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BMG Compact DtSC Cm!) 655M 30m St lndranapohs IN 462194194 CDS15A Landau's Castro Saul Landau (IlAfter Castro? July/August 89) seems to think that Castro singlehandedly brought about the tremendous improvements in housing, schooling, etc., that Cuba has seen since the Revolution. Not so. Castro has had a little help: \$30 billion in Soviet foreign aid since 1961, \$11 million a day by now. And that doesnat include military aid. Plus, Cuba has a favorable trade agreement whereby it imports petroleum at artificially low prices. Granted, Castro deserves some credit-Ilm sure there are some Third World dictators who could blow \$30 billion-but he hasnlt worked miracles. COLIN RUST Toronto, Ontario IIAfter Castroll was perceptive and provocative. It mentioned the Cuban military victory Of Cufto Cuanavale against the South African forces in southern Angola. Vainly I looked for basic news about the battle in the U.S. press. The New York Times, which is supposedly the newspaper with the broadest coverage of international

Vainly I looked for basic news about the battle in the U.S. press. The New York Times, which is supposedly the newspaper with the broadest coverage of international events, had only a few minute references. This pivotal battle, which lasted several months, was the decisive event that led to the positive steps for an independent Namibia and peace in Angola.

CHARLES W. ARNADE

Professor, International Studies and History University of South Florida Lakeland, Florida

I seriously value your magazine and generally agree with everything in it. But in this case I live with conflicting facts. Saul Landau,s article on CastroIs Cuba leaves out vital information when it reports that Castro has ended illiteracy and homelessness in his country.

You see, I live in Miami, Florida, a.l(.a. IIthe other Cuba? Over the past hfteen years or so, Castro has shipped upwards of 200,000 illiterate and/or homeless Cubans to this city.

Quite a solution, eh? If Landau would come to this community he would see a transported, not transformed, Cuba. RICC EDWARD BISHOP

Miami Beach, Florida

Surviving Attitudes

The importance of networking was emphatically brought home to me in the second paragraph of David Kirp's article on HIV-infected teens (11A Boy,s Lifef July/August I89). Kirp states that, with Marcus Robinson, II. . . this is the hrst time any community in the country is known to have taken responsibility for a teenager exposed to AIDS through gay sex?

In fact, Gay and Lesbian Adolescent Social Services (GLASS) has been providing long-term, residential group home care for I-IIV-infected and 15at riskii teens since 1984. Our foster care program, Triangle Project, also provides long- and short-term foster placement for gay and lesbian and I-IIV-infected teens, for children whose parents have died of AIDS, and for drug-dependent and I-IIV-infected infants.

As long as we have beds available, we will accept any youngster under the age of eighteen from anywhere in the country.

TERESA DECRESCENZO

Executive Director, GLASS

West Hollywood, California I am a board member of several AIDS service and education organizations. As a lllong-term survivorl, of not only AIDS but of homophobia, I would like Marcus to know that there is hope, and that there may also be a happy ending to his story. Of course people are dying and will continue to do so. More and more, however, the medical community is changing its outlook in regard to survivability of people with AIDS. Persons living with AIDS are insisting that they are chronically rather than terminally ill, and demanding that their treatment be approached with that fact in mind. Two years ago I buried my lover of many years. We were diagnosed within thirty days of each other in 1985. While missing and grieving for my loss and that of so many other friends, I continue to choose to celebrate my life daily and to have it be a joyous experience.

DAVID G. FARRINGTON

Syracuse, New York

The Grass Ia Greener

I was pleased to see the piece on proposed national parks (IIThe Next Four National Parksf july/August 189), which included what David Rains Wallace described as the Old Growth National Park. However, there are important points about the proposal that he did not cover.

The generally accepted name for the national-park proposal is the Siskiyou National Park, which calls for a park of just over one million acres. It is the intent of this proposal to provide permanent protection for much of the largest remaining intact coastal ancient forest ecosystem in the lower forty-eight states.

Approximately 98 percent of the land proposed for the park is managed by the U.S. Forest Service and the US. Bureau of Land Management. Federal plans for the lands proposed for inclusion in the Siskiyou National Park will result in the logging of BAC KTALK

over 50 percent of this irreplaceable resource. The timber industry of the Pacific Northwest can be expected to fight this park proposal with all of the economic and political support it can muster.

For more information contact: Siskiyou National Park Campaign, 522 SW. Fifth, Suite 1050, Portland, OR 97204; (503) 223-9012.

BRUCE AMSBARY

Exec. Dir., Siskiyou National Park Campaign Portland, Oregon

In his article IIThe Next Four National Parks? Wallace holds up Japan as an example to emulate based on the percentage of land that it has declared national parks. This is very unfortunate given Japanls poor environmental protection record at home and abroad.

Despite international protests, the Japanese government backs plans to build airstrips over rare coral reefs and log off habitats for endangered birds. Japan fails to rein in its corporations that are destroying rain forests and dumping toxic chemicals in Southeast Asia.

Undeveloped land in Japan isn,t so expensive. A lot of the parkland is mountains that nobody can farm or build on . . .yet. Yes, the United States and the world need to preserve more of our vanishing ecosystems. But the appeal to save wilderness areas should not give credit to those working against those very goals.

MICHIAKI SOGA

Itabashi-ku, Tokyo

Anti- Shrinks Expanding

Thanks and congratulations for recognizing some of us activists in the anti-psychiatry/ inmatesl liberation movement in North America (IIThe Anti-Shrinksf July/August ,89). There are roughly fifty inmates, liberation/self-help/advocacy groups in the United States alone. In Europe, there are at least twenty-five anti-psychiatry groups. In Canada, there are fewer than ten such self-help/advocacy groups, but a number of ex-inmates and supporters have produced two very radical anti-psychiatty groups: RAP (Resistance Against Psychiatry), and Phoenix Rising, the only anti-psychiatry magazine in Canada. A new Canadian book titled Shrink Resistant is helping to support our continuing struggle. Thanks to the networking, we know we are not alone.

DON WEITZ

Toronto, Ontario

Write your Mother. Send your reactions and suggestions to Backtalk, Mother Jones, 1663 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94103. Please be sure to include your name, address, and daytime telephone number. We reserve the right to edit letters. El MOTHER JONES 3

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By Dixon Terry
Farm Futures
Editofs note: With his keen grasp () feamomics
and politics and his gift for making the complicated
plain, Dixon Terry might be the best spokesman
farmers ever had. He eo/ounded the grass-roots
rural advocacy group Prairiefire and was president
of the National Family Farm Coalition. ()7: the last
Sunday in May, while haling hay with his son and
father on his Iowa farm, Dixon Terry was struck
dead by lightning. He was thirty-nine. A New York
Times story painted the scene of his funeral in vivid
heartland detail, but missing, I from the account was
the message that Terry devoted his life to spreading.
Here, adapted from a 1987 speech, is the thinking of
Dixon Terry.
ms 15 NOT THE FIRST TIME OUR
nation has faced a far-reaching farm
crisis threatening our soil and water
resources. Some writers mistakenly
attribute the agricultural Great
Depression in the United States to the Dust Bowl era
of drought, blinding sandstorms, and parched earth.
In fact, the opposite was closer to the truth. Falling
farm prices in the 19205 and '305 led first to the
abandonment of standard conservation practices,
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make up for lower prices with greater vol-
ume. Crop rotations had to be abandoned,
by forging a national policy to repair and
restore the soil and water resources. A price
support mechanism kept commodity prices
at or above the cost of production, allowing
farmers to buy back their land and make
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pay farmers the lowest price possible to
maximize their profits. Secondly, agri-
chemical firms that sell pesticides, fertilizer,
and hybrid seed oppose supply management
programs because surplus production in-
creases their sales The combined force of
these two industries was gradually able to
repeal the successful farm programs of the
Roosevelt era, beginning in the 19505. As
farm prices were forced downward, farmers
produced larger crops to try and main-
tain their cash flow, and without effective
supply management, massive surpluses
accumulated.
In their advertising, agribusiness corpora-
tions idolized big farmers_their farms, their
production, and their investments. Banks
and other lenders encouraged this invest-
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ment for all-out production. 1 was working
as a hired hand on my parentsi dairy farm in
the mid-seventies, and my wife and 1 were
trying to borrow money to buy our own
farm. But our goal of starting a traditional
moderate-sized Iowa farm went against the
grain of expansion-minded lenders. We had
great trouble finding lending because we
weren, t thinking big enough.
By the end of the 19705, farmers were pro-
:lucing at a loss and were only kept in busi-
less by two factors that went hand in hand:
ncreasing debt on inflating land values and
intensifying production. Bankers and other
lenders took greater control over farming,
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the best spokesman mick ldfl')! iitiiun h rhewurse nt .1 CAT rtVlHtlHllA 111111 farmers ever had, and then farmers were forced to try and make up for lower prices with greater volume. Crop rotations had to be abandoned, heavier equipment was introduced, and the centuries-old practice of allowing fields tolie fallow gave way to intensive cropping. Even with cost cutting and intensified production, many farmers did not hold onto their farms. Millions of acres were abandoned, left to dry up and blow away. Insurance companies and other lenders farmed repossessed properties with an eye toward short-term profits, not long-term protection of the land. Dixon 'l'erry was fighting farm The Roosevelt administration responded by forging a national policy to repair and restore the soil and water resources. A price support mechanism kept commodity prices at or above the cost of production, allowing farmers to buy back their land and make conservation investments. You can walk the helds of rural America and see the effects of conservation investment that this era provided. But just as important, the new farm program included strong supply management provisions to halt the surplus production that was destroying Americas soils. These three factors_specific soil conservation programs funded by the government, fair prices to farmers, and supply management-laid the foundations for the economic recovery of farmers and the environmental recovery of the countryside. Those factors no longer exist. As a result, we may be creating another agricultural Great Depression, this time on a global scale. Two VERY POWERFUL FORCES have traditionally opposed price and supply management programs. The first are the grain and other commodity exporting corporations that oppose price support programs. They want to pay farmers the lowest price possible to maximize their profits. Secondly, agrichemical hrms that sell pesticides, fertilizer, and hybrid seed oppose supply management programs, because surplus production increases their sales. The combined force of these two industries was gradually able to repeal the successful farm programs of the Roosevelt era, beginning in the 19505. As farm prices were forced downward. farmers produced larger crops to try and maintain their cash flow, and without effective supply management, massive surpluses accumulated. In their advertising, agribusiness corporations idolized big farmers-their farms, their production, and :iieir investments. Banks and other lenders encouraged this investment for all-out production. I was working

