrio violence, Chicanos and Mexicanos unite as brothers and sisters, college counseling made available and encouraged for Raza students, an end to the dropout/PUSHOUT rate, as well as community control of police.

These issues are not new but it is up to students, and especially Raza students to take a stand! It is time we take our schools back! If we don't do it for ourselves, nobody will. This is why we WALKED OUT last week! It was not because we wanted a day off, we want and deserve a better education and on what better day to demand that than on INDEPENDENCE DAY?

MIXETL SÁNCHEZ

Denvers finest, or just a bunch of good old boys ?

THE DENVER POLICE INTELLIGENCE UNIT AND THE CAREER OF DETECTIVE KLU KLUX KARTER

It should be clear that skin-heads and neo-Nazis who have staged rallies at the State Capitol and in Aurora since April 1991 have done so in hopes of inciting confrontations and gaining publicity for their racist views and organizations.

One "expert" on skin-heads, Denver Detective Bill Carter, doubted that the racists were responsible for the disturbance that erupted at Denver's Martin Luther King Day commemoration in January 1992 saying, "The vast majority of problems I observed were manufactured by the little gang-bangers."

Detective Carter recently resigned from the police force in August after it was revealed that he and another officer, Ruth Potter, had given gifts to the family of KKK leader Shawn Slater.

Said Slater, "It was kind of sad to see Bill step down. Twenty-five years on the police force, and it's over something like this. That's the way politicians and the police force work."

Carter resigned from the force where he served with the Intelligence Unit. Carter, in plain clothes, was seen at the major Denver-area protests against Iraq war in 1990-91 and appeared to be in charge of the deployment of the SWAT team at the protests.

Carter told this reporter that he had monitored anti-war activity in Boulder and Colorado Springs as well as Denver; though Denver is the only jurisdiction under the Denver police force authority.

Carter was a familiar figure to Chicano activists during the 1970s when he was frequently seen at court trials involving members of the Crusade for Justice organization. At that time it appeared that Carter was assigned to the Intelligence Unit or to the Special Services Unit, the fore-runner of SWAT.

Though all Carter's assignments during his career are not known, his work for the Intelligence Unit raises many questions since the DPD Intelligence Unit is a member of a little-known international police spy network called the Law Enforcement Intelligence Unit (LEIU) which was created by the Los Angeles Police Department in the 1950s. Denver joined the LEIU shortly after its inception.

Though the work of Detective Bill Carter and DPD Intelligence Unit remains murky, one may well wonder what files may exist in DPD headquarters over the work of Denver residents this year to establish civilian control over police.

After his resignation from the force, Detective Bill Carter has remained unavailable to answer questions from the press about his links to the KKK. Those who know aren't talking.

AND WHAT ARE SOME QUESTIONS TO ASK?

When James Young was killed by Denver Police fter a high-speed chase in 1970, he had been chased by

nearly 18 police cars. What happened to the gun that police said Young had fired at them but that police had never found?

Members of the DPD that were involved in the chase included some from the Special Services Unit, the fore-runner to the SWAT-team of today. Over 50 shots were fired into the van and body of James Young. Was Special Services officer William N. Carter who participated in the chase and killing of Young the same Detective Bill Carter who gives gifts to the KKK?

Willaim N. Carter was put on the stand when Young's family sued the DPD. This Carter was asked if it was true that he told a Rocky Mountain News reporter that he had fired the fatal shot into Young's head but said he would deny it if he was quoted. Why was it that this trial resulted in a mistrial?

Was it because a juror who was to decide the vedict had her spouse beaten up by Denver police before the jury finished its' deliberations? Is this why the police departments' attorney asked for a mistrial?

And about the Officer who had been involved in arresting/beating of the jurors spouse. His name was Officer Plant. Was it just a coincidence that Officer Plant had also been involved in the high-speed chase of James Young?

Was it also just a coincidence that Officer Plant served on the Special Services Unit as did Officer William Carter who had bragged of killing Young?

LASTLY, was it just a coincidence that two officers who served on the Intelligence Unit a few years after Young's death were Detectives Plant and Carter? Those who kow aren't saying.