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Photograph by V. Lewis
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On July 3rd, 1989 the American way of life was put to question Answer it! Don1tjustget mad...GET ACTIVE! Designed Wit a woman in mind Glistenlng sterling silver earrings derived from a rare totem pole designs The pole, carved for the Tlingit Indian village of Tongass, was one of the few ever dedicated to a woman, The earrings are shown actual size. \$29.95 postpaid. Credit card orders call TOLL-FREE 1-800-262-0040. Or send check or credit card number/exp. date to: Coldwater Creek Dept. K23, 212 N. First Ave, Sandpumt, 11) K1864 ways pushing more acres, more machinery, more chemicals. The rapid growth of huge superfarms, many owned by corporations, led to irrigation systems bleeding the underground aquifers dry; massive doses of chemicals and fertilizers poisoning the water and killing the essential organisms in the earth; and everlarger pieces of equipment compacting the soil. To any objective observer, such pressure to produce had created a system that was quite unsustainable. Yetl1officiall1 sources of information_g0vernment, colleges, corporations_recognized no alternatives. Farmers had to build a biological farming movement on their own. I learned from my father and from experienced organic farmers how to farm in a sustainable manner. Since buying our own farm in 1977, welve used no herbicides or insecticides and very little commercial fertilizer. Welve practiced at full rotation of crops, which leaves a limited amount of ground exposed to erosion. Welve fertilized our soil with cow manure and crop residues. The results have been positive: reduced erosion, average crop yields, excellent herd health and milk production, and some cost savings. However, it was Clear from the beginning that the cost savings from biological agriculture would not be enough to make up for low prices. Ed Hauck, an award-winning conservation farmer in Wabasha County, Minnesota, bought a badly eroded farm in 1958 and restored it to model condition. But in 1984 Hauck lost his farm in foreclosure t0 the John Hancock Life Insurance Company of Boston. The insurance company rented the land to a farmer who plowed up the whole farm. To maximize 11efficiencyfl twenty-six years worth of conservation work on terraces, waterways, and contours was destroyed_work that had been supported with thousands of dollars of taxpayers, money. TODAY, S NATIONAL FARM POLICY, BASED on the 1985 Farm Bill signed by President Reagan, is only creating more Ed Haucks. The bill cut farm prices dramatically, accelerating family farm foreclosures and consolidation of land into the hands of insurance companies and lenders. Increasing chemical pollution and continuing soil erosion are

the results.

On my own farm, Pve been forced to expand from twenty to forty cows to keep up with the price cuts in milk. And I've rented an additional eighty acres. Like the majority of US. farmers, I face an uncertain future of high debt and reduced land values. But the environmental impact of present U.S. farm policy doesn't stop at our borders. Due to our overwhelming dominance in the world market, our policies very much affect the whole world. Especially in relation to Third World countries-both the emerging food exporters and the hungry importing nations-present policy has been intentional. And deadly. Most Third World exporters have responded to the United States setting world prices lower simply by expanding their acreage and production, often at the expense of rain forests or other fragile ecosystems. Rarely is this enough: lower commodity prices translate into higher debt for already-debt-crippled developing nations. WE NEED A GLOBAL CAMPAIGN TO ENSURE

that farmers and peasants regain control of the land. And we need a global campaign to ensure that the land is being farmed in an environmentally sustainable way. This is becoming more and more crucial as we approach the twenty-first century when, increasingly, our economy will be based on the transformation of farm-grown products into fuel, hber, medicine, and manufactured goods that our whole society will need. We could have a bright future, with our economy converted from one based on nonrenewable, highly polluting petroleum and coal to one based on renewable resources-plants and trees that can, if we choose, be grown and transformed in an environmentally safe way. But this bioindustrial revolution could also mean a dark future, if corporations are allowed to take control of the land and means of producing the food and fiber we now grow. We must come to understand the link be-

tween the concepts of who controls the land and how the land is treated. We must be sure that our struggle for land reform is broadened to include whatis grown on the land and how its grown. And our struggle for sustainable agriculture must include the economics to ensure widespread, diversified family farm control. Only together can we win these struggles. Separated, we will lose it all.

For more information contact: League of Rural Voters 212 Third Ave. N., #300 Minneapolis, MN 55401 (612) 338-3382 National Family Farm Coalition 80 F St. NW, Suite 714 Washington, DC 20001 (202) 737-2215 Dixon Terry Memorial Fund PO Box 86 Greenfield, IA 50849 Can you iudge
a man by
the size of his
oil slick?
Illustration by Gary Baseman
BAD ATTITUDE
By Barbara Ebrenreich
Pollute the Market

T WAS THE YEAR THAT THE SUPREME COURT SET aside its black robes for white ones and began to cancel all rights as we had known them_civil rights, womenls rights, minority rights, gay rights, constitutional rights. But just as the usual malcontents were gathering to build a papier-mache Statue of Liberty and launch a democracy movement on the Washington Mall, two brand-new and hitherto unsuspected rights were announced: the right to burn the U.S. flag, and the right-made available through President Bushls june 1989 environmental program#to pollute. In fact, by putting these two ground-breaking rights together, it became possible and entirely legal to pollute a major patch of the countryside, if one was so inclined, with the thick, pungent smoke produced by thousands of U5. flags on fire.

The business community was at first alarmed by the administrations plan to sell the right to pollute. Quite rightly, they complained that the right to pollute had always been free in the past. Quite understandably, they worried that a price tag would soon be slapped on those other inalienable rights enjoyed by the corporate community: the right to befuddle the U.S. public with fork-tongued advertising, the right to move freely about the globe in search of the hungriest, most downtrodden employees, the right to sponsor W programs so inane as to induce the widespread neurological damage on which the corporate order depends for its peaceful continuation, and so forth.

But not to worry! By thrusting the government into the pollution rights business, President Bush meant only to demonstrate, once again, the undying magic of the market. Many Americans, raised on Communist-in-spired doggerel (lkTo market, to market, to buy a fat. . f, and llThis little piggy goes to . . 7), had come to associate the market with the more porcine side of human nature, or to think of it as something resembling a sty. With the sale of pollution rights, the administration hoped to establish, once and for all, that the Invisible Hand, which had up until now busied itself tossing hlth into our streams and breezes, was in fact soft, gentle, and admirably clean under the nails.

Of course, things didnlt work out quite so nicely. First, once the EPA published its price list, an avid and seemingly unquenchable demand for pollution rights arose among the white overclass. We all know of the great real-estate mogul who was so pleased with his sons high grades in tennis and wine-tasting that he rewarded the boy with the right to pollute a medium-sized midwestern city, by air and by water, with the toxins of his choice. Not to be outdone, Malcolm Forbes presented Liz Taylor with the right to pollute a well-populated mountain state with hair spray and shredded fanzines_ which she accomplished by running about on foot, followed by hundreds of gaily shrieking celebutantes spraying and shredding as they tore through the designated land mass.

Soon everyone was vying to participate in the conspicuous consumption of pollution rights. On sale days, long lines formed outside the EPA: yuppies seeking the right to hurl Evian bottles from their BMWs, suburbanites in the market for the right to toss doggy doo onto their neighbors3 lawns, even schoolchildren who

had saved their pennies for the right to affix chewed Trident to the undersides of their desks. It was said that you could judge a man by the trail he left: the size of his oil slick, the density of the chlorofluorocarbon vapor MOTHER JONES 9

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National Student Environmental Conference
lingering Hftcf' him.
But that wasn't the end of it. The magic of
the market kept unfolding! Soon smart
young B-school grads, recognizing that pol-
lution rights were now a commodity just like
pork bellies and Third World debts, went
into the business of trading pollution rights,
and then into the business of trading pollu-
tion rights futures, and then into the sale of
highly speculative ujunk rights" involving
untested carcinogens and uninformed popu-
lations. Honest polluters complained that
the business was being overrun by callow
speculators who had never in their lives pro-
duced an honest days supply of carbon
monoxide or PCBS. But who cared? Wall
Street was jumping as bets were taken on the
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price of engorging Walla Walla with plutonium, on the future cost of shrinking the ozone layer to the size of Rhode Island, and on the probable date of the end of the world. Then there was the inevitable pollution rights-related crime wave. In Dallas, a wellheeled gent was mugged and relieved of the right to scatter Styrofoam peanuts across the entire state of Montana. Then on Wall Street, a wave of inside trading hit the pollution rights market. Everywhere, crafty brokers sought to bribe the ecologicallyminded with tasty tofu dishes, hoping thereby to inflame the environmental movement and thus covertly raise the future price of soiling and desecration.

But the market had a solution for crime, too, as one of the savants at the American Enterprise Institute was quick to point out. If the government could sell the right to pollute, why not also market the rights to embezzle, loot, and pillage? Soon corporate jets and personal helicopters buzzed thickly around the justice Department, as representatives of the overclass bid for the rights to lie cheat, and defraud the public. We all know of the brilliant career of that young Yale-educated investment banker who started out as a humble broker in pollution rights. moved on to inside trading in pollution rights futures, and then redeemed himself by buying the right to be an inside trader. From there it was an obvious leap to trading inside trading rights, and finally to inside trading in the inside trading rights futures

Unfortunately. the environmenn which had been more or less forgotten in the frenzy of speculation, continued to head for hell in a hand-basket. But what could I do? I could barely afford the right to throw thumbtacks in a sandbox. Then I realized: the market has a solution for everything! It was time for some comparison shopping. The right to riot and revolution is a bargain these days. justice Department officials assure me I can pay with a credit card. I

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and seeing your name in type, After that,
you can decide if you want your writing to
take another direction
But after 30 years of editing, publishing,
and teaching_and 55 books of my own_I
can tell you this: You'll go a long way before
you discover anything as rewarding as
writing for young readers.
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they do from the lips of achild reading your
books and stories And the joy of creating
books and stories that truly reach young
people is an experience you'll never have
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to fill their issues. You can imagine how
much writing that takes!
Yet two big questions bedevil nearly every
would-be writer: HAm I really qualified?"
and "How can I get started?
ttAm I really qualified?"
This is our definition of a "qualified person":
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Old Skull advertises, "Tlffany can kiss our ass!" From left: Guitarist J. P. Toulcn and drummer Jesse Collins-Davies, both ten, team with J. P.'s eight-yonr-old brother Jumle on trashcan-Ild percussion and Yamaha keyboards. Photograph by Lisa jo/mson Prepubescent Punk P. TOULONE FRIENDS DONIT TALK ABOUT POLlution, AIDS, or the homeless much. "Theyid rather talk about fun things," he admits. "But we think that people need to know more about whatls going on, and to try and help out." ttWe" are Old Skull, 3 preteen trio from Madison, Wisconsin. Their debut LP, Get Outta School (Restlessl appeared in the summer with a sticker dubbing them llThe Youngest Punk Band in the World." llPeople back in Madison have said its just a gimmick? J. P. says, llbut now we have a record, And you thought rock had lost its rebel spirit: Meet the and some people like it? Among them is Village Voice critic Robert Christgau, who praised the discls "shrill tantrums and chaotic coherence." Gregory Sandow of the LA. Herald Examiner sensed the bands llpunk attitudew as tla terrible freedom . . . in which the band itself probably doesnlt know whats going to happen next? In July, J. P. was invited onto the Artists Panel at the New Music Seminar in New York. The LP was produced by their musician dads, but the kids wrote and played as they pleased. Lyrics pummel fast food (Hot Dog Hellii) and school (Get On the BusU. Two of their most startling songs are tough and topical. tlAlDS" opens with the cry, "What is AIDS?" and the admission, uWe donf know much about AIDS? then shudders into :1 playground panic attack without blame: ttAlDS! How does it make you feel? Terriblelli llHomelessli begins with L1 chant of the title while J. P. enunciates: llPeople that dorft have homes; when I look in their eyes I see sadnessj' and ends with disgusted shouts of, .ll'm pissed off? and lll hate you Ronald Reaganlil Next album, llwe may do some raps," j. P. offers, ltbut the words are going to be exactly

what we think and what we feel? Drummer Jesse

like music? -Adzmz Block

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Collins-Davies agrees, llbut the next one will sound

Holiday Gift Ideas from Mother J ones: Flom Yam t0 Yucca, a yummy year of culinary exploration. Totally "Ihbular' \$74.95 O Tuber of the Month Club) Cellular Phone/Vibrator Stlmulatmg conversation guaranteed \$165.95 Australian Moongi Hound From last year's hottest country comes this year's coolest canme. The Mountain Trike For the trendy toddler on your list. \$325 On VHS for the flrst time, \$39.95 Liposuction Kit Makes ('hetmg and exercise obsoletd

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La Boom
E ARE DEFINITELY THE ILLEGAL ALIENS OF
American lit? says short-story writer and poet
Sandra Cisneros, who lives in San Antonio,
Texas. iiThe migrant workers, in terms of respect? For
years Chicana writers labored in the shadows. Now
Cisneros and others are changing that. For her upcoming
collection of short stories, Cisnetos has received the first
major publishing contract ever awarded a work of fiction
"'I'Iml's by and about Chicangs; this after winning 3 Be-
fore Columbus American Book Award for her
previous collection, The H ouse on Mango Street.
Tm excited about this whole generation of Chi-
cana writers. . . . It took us a while to finish our
educationf Cisneros says. iiAnd by that I mean
our understanding of gender and class conscious-
ness. iGenderi by figuring out our relationship to
the machismo of male culture, and iclass consciousnessi-
well, a lot of us have spent time working in the barriosfi
Demetria Martinez is happy shes beginning to be
known for her poetry as much as her politics. In 1988, the
Albuquerque journalist was indicted for conspiring to
smuggle two pregnant Salvadoran women into the United
States. The jury believed she was acting strictly as a jour-
nalist when she accompanied a Sanctuary movement min-
ister to meet the women, and acquitted her. Her poem
iiNativity: For Two Salvadoran Women, 1986-1987f
which prosecutors attempted to use as evidence against
Photograph by Robert Cardellino
I I
Cisneros broke the barrlers
for Chicano wrlters by slgn-
lng wllh Random House.
her in the trial, now can be read in the book Three Times
a Woman, just out from Bilingual Press.
Poet Lorna Dee Cervantes (Emplumada, University of
Pittsburgh Press) sees Chicanas struggling against both
white culture and the machismo of Latino males. iiWeire
not just a literary movement? she says, iiweire a cultural
force against spiritual and psychological oppression.
Machismo is just another handle for domination. We em-
brace our history, we love our culture, but love can be an
act of resistance? Lesbian Chicanas are among the lead-
ing new voices, particularly playwright Cherrie Moraga.
Says UC Berkeley Professor of Chicano Studies Norma
Alarc6n, itlfs fascinating that, at least in the artistic com-
munity and among young people, homophobic tendencies
of our culture are not manifest?
Fiction is where Chicanas are really making their mark.
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Some of the best: Denise Chavez (Face of an Angel, due

fall 1989), Ana Castillo (The Mixquiabala Letters), Helena Maria Viramontes (The Moths and Other Stories), Mary Helen Ponce (The Wedding), and, of course, Sandra Cisneros. Professor Tey Diana Rebolledo Of the University of New Mexico explains the Chicana sensibility by pointing to a forthcoming Chicano-edited book of essays on Aztlan, itthat mythic land, that imaginary homeland Chicano writers have created. And not one woman has an essay in there. Why? Thatis not our myth, that warrior Aztec thing the men writers have. Weive found our identity elsewhere. Weive found our heroines and our role models, and now we, ve moved on to the larger issues. Our women writers have turned out to be better, much better in some ways, at capturing the complexities of life? -Michael DiLeo MOTHER JONES 15