NOTES ON THE DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT INTELLIGENCE UNIT AND THE LEIA with Special Thanks to Rodolfo Fierro for the data donated to this article.]

Though the LEIU was supposedly created to fight organized crime, crime records from the 1970s reveal that many of its 300+ local affiliates were involved in spying on political activists in such cities as L.A., Denver, Seattle, Houston, Albuquerque, Chicago, etc.

Though LEIU affiliates are members of local police and sheriffs' departments, it is incorporated as a private non-profit group whose records are not open to the public or to elected and appointed officials. Former Manager of Safety John Simonet was not even aware that the DPD Intelligence Unit was a member of the LEIU when questioned about it in the 1980s.

The LEIU's ties to right wing groups shocked Los Angeles in the 1980s when it was revealed that Detective Jay Paul transferred LAPD political intelligence files to Western Goals, Inc., the intelligence arm of the John Birch Society. The files--over 5,000 of them--had previously been ordered destroyed by an L.A. judge after the LAPD had been sued for political spying. The court had been told that the files had been destroyed.

Peace and Dignity, under the spiritual leadership of Tekpankalli (Aurelio Diaz), acknowledges the fact that this prophesy belongs to all the people, and to no one individual. Tekpankalli met with spiritual Elders of Turtle Island to facilitate the spiritual bonding of the Native peoples from North, Central, and South America.

Peace and Dignity Journeys, the spiritual run through the hemisphere, has nearly completed the first leg of the journey. After arriving in Mexico City on October 10, the next phase will begin. The run symbolizes the inherent dignity with which indigenous cultures have survived and have retained important spiritual and cultural identities. Over 200 indigenous nations from the north are represented on the sacred Eagle staff carried by the runners from the initial starting point, Tok, Alaska.

Colorado organizer, Roseanne "Rocky" Rodriguez, emphasizes the spiritual aspects of the journey. When asked what was the greatest accomplishment of Peace and Dignity, she

LAPD Chief Daryl Gates was chosen to run intelligence work for the force when he was a captain in 1963 and in his book, Chief: My Life in the LAPD, Gates either denies or down-plays the political work of the intelligence groups he commanded. Gates does admit that the LAPD continued to use telephone bugs after the California Supreme Court outlawed evidence obtained from illegal bugging.

Writer George O'Toole describes the LEIU as "one of the most potentially dangerous threats to freedom in America." Former LAPD officer Mike Rothmiller reveals in his book, L.A. Secret Police, that the LAPD maintains files on political activists and prominent citizens that number in the hundreds of thousands.

Rothmiller was assigned to the LAPD Organized Crime Intelligence Division that reported directly to Chief Gates. During the five years that Rothmiller served with the OCID, 1977-83, the OCID had NOT ARRESTED ONE MOBSTER.

The LAPD, as revealed in newspaper articles and court documents, spied on Chicano activists groups like the Brown Berets, the L.A. Moratorium Committee, La Raza Unida Party, MEChA, and the Denver-based Crusade for Justice. These files were among those ordered destroyed by the L.A. judge.

Former Denver police chief George Seaton admitted in the 1960s that the Denver Intelligence Unit, working directly under Seaton, spied on "Communists" and "revolutionaries." By 1975 the Denver Intelligence Unit number 29 Denver police and collaborated with the national LEIU network in monitoring activists.

Other Colorado law enforcement bodies that are believed to belong to the LEIU include the Boulder P.D., the Colorado Bureau of Investigation, the Littleton P.D., and the Jefferson County Sheriff Department.

Though the shadowy work done by the Denver Intelligence Unit is not fully known, indications are that the DPD maintains its interest in political activists, including those in the Chicano community.

In the summer of 1990, a committee of Chicano activists organized a small 20-year commemoration of the 1970 Los Angeles Chicano Moratorium. This activity, held in August 1990 at La Raza Park in the Northside, was investigated by Denver police.