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Chicane: Iii: "That's not our myth, the! warrior Axis: thing." La Boom E ARE DEFINITELY THE ILLEGAL ALIENS OF American lit? says shott-story writer and poet Sandra Cisneros, who lives in San Antonio, Texas. thhe migrant workers, in terms of respect? For years Chicana writers labored in the shadows. Now Cisnetos and others are changing that. For her upcoming collection of short stories, Cisneros has received the first major publishing contract ever awarded a work of fiction by and about Chicanas; this after winning 3 Before Columbus American Book Award for her previous collection, The House on Mango Street. 818m excited about this whole generation of Chicana writers. . . . It took us a while to finish our education,'8 Cisnetos says. 8And by that I mean our understanding of gender and class consciousness. tGendef by figuring out our relationship to the machismo of male culture, and hclass consciousnesswell, a lot of us have spent time working in the barrios? Demetria Martinez is happy shes beginning to be known for her poetry as much as her politics. In 1988, the Albuquerque journalist was indicted for conspiring to smuggle two pregnant Salvadoran women into the United States. The jury believed she was acting strictly as a journalist when she accompanied a Sanctuary movement minister to meet the women, and acquitted her. Her poem ttNativity: For Two Salvadoran Women, 1986-1987? which prosecutors attempted to use as evidence against Photograph by Robert Cardellino Clmeros broke the barriers for Chicano writers by signlng with Random House. her in the trial, now can be read in the book Three Times a Woman, just out from Bilingual Press. Poet Lorna Dee Cervantes (Emplumada, University of Pittsburgh Press) sees Chicanas struggling against both white culture and the machismo of Latino males. 8Wette not j ust a literary movementf she says, 8we8re a cultural force against spiritual and psychological oppression. Machismo is just another handle for domination. We embrace our history, we love our culture, but love can be an act of resistance? Lesbian Chicanas are among the leading new voices, particularly playwright Chertfe Moraga. Says UC Berkeley Professor of Chicano Studies Norma Alarcon, 8185 fascinating that, at least in the artistic community and among young people, homophobic tendencies of our culture are not manifest? Fiction is where Chicanas are really making their mark. Some of the best: Denise Chavez (Face ofan Angel, due fall 1989), Ana Castillo (The Mixquiabala Letters), Helena Maria Viramontes (The Moths and Other Stories), Mary Helen Ponce (The Wedding), and, of course, Sandra Cisneros. Professor Tey Diana Rebolledo Of the University of New Mexico explains the Chicana sensibility by pointing to a forthcoming Chicano-edited book of essays on Aztlan, 8that mythic land, that imaginary homeland Chieano writers have created. And not one woman has an essay in there. Why? Thafs not our myth, that warrior Aztec thing the men writers have. Wehve found out identity elsewhere. Webve found our heroines and our role mod-

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-Micbael DiLeo MOTHER jONES IS Fred Ross(righ')laugh' Cesar Chavez and Fred, Jr. (left) about organizing. The new

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Like Father, Like Son

N Tiiiiiii DRIVh TO (IUT US. All) TO Tm: CON tras, Fred Ross and his grass-mots group Neighbor to Neighbor have out-organized some of the most powerful right-wing lobbies. But now he fears a new opponent, what he calls "hmoral fatigue." hThere were sixty-three votes on contra aid? he says. Some people are just burned out on Central America." Ross is anything but: Neighbor to Neighbor is now gearing, up to defeat George Bush's planned \$415 million aid package for El Salvador, on which Congress is likely to vote this fall. Most of that money will fuel the Salvadoran military and bolster the death squad-linked ARENA

party now in power. argues Ross. "You know the difference between China and El SalvadorE'i he asks. uIn El Salvador, were paying for the repression.w His group is running full-page ads making the case that ARENA is, in the words of former US. Salvadoran ambassador Robert White, WA violent fascist party modeled after the Nazis." And Neighbor supports House resolutions calling for a negotiated settlement of El Salvadors civil war, as well as a cutoff of US. aid.

Ross expects this to be his toughest fight, but he has the right background: his father taught Cesar Chavez about organizing. In fact, the younger Ross may demand too much. During, the peak of the contra-aid battle, Neighbor pushed its phone-bank fund-raisers so hard that many quit in protest. But Ross is ready to go around again. "The best antidote for moral fatigue, w he says. his moral outrage? _Micbael DiLeo Photograph by Martin Klimelz

Life Underground ARTIN DELANEY SOUNDS THE cry of a growing movement that insists dying AIDS patients gain speedier access to promising drug treatments. Founder of Project Inform, an AIDS information and advocacy network, he argues that llif the federal drug research and regulatory bureaucracy His guerrilla doesn t bend, frustrated pa-AIDS drug tests mm and doc" tors Wlll take matters into their own hands? Delaney made that threat reality recently by organizing an unauthorized underground human treatment program using high doses of the much-touted exmuy spark a new movement. Photographs by Haruko (Delaney) and Carol Friedman Dolunoy: "We were frustrated we couldn't get access Io drugs that were , out than." perimental AIDS drug Compound Q. A former jesuit seminarian, Delaney says he and the doctors he recruited to run the program feared thousands wouldn,t live the two or more years it has taken to develop other AIDS drugs. The FDA asked Delaney to stop the renegade research (one of sixty patients died during the program), but also invited him to help develop new community-based studies. 11Actually, " he says, 111 canlt imagine a better outcome? Delaney, who is gay, was pulled into this medical maelstrom in 1984 when his lover developed the AlDS-related conditions that often signal the onset of fullblown AIDS. 11Had we followed the doctors, advice to just wait, he surely would have died? Delaney says. Instead, they used llwhatever lpromising drugj was available at the timell and so far have staved off an AIDS diagnosis. Delaney predicts his brand of AIDS advocacy will benefit those with other life-threatening illnesses, such as cancer and Alzheimers. -Dam'd Israels He's Worried, Not Happy OBBY MCFERRINE hit song 1tDon1t Worry, Be Happyw became -despite McFerrinls objections-the theme of George Bushls presidential campaign. Now Bush is finding McFerrinls name on a letter urging him to "reject the Radical Rightls attempt to control the rights and bodies of women" and warning, llDonyt let yours be known as the 1Coat Hanger Presidency? 1 Behind the campaign is the Men Who Care About Womenls Lives, a group of more than nine hundred men claiming to be the countryls first all-male prochoice organization. Menls names also fill a 11Men Support Reproductive Rightsll statement signed by Allen Ginsberg, Kurt Vonnegut, Benjamin Spock, Isaac Asimov, and fifty other prominent writers, actors, professors, and religious leaders. Edd Doerr, one of the coordinators Of the statement, explains, llNow that the Supreme Court has invited state legislatures, which are overwhelmingly male, to go ahead and restrict abortions, its a question of men making laws that apply only to women. Thatls playing dirty pool? -Susan LaCroix Contact Men Who Care About Womens Lives, 71 Ashton Ave, San Francisco, CA 94112 (415) 337-2061; Men for Abortion Rights, PO Box 6656, Silver Spring, MD 20906 (301) 5981447. MOTHER JONES 17