An official source admitted that the request for the surveillance had come from the LAPD, though Denver Intelligence Unit Sgt. Rubin denied that the DPD had any interest in the activity. The LAPD, of course, has no jurisdiction over any activity in Denver. The DPD Intelligence Unit complied with the request while denying it did so.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Peace and Dignity Journeys 1992 Update

Peace and Dignity Journeys is the fulfillment of a prophesy conceived by indigenous Elders and Medicine Men/Women centuries ago. The prophesy states that the Eagle and the Condor will meet to form a beneficial union on behalf of all human beings and Mother Earth. As the Eagle--represented by the runners from the north--and the Condor--represented by the runners from the south--approach Mexico City, the realization of the prophesy begins to manifest itself. Peace and Dignity Journeys is bringing together Natives of differencnt nations from all over Turtle Island. The message of the Elders is that all life is sacred. People from the four sacred colors and all the continents are joining this Spiritual journey.

The runners of North, Central, and South America will mark the beginning of a new sun for all indigenous people and the beginning of the Eagle and Condor prophesy. The founding members of

said, "Communities that had not previously worked together began working together. The run has strengthened the sovereignty network." Communities that have common problems and are within close proximity, i.e., San Luis and Crest Stone, have united and started working together.

The most important result of the run, however, is the emergence of new leaders, new faces, and new blood into the indigenous movement. For example, the Tonantzin Youth Group organized the state of New Mexico. The runners had an opportunity to visit all the Pueblos as they ran down toward El Paso. After Peace and Dignity left Denver August 17, the group had 72 Eagle feathers on the sacred staff. As the group leaves Guadalajara, 200 feathers hang from the staff. Each feather represents an indigenous nation participating and/or supporting the run. Although the runners have encountered a number of obstacles: weather, food, gas, etc., Mother Earth has helped the runners overcome the obstacles.

BY: JAY ALIRE

ROMER; CHILDREN FIRST, OR ME FIRST?

During the November elections a controversial ballot initiative, introduced by Governor Romer, will be brought before Colorado voters promising to bring reforms to the education system. The "Children First" initiative calls for a sales tax increase, which will be distributed around the state to school districts.

Most school districts in Colorado are facing major financial crises, which "Children First" is supposed to alleviate. Also the Initiative proposes changes in the education system in deciding curriculum and other matters.

Representatives of the Colorado State-wide Chicano Student Network and the Colorado State-wide Parent Coalition met with Governor Romer on Sunday, September 20, 1992 to clarify how this will benefit Chicanos, Mexicanos and Latinos. Members of the Groups stated that they agreed that the education system needs to be improved, but pointed out that historically educational improvements don't seem to reach the Chicano/Mexicano/Latino communities.

They still have the highest drop out/push out rates (over 50%) and under prepared for colleges when they do graduate. The racist educational systems throughout Colorado are failing to meet the educational needs of Chicano, Mexicano and Latino students.

It was also pointed out to Romer that the curriculum used in schools is Eurocentric, culturally biased and irrelevant to many children in Colorado's public schools. It was explained to Romer that a sales tax increase was across the board, regardless of an individuals income. Therefore, the less you earn the bigger the burden is on you . Chicanos, Mexicanos and Latinos would therefore be paying a larger portion of their income.

The message was made clear. If there would be any increases in taxes for education that there should be guarantees--by the Governor's office and State government-- the Chicano/Mexicano/Latino communities that they will also be beneficiaries of the measure. No more status quo . This means monies spent should also be used on the Chicanos, Mexicanos and Latinos. Reforms should be aimed at changing the curriculum to become culturally relevant to all students.

Romer agreed to a couple of the groups' demands, indicating that he will help to make appointments of Chicanos to positions where he has the authority, and that he would support a Chicano advisory body that would monitor the progress of Chicanos in Colorado's education. However, Romer's overall posture in the meeting was defensive, feeling threatened that Chicanos would question his commitment to their issues.

After two hours of intense discussion and debate, Romer packed his briefcase and angrily stormed out of the meeting. No other commitments were made.

The "Children First" initiative is designed to save a failing educational system in Colorado. It is needed to subsidize the hundreds of millions of dollars in deficits that exist in the school districts. Without the support of the tax increase the educational system will face a worse crises and Chicanos, Mexicanos and Latinos will be the hardest hit.

It will be critical that the Chicano/Mexicano/Latino communities demand that the funds and reforms promised by the "Children First" initiative reach them and benefit them.

BY: JOE NAVARRO

JOHN NEGROPONTE AND THE 'HISPANIC SHAME-BER OF COMMERCE

U.S. Ambassador to Mexico John Negroponte, a fat and bald man, was recently in the Denver-area to promote the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Negroponte spoke at North High School, at the Denver Museum of Natural History and he was a featured speaker at an event sponsored by the local 'Hispanic' Chamber of Commerce.

The 'Hispanic' Chamber is dominated by businessmen,mostly Republicans, and their main concern is how to make a buck. These folks should not be expected to know history, politics or other matters that involve clear-thinking. It should not be surprising to see the 'Hispanic' Chamber suck up to the

CHICANA/O STUDENT NETWORK UPDATE

The Colorado Statewide Chicano/a Student Network was formed last year to build a coalition and networking body within the state to work on problems that are affecting Chicano/a students as a whole. The Network meets monthly on different campuses around the state. After a year of building and writing its' constitution, the Network is beginning to become a force to be reckoned with in the state.

Representatives of the Network met with Governor Roy Romer on September 20, 1992. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss how his proposed "One Penny for Education" tax amendment would effect the Chicano Community. The meeting got off to a fast start as questions were directed to the Governor about the tax. Participants wanted to be assured that this tax would benefit Chicano students as a whole. The feeling was that because Chicano workers are generally paid less, and their earnings must be divided between more family members, that the proposed 33% tax increase would effect our community greatly.

Romer stammered and became defensive. He said he did not have time to discuss the concerns of the network, only to enlist support of the amendment. He threw down his briefcase then picked it up and stormed out of his office. He has not heard the last of

people they are so anxious to be like-- white businessmen; white politicians; white Republicans; and fat, bald-headed John Negroponte who LOOKS like many of the "leaders" of the 'Hispanic Chamber.

The timing of Negropontes visit coincided with Mexican Independence celebrations in Denver and the irony of his visit should be striking. Mexico's existence as a nation has been threatened 3 times by foreign invasions: the Spanish invasion,from 1521 to 1821; the occupation by the French in support of their Austrian puppet 'emperor' Maximillian in the 1860s; and the American occupation of the present-day Southwest in the 1830s and 1840s.

To have John Negroponte speak at any Mexican-related event is like having Hitler speak at a Jewish Holocaust memorial. The French and Spanish threat to Mexico ended in the last century but the U.S. threat has been on-going. Aside from the loss of half of Mexico's territory to American invaders in the 19th century, please keep in mind that:

- 1) the U.S. government supported the brutal dictator Porfirio Diaz for nearly 40 years until 1910 because he allowed U.S. business interests to control Mexican mines, rail-roads and oil-fields until Diaz was overthrown by Villa and Zapata in the first years of the 1910 Mexican Revolution.
- 2) Francisco Madero, who replaced Diaz, was assassinated by the corrupt military of Victoriano Huerta, another Mexican sell-out. The assassination was planned in the offices of the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City. It is believed that the U.S. Ambassador Henry Lane Wilson initiated the assassination plot of Mexico's first democratically-elected president in 40 years, Francisco Madero.
- 3) American business interests and the American government have dominated the Mexican economy and interfered in Mexican politics throughout this century. The result has been the corruption of the Mexican government by U.S. interests, the impoverishment of the Mexican nation that forces Mexican workers to leave to Mexico for the USA and the continuing disregard for Mexico's sovereignty.

Those who would argue these points should first read INSIDE THE COMPANY: CIA Diary by Phillip Agee where Agee, himself a former-CIA agent, details the on-going interference in the internal affairs of the Mexican nation. CIA agents worked out of the American Embassy where NEGROPONTE is, now employed. Which brings us back to the 'Hispanic' Chamber of Commerce and U.S. Ambassador JOHN NEGROPONTE.

the Network.