Villagers around an open grave of SWAPO war vldlms, near Oshukutl. N amibia on SWAPO and South Africa balance on the same high wire in uparlheid's backyard. 18 OCTOBER 1989 Edge CROSS THE PALM- AND ANTHILL-STUDDED plains of Ovamboland home to half of Namibiais 1.5 million peopleethe hold of peace is being tested. The heaviest fighting between the South-West African Peoples Organization (SWAPO) and the South African security forces took place in this area along Namibiais northern frontier during SWAPOTs twenty-threeyear war for independence. Now, in Oshakati, an Ovambo town that is little more than a long strip of wooden bars, liquor stores, and hangouts known as cucas, men and women dance deep into the night, Haunting SWAPO caps, shirts, and scarves in solidarity-exhibitionism that last year could have gotten them killed. This night they dance in cums with names like Love Station, Mississippi junctiom and Beverly Hills, celebrating the latest airlift of SWAPO exiles arriving at the nearby Ondangwa airport_ long used as a landing strip for South African 0130 Hercules troop carriers. The spirit in ()vamboland is often euphoric as exiles who have been away for as long as twenty-five years return home; but barely contained tensions could ultimately sabotage the peace accord signed last December by South Africa, Angolm and Cuba, the primary proxies in one of Africais last colonial wars. The U.S.-brokered agreement links the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola to the withdrawal of South African troops from Namibia, and mandates a November 1 election for a new Constituent Assembly. But the election campaign waged across the sprawling open spaces and black shanty-HOT SP 5 By Melissa Baumann towns in one of Africais least populated and most mineralrich countries has brought into sharp relief the fierce rivalries that still divide the dominant Ovamb0_also the strongest force within SWAPO_from the southern Herero and other tribes. Behind the whole tenuous arrangement still looms South Africa, which seems unlikely to allow a peaceful transition of power that could be a model for other troubled spots in southern AfricaeAngola, Mozambique, and South Africa itself. ON THE TAR ROAD STRETCHING across Ovamboland to the border at Ruacana, South African armored vehicles patrol continuously, guns mounted. Many are operated by former members of Koevoet (TTCrowbarTT), the ace South African counterinsurgency unit absorbed by the Namibian police (SWAPOL). The force-at last count three hundred whites in charge of three thousand blacks-remains headquartered within Oshakatiis uwhite townf a military compound surrounded by barbed wire. Most of the military families have moved south, deserting their bungalows, hibiscus gardens, and sandbag shelters. But a core of SWAPOL ofhcers_most often dressed in shorts, Tshirts, and thongs-still gathers for a few lagers each evening at the International Guest House, where they toast the fallen empire to German beer-hall tunes.

General Hans Dreyer, mastermind of Koevoet, now SWAPOL chief for the northern region, is one of the men who remained. Dressed in battleship gray, the towering, silver-haired general stands before a map of Ovamboland. The war is over, but he is still hunting SWAPO guerrillas. "Look," he says, bwe are trying to locate them, and their arms caches. We have a network of informers. I came up here in T78, and after six months I realized the potential to counter the revolutionary onslaught lies with their own people. There is no better combination than a white man and ten black men to help him? Human-rights activists receive regular reports of physical harassment and intimidation by SWAPOL. TTDetention, murder, rape, beatings, destruction of property have been going on here for twenty years? says Foibe jacobs Of the Human Rights Centre in Ongwediva. TTTheyire still happening. The trouble is that people have to report the crimes to the people committing them_the police? In April, more than two hundred SWAPO guerrillas and civilians were killed during a surprise raid by South African security forces, an attack that SWAPO claims was unprovoked and almost derailed the peace accord. In july, the South African administrator-general for Namibia, Louis Pienaar, agreed to remove some Photographs by Guy Tillim/Afrapix

Before you buy What a company sells investigate the company it keeps. Which company makes the HBreakfast of Champions" and champions women in the workplace? Which company claims to ttbring good things to life" yet manufactures components for nuclear weapons? Which company, whose president portrayed ttCool Hand .1 t Luke, " hands over all its proceeds 1'. 2,, " K at 5V GUIDE But in order to break this story_and expand our investigative work-we must have your help. By donating to the MOTHER jONES Investigative Fund, you,11 help bolster one of the few independent media outlets left in America. Information is power. It can educate. It can inspire. It can effect change. SUM 47E WV to Charity? In a blind taste test, could you tell which cookie is baked by a leading cigarette company? Shoppingfor a Better World answers these questions (and more!) in a 130-page pocket-sized guide rating the makers of nearly 1,400 brand name products on ten crucial social issues, including the environment, womenIS advancement, minority advancement, defense contracts, animal testing, South Africa, nuclear power, and Charitable giving. well give you a free copy of this fascinating guide to socially responsible shopping when you make a contribution of \$25 or more to the MOTHER JONES Investigative Fund. As a MOTHER JONES subscriber, you know the importance of our ongoing battle to break the stories that change society For example, a MO'IIHERJONES investigation has just pinpointed the highest industrial producers of ozonedestroying pollution_companies who currently brag about their high tech, "clean" operations. Behind the scenes they are actively lobbying to protect their ozonedepleting manufacturing methods, while their big public relations efforts portray them as leaders in the fight to SAVE the ozone layer. With your help we can expose their public relations scam, and take a positive step forward in helping to protect our environment. WITH YOUR DONATION OF \$25 OR MORE Remember, 27 corporations now control the majority of the media outlets in the United States. As corporations tighten their grip on the media, there is no greater weapon for change than new, dramatic, and relevant information. Support the MOTHER 10an Investigative Fund. There is no better time than now to make a difference. THE MOTHER JONES INVESTIGATIVE FUND

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A DTA campaigner from the Ovahlmba tribe. Koevoet members from the northern SWAPOL force after the UN's special representative in Namibia, Martti Ahtisaari, protested that they had ucreated an atmosphere of fear and intimidation among much of the population in the northern region." SOUTH AFRICA iiAs OCCUPIED NAMIBIA since invading the German-controlled territory in 1915. Since then, it has governed "South-West Africa" as a fifth province in its apartheid system. South African administrators and protege governments have administered the multinational-dominated mining industry (representing the bulk of the Namibian economy), controlled transport and communications, and will continue to operate Natnihials only deep-water port at Walvis Bay. In 1971, the International Court of justice declared South Africa's occupation of Natnihia illegal, and two years later the UN recognized SWAPO as the llsole and authentic representatives of the Namibian people." Sixteen years and billions of rand later_the war is estimated to have cost South Africa up to \$350,000 a day-Louis Pienaar was officially put in charge of the transition, which is supervised by the United Nations iliransition Assistance Group. UN'l'AG has nearly five thousand personnel in the country, including one thousand police officers, most stationed up north to monitor SWAPOL. liilteen hundred South African troops will remain in Namibia until the United Nations declares the election "tree and fair." But few trust that South Africa will administer the election fairly. They fear that more likely it will attempt to impose a "Mozatnhique-style" solution: sowing discord and instability through military and financial pressures. South Africa has already cut its direct financial aid to Namibia by 10 m lUHl-R 1031) over two-thirds; combined with Namihials foreign debt of about \$300 million, mostly to South Africa, these cuts are guaranteed to destabilize the fledgling nation. Whatever happens after the election next month, thousands of former members of the South Afriean Defense Force (SADF), SWAPOL, Koevoen and the Namibian territorial forces will remain inside Namibia-a spawning ground for a Namibian version of the Mozambique National Resistance (MNR), the South African-supported guers rilla movement that has wreaked havoc in Mozambique since its independence. Danny ilisongarero, 21 member of SWAPOK Central Committee, comments, "Look at the way lSouth Africa destabilized Mozambique and Angola, and to a lesser extent Zimhahwe and Botswana. In none of these countries has it been as intimate as in Namibia_it knows every tap and wire POLITICALLY, THE COUNTRY is FRACTURI-LI). Here in the populous north, it seems likely SWAPO will win a two-thirds majority in the upcoming election. But in the southern and eastern 'Lhomelands, n the Democratic

Turnhalle Alliance (DTA), a moderate party made up of whites and the Ovambok traditional tribal rivals, hopes to block SWAPO from obtaining the 67 percent of the vote needed to pass a new constitution through the soon-to-be-ereated Constituent Assembly. The DTA and other opponents of SWAPO have made a campaign issue of the testimony of 150 ex-SWAPO prisoners, who claim that they and others (many of whom SWAPO claims were spies for South Africa) were tortured by SWAPO fighters and held in underground pits in Angola. At times the antics of the election catn-

At times the antics of the election catnpaign have taken on Chicago proportions:
UNTML the group officially monitoring the
election, admits that husloads of white
South Africans have been crossing the
horder of Namibia to register to vote-attempting to tip the margin against SWAPO.
Altogether, the eountry has seen a proliferation of forty-three political parties, many of
which are forging new political alliances as
the election approaches.

'lihough SWAPO issued an election manifesto calling for a mixed economy to close the gap hetween hlaek poverty and white wealth, and for controls over some of the VVOFIKIIS richest fishing and mining reservest the campaign has centered around the simple question of who will bring peace and food after years of war and drought. Down litteen miles of white sand track north of Oshakati, a palsied and sun-heaten grandfather. wearing a German soldiers jacket from World War lL sits on the sand outside his kraal and articulates his politics: 110ne man puts you in the fire, another takes you out. We will vote for the man who takes us out of the fire....M; Inyofus have children who have gone. SWAPO has taken care of our children and is bringing them back. It is the wild animal of the people? THE DTA, Ml-.ANWHH, I:, 1s (IAMPAIGNING on a platform of llsavingll Namibia from SWAPO llterroristsll and llcommunists," championing private enterprise, education, the sanctity of the family, and God. Most of the church community in this highly Christian nation, however, rides behind SWAPO, which has nurtured this connection through years of struggle.