The Network has also passed a resolution to denounce Amendment 2. This is the amendment that would strip cities and counties from being able to pass laws that extend civil rights to persons based on sexual orientation. If the amendment passes it would eliminate equal protection ordinances in Aspen, Boulder, and Denver. We as oppressed people CANNOT allow the rights of another oppressed people to be stripped away. VOTE NO ON AMENDMENT 2!!!

The next large gathering of the Network will be on October 10, 1992. We will come together to denounce the Columbus Day Parade. The Network feels that if the Italians want to celebrate their heritage, fine, but don't do it at the expense of the indigenous peoples. Expecting indigenous people to partake in a celebration of our genocide is like asking Jewish people to celebrate a holiday dedicated to Hitler. We will not sit idle while our people are slapped in the face with a holiday that is demeaning to us as a people. We hope to see a "rainbow coalition" of supporters with us, arm in arm, as we denounce the Columbus Legacy as myths, lies and genocide.

-LeRoy Lemos

The Chamber Negroponte at its' events and gives him credibility he doesn't deserve. The 'Hispanics' should first do some home-work on NEGROPONTE who became increasingly prominent under the administration of Reagan/Bush/Oliver North.

When these three white Republican conservatives were waging their secret illegal war in Central America in the 1980s, Honduras was the base for this war. The American Embassy there became the 3rd largest embassy in Latin America. And who headed the embassy? JOHN NEGROPONTE.

When Denver's progressive Richard Castro was speaking out against Reagan's secret Contra war and U.S. militarization of Central American dictatorships in 1985, Reagan's corrupt puppet Contra army was so despised in its own land that it had to be set up in Honduras. Where did NEGROPONTE stand on this illegal war? "...[Brigadier General Paul Gorman and] JOHN NEGROPONTE, the U.S. Ambassador...were considered aggressive supporters of a military build-up in Honduras." (Rocky Mountain News, 1-27-'85)

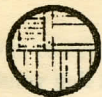
When the Army's Special Operations Division (SOD) flew spy missions over Central America in Reagan's secret war against Latin nations, who sent telegrams to Washington to praise the SOD? JOHN NEGROPONTE. (Read: Secret Warriors by Steven Emerson)

When the Honduran foreign minister wanted to negotiate with Nicaragua to ease tension between the 2 countries that had been created by Reagan's secret war, he was stopped by 2 men. One was General Walter Alvarez, the creator of Honduran death squads. Who was the other man? U.S. Ambassador JOHN NEGROPONTE. (Read: Inside the League by Anderson)

Before the 'Hispanic' Chamber again embarrasses our community by bringing back JOHN NEGROPONTE to speak about anything, the Chamber should look closely at the career of this fat, bald-headed diplomat/spy. Please read: Covert Action Intelligence Bulletins, numbers 18 and 24.

Please, 'Hispanic' Chamber, PLEASE FIND SOMEONE ELSE TO SUCK UP TO NEXT YEAR. POR FAVOR, NO SEAN TAN PENDEJOS Y SINVERGUENSAS LA PROXIMA VEZ.

BY:ERNESTO VIGIL



**AKENTE
EXPRESS**

Importers of
African fabrics,
jewelry, incense
and fashions

MICHAEL W. SIMMONS
919 Park Avenue West
Denver, CO 80205

(303) 297-8817

RICARDO ALDAPE GUERRA UPDATE, THE FIGHT CONTINUES...

On September 19, 1992 a march and demonstration was held in Houston, Texas to oppose the execution of Ricardo Aldape Guerra. Over 300 persons put the nearly unbearable humidity and 95-degree heat out of their minds to demand justice for Ricardo.

Ricardo's story was told in our last issue. Ricardo was tried for the homicide of Houston Police Officer James Harris. Although prosecutors were aware of evidence that would have cleared Ricardo, they suppressed it. Prosecutors also solicited testimony of a rumor that Ricardo had also killed another person that day, knowing that the story was false. Ricardo's fingerprints were not on the weapon used to kill Harris.

Circumstances such as constant references to Ricardo as an "illegal Alien" by the press, as a "wetback" by a State's witness and protests against immigrants by the KKK led to the unjust and racist verdict and sentence of death against Ricardo.