For most of the five thousand white farme ers who own more than 70 percent of Namibiak best farmland, the political differences between SWAPO and the DTA seem irrelevant. Their defiance surfaces through bumper stickers like one that proclaims, swim WITH A soUTH-WESTER, WE NEED MORE ()IJTHhM,:1ndthr0ugh farmersa local defense units set up by the SADF that are still in place. ul dont think most of us will leave, but we fear SWAPO will not respect our property, ownership, religion, law and order as we know it, " says David Keyser, on his ten thousand_acre cattle farm in Tsumeb. Keyser comes from the conservative stock that runs South Africa-an Afrikaner and National Party member, he is also a former tracker tor Koevoet. His options are limited: move next door, to South

Africa, or stay through a probable SWAPO victory to hold onto what he believes is rightfully his. "The SADF trained us to defend ourselvest gave us weapons. We trained our wives, childretL and laborers, formed area force units. Welve been disbanded, but the structures are there, and we could do the same thing again."

FOR msmotas NAMIBIA wits A TESTING ground for South Alrieas apartheid legisla-U(HL and a training field for its troops. Namibia remains an experiment, a trialchallenging SWAPO's ability to transform itself from a liberation movement to a political party to a parliamentary governmentand a conspicuous test of the UNVs ability to broker a peaceful transition in volatile areas. Taunted hy ties between SWAPO and the African National Congress; it also challenges South Africa to adapt to :1 Namibian government that will probably be composed of those it once considered llrevolutionaries"-a portent, perhaps. for its own day of reckoning.

Melissa Bazmnmn is a fiee-lmzee journalist based in (Iape Town, South Africa.

The king of Top 40 sends one out to Yasir and Yitzhak. -_,l id IF HE WERE INTRODUCING HIMSELF, IT WOULD sound something like this: 11Comin1 up: an immigrant shopkeepers son who grew up to wear diamonds on his fingers and conflict resolution in his heart. Hels a disc jockey now, a master storyteller who believes in reincarnation, follows a strict vegetarian diet, admires Yasir Arafat, and calls Noam Chomsky lmy all-time favorite BUY: ,, He would tell you all this in an enthusiastic and earnest tone, a tone so relentlessly wholesome that itls made him an easy mark for comedians like Dana Carvey and David Letterman. But the lampooners be darned; the tone doesnlt change. It is born of believing that it never hurts to be nice, and that you will listen to him more carefully if you consider him a friend. And Kemal Amen Kasem, known the world over as Casey, desperately wants you to listen. The way he figures it, the ., world is too full of Violence and pain precisely because people donlt listen. Sure, 10 million people listen to him each week when hels introducing hit songs on radio stations around the world, and some people are starting to listen to him off the air, when he calls Menachem Begin and Yitzhak Shamir terrorists. But hels worried that the Shamirs and Arafats of the world are not listening to each other, and in their deafness may end up blowing us Photograph by Gary Moss/Outline Press all up. Bad as that would be for most people, it would be a double tragedy for Casey Kasem; he plans to be reincarnated, and he wants there to be a world to come back to when he is. IN THE MEANTIME, THIS WORLD is treating him pretty well. Last year, Kasem signed a five-year contract for around \$20 million with the Westwood One Radio Networks to do his weekly pop music countdown show, Caseyis Top 40. With a format he originated over twenty years ago as a local jock in Los Angeles, Kasem counts down the top songs of the week, imagining his audiencesince many stations air the show on Sunday morningeas lla family on the way to church? He uses twelve or fifteen teasers in each four-hour show_llCominl up? Kasem gushed recently before a chart-Climber by Cher, sla rags-to-riches story: how a poor BV BPrnard Ollilllall girl, ahigh-schooldropoutanda runaway, with a mother who was married six times and a father with a serious drug problem, grew up to be one of the biggest stars

in Hollywoodl, -and joyfully dishes out a constant supply of minutiae about the songs and their petformers. Where else would you learn the hometown of the band Poison? Or how many times records with the word llangelh in the title have appeared in the top ten? Why, these arenit just songs: they,re icons around which to build worlds MOTHER jONES 21

i of knowledge. Let the academics disassemble Joyce; % Casey Kasemls got Whitney Houston. Hels also got his dedications, which he says Choke him up 80 percent of the time. These heart-tuggers, sent in by listeners to introduce a favorite song, go beyond llFor jennifer, because I love her, from jasonll; they are more often miniature morality plays, in which a listener bemoans never having said bl love youll to a now-dead relative, remembers an old love affair torn apart by selfishness or foolishness, or thanks the nurse at an alcohol rehab center who helped her sober up. This is earnestness squared; you can almost hear the writers for Saturday Night Live and Late Night with David Letterman sharpening their pencils. Make that earnestness cubed, for if the Top 40 songs are Caseyls icons, the dedications are his parables. llThe dedications teach that life is worth living? he says, llthat its easy to give up, that it isnlt easy to make life worthwhile, and that, if you take the time to participate and to give, it will all come back at you. Theylre a way of showing that if you look for help you can find it, and that there are caring people in the world? No wonder that in his new \$6.8 million house in the Holmby Hills, where he lives with his actress wife Jean, Kasem is known jokingly as llGandhiKl The Mahatma never had a star on Hollywood Boulevard, of course; he never had a hairdresser he called llbabef, and he never had a platinum-haired wife who was named one of the worst dressers of last year by People magazine. And Gandhi never lived like this, with a private tennis court and three-hole golf course in the backyard, and a kitchen full of chocolate tofu bars and meatless pepper steaks. Throw in the photo of Casey and Jean with Jesse Jackson on the mantel, the two black Mercedes with car telephones in the garage, and the copies of In These Times and Variety stacked in the study, and the picture emerges of yet another garden-variety rich Hollywood lefty. But this isnlt that picture: Kasem gets arrested at the Nevada test site, all right; he hands out taped speeches by the Christie Institutels Danny Sheehan and ex-CIA agent John Stockwell, and he spends Christmas Eve feeding the homeless in Washington. But he also, in Jean Kasemls words, lllives, eats, and breathes" the one issue that divides - OW, U.S. progressives more than any other. Casey Kasem is as Cy obsessed with the Middle East. that he And in Hollywood, as in most places where rich liberals F g hat the 1967 congregate, hels outnumbered. Heas certainly not alone in his belief that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir is responsible for tlthe deaths, beatings, torture, mass arrests, deportations, and detention without trial of thousands of 7) Palestiniansll; very few Hollywood types, though, would ba 6 between the go so 'far as to say publicly, as Kasem has, that llArafatls Beatles and i heart is in the right place? Stones Probably Just as few would debate a rabbi on television, for Chart su remac ,. but there was Kasem on KNBC in Los Angeles late last P 3 year, trading wildly divergent Views of Middle East history with Rabbi Marvin Gross, director of the western region of the Jewish Federation. Gone was Casey the happy king s" v as not a

Kasem ampmtesmn of rock trivia; in his place was a somber, almost sad-Capitol Hill against looking man in professorial gold-rimmed glasses who is homelessness. identified as llan entertainer and Arab spokesman? He Photograph by Wide World Photos slammed the Israeli government for saying, as he put it, llWelll never give up the West Bank, the settlers worft leave, we wonlt give up Gaza, we don't recognize the PLO, and weire not interested in a two-state system? For those who know Kasem, the most telling moment of the half-hour debate came at the end, when he shook Grossls hand and said-earnestly, of course-lil am looking forward to the day when the Middle East is at peace? Chalk up another one for the Gandhi of the airwaves, the champion of conflict resolution.

CASEY KASEM,S EMERGENCE AS AN ARAB SPOKESMAN began in 1982,when the Israeli army invaded Lebanon. He stepped up the pace a year later, when the US. battleship New jersey began shelling the Shouf Mountains from which his father had emigrated to the United States more than eighty years before.

Like many children of immigrant parents, Kasem tried hard for most of his life to blend in. He spent hours refining his baseball skills as a kid, refused to speak Arabic at home as a teenager, and embraced the concept of the melting pot as an adult. Even when many US. ethnics began to celebrate their roots in the 19705, Arab-Americans remained in the shadows. There were no KISS ME, FM ARAB coffee cups in souvenir shops, no ARABS DO IT IN THE DESERT bumper stickers on pickup trucks. But in the early 19805, with his career on cruise control, Kasem started to notice that llyou can,t watch television for six hours without seeing an Arab or Muslim defamedfl and he grew tired of editorial cartoons skewering Arabs as oil-thirsty, lecherous subhumans. Drawing on his showbusiness contacts, he began writing letters to newscasters, talk-show hosts, and film and television producers, protesting what he called 11the vilihcation and defaming of Arabs in motion pictures and television? When a book called The TV Arab came out in 1984, detailing the vicious nature of Arab images on commercial television, Kasem bought hundreds of copies and sent one to anyone he could think of who might be able to produce or direct a show featuring an Arab who wasnlt lla billionaire, a bomber, or a belly dancer? He stopped doing most of the commercials and cartoon voices that filled up his week, and used his newfound free time to devour books about the Middle East. Though he never said a thing on the radio show about his nascent ethnic pride, the word was out in Hollywood. Casey Kasem was an Arab. iiIt took a lot of balls for him to step out at a time when stereotyping of Arabs was at an all-time highf says Zev Putterman, a television producer and Jewish activist. Kasem himself says his coming-out was neither agonizing nor risky, and maintains to this day that financially, his refusal to do commercials for meat products has hurt him more than his public Arabness has. After all, there are caring people in the world; how could it hurt to simply stand up for who you are?

But strip away the language of song dedications, and Casey Kasem knows better. He will tell you that his new house has lithe most sophisticated security system possibled; Jean will tell you that shels never seen a look on Caseyls face like the one he wore on an October day four years ago, when he found out that his friend Alex Odeh, a leader of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, had been blown apart by a bomb planted in his Orange County office.

With Odehls murder, Middle East violence had come to Los Angeles. Kasem began looking for a way to use the power of his voice, the power of the word, to defuse the tension. He had always believed that he could change the lives of teenagers by reminding them to ask for help when they need it and to give others help when they can; wasnlt there something he could do to get Arabs and Jews talking to each other?

A year later, Kasem found a young Jewish lawyer named Michael Lame, who had started running workshops in the United States and Jerusalem that included Arabs and Jews. Lame was shooting high with the workshops-sessions at which participants confronted their own, and each others, prejudice-arguing that ordinary citizens could use dialogue to urge their governments to negotiate, just as U.S.-Soviet citizen diplomacy helped lay the groundwork for the Reagan-Gorbachev arms reduction agreement. Lame, a serious political sort who didnlt have much time to listen to the radio or watch television, had never heard of Casey Kasem. Soon, however, his nonprofit Foundation for Mideast Communication had a volunteer who was so enthusiastic that, according to Lame, llit was almost like having another staff person? Kasem, who has always prided himself on being lla very good salesman? began selling the Foundation. He joined the board of directors, licked envelopes, went to long meetings in tiny apartments, and spent hours on the phone urging Jewish and Arab acquaintances to come to the workshops. And as the final step in Kasemls coming-out as an Arab, he and Zev Putterman began speaking at synagogues and Rotary Clubs-Kasem presenting a Palestinian view on the lVIiddle East to contrast with Puttermanls Zionism, while both of them pleaded for dialogue. 11The only way to change the environment of hate, fear, and mistrust? Kasem told anyone who would listen, llis through conflict resolution, one on one, enemy talking to enemy? The dialogue approach fit perfectly into the world according to Casey. 11No matter how much you disagree? he says, llyou have to keep the door open so you can communicate? Socially, he continues to mix with friends that include influential Republicans as well as followers of Isra-

ells racist Rabbi Meir Kahane. He even badgered for two years a business associate who was a Kahane supporter

until he attended a Foundation workshop, leading Putterman to mutter that llCaseyls either naive or a saint? llThere was a time when (Continued on page 54) Off-air, Kasem favors politicians over pop stars.

MOTHER jONES 23

IIITIIII By John Kric hRH HY? WHY AMERICANS s0 SELFISH? I WANT '10 risk the president right now. Why you need money? You want money, here is my money! You want friend, I be your friend! Why you say no when I say yes? America is freedom, I told, freedom of speech. But when I say this, they say I crazy!w Patient A rages, weeps, and pounds on the desk of his therapist. For this twenty-nine-yeareold refugee from Vietnam, the promised land is the Department of Psychiatry at San Francisco General Hospital. The youngest of ten children, he was put out to sea by his mother and went three days without food and water, drinking his own urine to survive. At a Philippine resettlement camp, he began showing signs of schizophrenia. Sponsored by a Catholic service in New York, he lived in an orphanage and washed dishes for seven years in a Chinatown restaurant. 0 hard. Then I see that what you put in one garbage can, it can feed a hundred Vietnamese. I want to eall to the presitlent-I want the phone rightnow! Iaskhim, please, illake Americans not so selfish. In Vietnam, we help each other. Here, no one helps. They say I need doctor, but I am doctor, too. When you go up, I make you go down. I hear your voice. I see into your heart! So why, why we cannot be friend?" I work very hard, so To 81-; A FRIEND, ONE MUST HRST BE A(IKNOWLEDGIII), AND Patient A is part of the unrecognized underside of the leastoe'I'o 11.1: R 19 8 9 understood group of newcomers to the United States. Welve heard plenty about the psychological sears left on Vietnam vets, but little about the conflicts other head cases. For all our involvement with Southeast Asia, Americans remain profoundly ignorant of the emotional baggage over 900,000 refugees have carried here since the end of the war. From tribal hill dwellers to urban sophisticates, Americanized delinquents to Buddhist monks, Vietnamese, Cambodians, and Laotians are lumped together in contradictory stereotypes: as grasping parasites and overaehieving threats, todays welfare hounds and tomorrows nuclear physicists. They are also burdened by an underlying racial myth-particularly applicable to these dogged survivors-that Asians are psychieally indestructible, immune to emotional collapse, uniquely outfitted by religion and temperament to endure all that life heaps upon them, or at least to keep their troubles hidden behind the doors of family. Yet wherever significant numbers of Southeast Asians have settled, itls become obvious that upheaval and uprootedness, battle fatigue and culture shock have taken a toll. According to a recent California State Department of Mental Health study, while 67 percent of the U. 5. population has no need for mental- health seniees only5 5percent of Southeast Asian refugees have none. While 15 percent of Americans report a moderate to severe need for such services, the figure rises to over 30 percent for Vietnamese and almost 50 percent among Cambodians_over 55 percent among Hmong tribal people. While many refugees present their problems in terms of somatic, or physical. complaints and rarely seek help until their symptoms are severe, one elinie found that 44 per-Before refugee therapists can recommend a cure, they

cent of its clients were suffering

eent from a constellation of

from major depression, 13 per- firSt have to

complaints known as posttraumatie stress disorder: reeurrent nightmares, flashshare their patients' view

backs and dlstress associated Of dlsease. with past events.

And why not? The Depart-

ment of Mental Health study reveals that 63 percent of incoming Cambodians have experienced the death of a close family member. Many refugee women suffered rape during their exodus. Add the ruthless exigencies of Americanization to the process of healing the wounds of war and you have an unprecedented experiment being performed on the human psyche. The leap in consciousness required of immigrants from preindustrial backgrounds is probably greater than that

The Photographs Smcc 1986, Leah Melnick has bccn photographmg Khmer communities in the Bronx, New York and Amherst. Massachusetts. "War is not somethmg that just happens somcpldcc else, " she says. "The Vlctlms of war are m our communities. . . .Thc photographs explore the meaning of rebuilding a culture, restructurmg a society, and healmg personaL falnlly.dxld spiritual losses while struggling with the pressures of adlustmg to a new land? MOTH! R IOXLN ZS

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e don't want
to create more
popcorn, " says
Evelyn Lee.
"Those are
little yellow
kernels that, under
pressure, turn white.
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Previous page. mp.-Foster brothers working,y out in the bedroom of 3 Bronx apartment. A: children, rwo of the three were soldiers in Cambodia. Bottom: A Buddhist monk riding rhc New York City subway. This page, clockwise.- A Khmer brldc before her wedding in the Bronx: 3 womelfs support group learning to bake com muffins; a Khmer family in Amherst sorting cans and bottles for redemption_ they send the proceeds to their relatives in Cambodia.