The march began at Miguel Hidalgo Park and proceeded two miles to Mason Park. Marchers ranged from mothers with babies in strollers to senior citizens walking with canes. No matter what the age, all the participants were lively and vocal. A water station was set-up along the route to help rehydrate the Demonstrators.

Dusti Garrison of Metro State M.E.Ch.A., Mixtel Sanchez of North High M.E.Ch.A., LeRoy Lemos of CCD M.E.Ch.A, and Eddie Montour of El Centro del Quinto Sol in Pueblo made the 20-hour drive to show Colorado's support for Ricardo.

Signs and banners were carried exclaiming "Free Ricardo," "Chicano y Mexicano Unete," "Aztlan-Love It Or Leave It," "La Verdad Tiene Que Ser Dicha," and "Denver M.E.Ch.A. says Free Ricardo." Several people carried signs with Ricardo's picture on them that read, "Soy Inocente."

Ricardo was scheduled to die on September 24, 1992 at 12:00 midnight, but on September 22 he was granted an indefinite Stay of Execution. Hopefully, Ricardo will be granted a new trial in which no other verdict can be reached but NOT GUILTY. The Chicano and Mexicano communities have vowed not to rest until justice has been served and Ricardo Aldape Guerra is a free man.

A candlelight vigil has been planned for September 23, 1992 at 10 p.m. on the West steps of the Capitol. Visiones de Aztlan will continue to keep you informed about the case. ¡Que Viva Justicia! ¡Que Viva Ricardo Aldape Guerra!

BY: LEROY LEMOS

UNITED PARENTS ASSOCIATION: ALLIES IN THE FIGHT AGAINST INSTITUTIONAL RACISM IN DPS

In the fight against racism, and specifically racist policies in public schools, there are many groups that struggle for the right of equal education. This struggle had manifested itself, in part, at the march and protest on *diesiseis de septiembre* contra the Denver Public Schools (DPS) administration building by Chicano/Mexicano students.

There is another group that is fighting racism and double standards in the DPS system. This group is the United Parents Association (UPA), and is made up of African American parents of students at George Washington High School. Due to several backwards policies and double tongued inequalities, this group was formed to combat things like the zero gang tolerance policy and the nonproductive and detrimental tracking system. Recently, the UPA met with cronies of the school board to discuss demands of the UPA. Also present at the meeting was the principal of George Washington (It is funny to note that George Washington, the first president of occupied America, would probably like the inequalities found in the school named after him because he was also a slave owner). The list of demands by Chicano students and the UPA are as follows:

Quality education for all students; Tracking systems under-estimate the capabilities of African American students...teachers expectations of students of color should be raised...college counseling and encouragement should be for all students, not just a select few.

We demand more African American and other people of color in all levels of the educational system; we demand that more African American people are hired, not as janitors, but as teachers, especially in schools where the community and students are predominantly African American.

We demand that the educational curriculum is based on true multi-culturalism, rather than eurocentrism. We demand that the history and contributions of our people are taught in the core curriculum. Classes should be available in the areas of African

American Studies, Chicano Studies, pre-columbian history, etc...

We demand more community involvement in our schools. More community and parent outreach should be done.

We demand to be treated with respect and dignity that we deserve; we demand to be treated like students, rather than like herds of cattle in need of authoritarian and condescending dictation. We demand an end to policies and behaviors that treat us with indignation. Unfair harassment of our students contributes to the alienation felt by African American students, contributing greatly to the push-out rate among our people.

At the end of the demands are some additional comments:

Attitudes of the staff towards our students are increasingly hostile, and the zero-gang tolerance policy is abused daily to push-out students that should be encouraged to stay in school. Respect must be mutual; and if we are expected to respect teachers, administrators and other staff, we too must be treated with equal respect.

These demands are made in the interest of educational equality as well as of academia. Multi-culturalism is but a word in an educational system that remains eurocentric in curriculum, and alienating in policy and behavior.

It should be noted that these demands are basically the same as the demands of the Chicano/Mexicano community and students. Because of this, Chicano/Mexicano and African American coalitions must be made. We are fighting for the same things; no one person can kill the evil, we must all join together in force, in unity and in brotherhood and sisterhood. For more information on the United Parents Association, call 329-8316.

BY: JOAQUIN DE TEOTEHUACAN C/S 67'

HISPANIC POWER, THE JOKES ON YOU!

Why challenge the use of the term Hispanic, what's wrong with it? How does one answer this question, well let me attempt to answer the question that we face as Mexicanos, Chicanos, Puerto Riquenos, South Americans and Spaniards.

Lets take a look at this term, "Hispanic". First of all it places all Spanish surnamed people into one group, now isn't that wonderful? with it there is no more Puerto Riquenos, no more Cubanos, Salvadoreños, Argentinos or Mexicanos, we won't have to ask anyone where they are from any more, or for that matter even care. It's perfect it's easy to pronounce, there is no history behind it, it has no culture and its people have no home land, that is unless of course you know of a country called Hispanica that I don't. Once we start using it we don't have to worry about all of those confusing holidays: Cinco de Mayo, Diez y Sies de Septiembre, Dia de los muertos or about who eats gaspacho and who eats tamales. This term is perfect especially for those of us who would rather not live with the stigma of being a Mexican and think that Chicano is too militant and derives from the word chicanery. Hispanic carries no weight it has no connotations and basically it means nothing. With the term Hispanic there are no more stereo types to fight off, I mean its easy, you just say, "Who me, I'm not one of those Dirty Mexicans, Crazy Chicanos or greasy Cubans I am a Hispanic and proud to be an American."

Hispanic is easy, no difficult TRUE American history and you even get to forget about your "Native American heritage" while at the same time proclaiming that you were born here in America (a Native). Before you know it you get to join the "in-crowd" at work or school, maybe even tell a few Dirty Mexican jokes, why not you know them all, you have heard them before, the difference is that now you're not on the receiving end, you're a Hispanic.

As a Hispanic you might have an easier time getting a job, there's no Quota for Chicanos or Cubanos but, there is one for Hispanics and besides you wouldn't want to try to explain what a Chicano is to your would-be employer. Although it was Chicanos who fought for you to get those jobs, you wouldn't want to identify with those people.

So you let them Chicanos have their Mariachi Bands, Cumbias, Pancho Villas and protests, and us Hispanics, we'll have our Brian Adams, Born in the U.S.A., George Bush, and Coors sponsored Hispanic Galas.

Well, how about it, I'm sold. It is a lot easier to be a Hispanic, I think I can swallow my pride and do it. I can be a uneducated, uncultured, spineless, sellout and as long as I get what's mine who cares about Chicano pride, equal education, culturally relevant schools, bilingual education, the drop out rate, barrio violence, teenage pregnancy, affordable health care, police brutality, unjust courts, the high incarceration rate for Chicanos, and unfair immigration laws. I am a Hispanic not because I'm confused but because I know it will work for me, an upwardly mobile uncaring HISPANIC.

By: WALTER APODACA JR

CONTINUED FROM 2

Articles from the L.A. Times in 1983 reveal that Chief Gates' LAPD spied on police critics who sought to establish a Civilian Review Board to curb police misconduct. When L.A. authorities were powerless to fire Gates after the Rodney King beating, the L.A. Times wrote or rumors in 1991 that Chief Gates used his secret files to intimidate L.A. City Council members.

It would serve the local community if police were accountable to the tax-payers who pay their checks. Police secrecy is a trade-mark in all authoritarian societies. Since no recent organized crime figures have been arrested due to the work of the DPD Intelligence Unit, the public would have to be very gullible to believe that fighting against organized crime has been the purpose of the Intelligence Unit. Maybe 'minority leaders' should worry less about the skin color or surname of the police chief and worry more about the role of police in society where we daily have our human and civil rights eroded. Maybe we would all do well to set aside our hysteria about the so-called war on drugs, the so-called war on crime, and the so-called war on gangs and look at the real war against our liberties that we are losing because our 'leaders' and paper organizations have yet to learn the lessons of the 1960s and 1970s and continue to put their hopes in leaders without followers, in failed formulas and meaningless meetings with powerless committees.

BY: ERNESTO VIGIL AND JAY ALIRE