On the Masha: Newt Gingrich WM! his wife Marianne, answering cough questions abom hls wand book deals (top): part of III: nnlvo cons'mnncy, which Includes largo numb." of lanom mike" (Man). #20 J,
NE: ER

Newt Gingrich, New Right celebrity and Republican point man on ethics, says he's confident he can "shift the planet." But will he be the next victim of his own paranoid style? By David Beers hen I debated Mondale, they told me to go for the jugular. So I did? Bob Dole says, his impish grin signaling the Washington ballroom full of listeners that a punch line is coming. IUnfortunately, it was my Dole laughs. His audience laughs along with him, but a bit impatiently, because Bob Dole, Senate minority leader and GOP patriarch, is in an unnatural role here at the mid-June meeting of the Republican National Committee. I-Ie,s the warm .up act. The crowd is eager to hear from Newt Gingrich, the new House minority whip who led the politically fatal attack on Speaker Jim Wright, and who just this week made more headlines when the scurrilous rumor that new Speaker Tom Foley is not only gay but a child molester was traced to his office. Toward the end of his talk, Dole rues the bloodletting in Washington, mentioning the Titragedy for John Tower, Robert Bork, and yes, for Tom Foley. I love politics. I know its rough and tough. I know we can have our differences. And I know we want to win. But its gotta be based on wanting to win for some good reason? When Gingrich, the man who once called Bob Dole IIthe tax collector for the welfare state, I mounts the stage and Photographs byjames K. Wt Atherton (top) and RaIpI7/j.B. Pictures offers his hand, Dole, the man who once called Newt Gingrich and his allies Iithe young hypocrites? looks past him, barely acknowledging the gesture. But by the time Gingrich has had his turn at the microphone, Dole,s concern for Foley seems passe. Gingrich has emerged, after all, as the point man for Republican upstarts who expect their party to become dominant in Congress, and they have used ethics as a potent battering ram against the Democrats. Gingrich mesmerizes the room with his triumphant gloating over the still-fresh resignations of Wright and Democratic whip Tony COelho. The applause builds as Gingrich neatly segues from ethics to ideology: iiThe values of the Left cripple human beings, weaken cities, make it difficult for us to in fact survive as a country. . . . The Left in America is to blame for most of the current, major diseases which have struck this societyfi Then Gingrich warns of a Ieft-wing Tima- chineb out to get both him and Republican National Committee Chairman Lee Atwater. IIYouire gonna see weird things coming out of this city over the next few years, because youire watching the death throes of the machine, and youire watching its power to smear, and its power to intimidate. And the next time you hear anyone say, iLetis fire Lee Atwater, a the first thing you ought to know is . . . they are either left-wingers or they have been intimidated by left-wingers? Gingrichis last words, comparing Bush to

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The Real
Ethics Debate
thicsLW roars Ralph Nader. llWhere does Mother
jones get off using a piddly-ass beltway word like
ethics? Corruption is the issue. Ask the average per-
son outside of Washington lWhy are you dismayed
with Congress?7 and they're not gonna say, lWell,
there's a problem with ethicsf Theylre gonna say:
These guys are in the pocket of the rich, the big
corporations, the fat cats. They donk care about me.' 1,
Nader charges that Congress-Democrats and Republicans
alike-isnlt interested in real ethics reforms that would lessen the
power of moneyed interests on the Hill. And he seems to have a
handle on public opinion. A recent Harris poll found that eight in
ten adults believe llindividuals, groups, and corporations which
contribute to political campaigns end up having too much influ-
ence over the public officials to whose Campaigns they contrib-
ute? Most considered lltaking money in return for political
favors11 the worst ethical violation a politician could commit; only
4 percent considered extramarital sex more serious.
Suddenly, in the wake of recent scandals, clean-government
groups like Common Cause, Citizens Against PACs, and the
Nadet-founded Public Citizen are gaining momentum. While their
agendas overlap quite a bit (Newt Gingrich dismisses elements of
all as llsocialistll), Public Citizenls is the most aggressively demo-
cratic with a small lldfl Here are the basics:
O Limit overall spending and provide partial public
financing. Candidates who voluntarily agree to establish spend-
30 OCTOBER 1989
ing limits and raise a threshold amount of money from small
contributions would receive funds from voluntary taxpayer check-
offs. Spending caps would guarantee that campaign spending does
not reach obscene levels. Just as important as these ceilings is the
floor: public financing would guarantee that any major party
candidate could be heard even without access to big money.
O Curtail the role of PACs. At present, PACs can give
$10,000 to a congressional candidate during an election cycle.
Their influence is actually even greater, since similar PACs run in
packs, giving en masse to favored candidates. PAC donations
during an election cycle would be limited to $3,000 or less under
the Public Citizen plan. Also, a limit would be placed on an
aggregate amount a candidate can receive from all PACs during an
election cycle-$125,000 for House races and up to $1.5 million
for Senate contests.
O Guarantee television and radio time for candi-
dates. As a condition of their right to broadcast over the public
airwaves, TV stations would be required to provide a limited
amount of free airtime to qualified candidates.
O Ban honoraria. Members of Congress and their staff
would no longer be allowed to take speaking fees and free trips
from special-interest groups.
Campaign spending limits and public financing are the most
important of these reforms, ones Congress is least likely to impose
on itself. says Michael Waldman, director of Congress Watch, a
division of Public Citizen. With a re-election rate of 99 percent,
members have little incentive to change the present system.
Newt Gingrich, ever ready with a partisan blast, says the
Democrats, in their drive to preserve a majority, llhave rigged the
game better than Noriega? Would he, then, limit campaign
spending? llThatls the opposite of a good reform. The fact is, in
almost any other business in America we spend vastly more
Illustration by Victorjubasz
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technology and medicine.
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11 3 dUULLL UCIHUCIKUC ICPFCSCnIaUUn.
Ralph Nader believes that as the Democratic party
becomes increasingly reliant on big money, it aban-
dons its original bedrock of poor and working-class
voters. If Democrats can ensure incumbency by
courting PACs, thereis little incentive to mount voter
registration drives. 110ver 350 districts donlt have a
competitive second party getting more than 30 per-
cent of the vote. In safe districts therels no interest in
the poor voting? says Nader, adding, IITV is the new
precinct. The two parties are skeletons beaming elec-
tronic ads at one another? While Gingrich wants to
strengthen the fund-raising power of the parties,
Nader wants to hold them accountable. The only
way to unseat entrenched, money-backed politicians,
he says, is with Ila new kind of political movement
that can fluctuate strategically, without any ad-
herence to party labels?
In the meantime, don)t look to Newt Gingrich as a
shining example of even his own proposed reforms.
Not only did he receive $265,697 in PAC money for
his 1988 re-election campaign, hels one of Congress%
highest spenders on junk mail. Naturally, he also
pocketed close to the limit, $26,800 of $26,850, al-
ater to Patton, are nearly drowned out
)5. Atwater rushes onstage to hug and
'h. RNC co-chairjeanie Austin takes the
ning. Illsnit he something? Maybe we
iotapeli, Gingrich is flushed, soaking up
3 is no longer in the room. The hatchet
ORDER NOW AND SAVE!
LICH IS ADDRESSING A FAR LESS FRIEND-
5 ie turf. Georgiais Sixth Congressional
In (I southern Atlanta, encompassing the
O 'port, fast-growing suburbs, textile-mill
O states richest county (where Gingrich
I , and pockets of black poverty. Though
Q o metropolis, the agricultural colleges
5 filled with some one hundred constitu-
. downright hostile toward their con-
O luestion comes from Ed Henderson, 3
0 :an college student and former Gingrich
a Is upset that Gingrich-who once urged
' 'esentatives Gerry Studds, a Massachu-
Dan Crane, an Illinois Republican, for
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ressional pages-hasnk gone after Rep-:ens, a Republican from Ohio convicted 1 sixteen-year-old girl. IINow Newt, I are good friends . . . and very likely he Iou the one-vote majority you needed to vhipfi Henderson is then disappointed 'er that Lukens should be investigated t expelled because the sixteen-year-old wasnlt in the care of Congress. .nds up. If Congress is so worried about by did Gingrich oppose the minimum .ge hike for people like her? llI donit -__low of a single economist who disagrees that when you raise the minimum wage you kill jobs for the poorf, Gingrich shoots back, then suggests, over some snickers, that a tax cut for minimum wage earners would be better policy. Several Eastern Airlines employees take turns accusing Gingrich of ignoring their plight while he was ranking minority member of the aviation subcommittee of the House Public Works and Transportation Committee. Gingrichls district is reputed to have more aviation workers than any other in the country, and more than a third are striking Eastern workers. That he gave up the committee assignment and became whip has only deepened their skepticism, and the dark rhetoric that worked so well for Gingrich the day before in Washington doesnit seem to connect here. His railing against the Iicorrupt liberal welfare stateli draws n0 applause. And Gin-THE PUBLISHER' CALI. ANYTIME, TOLL-FREE 'I "The Left is to blame for the current diseases Which have struck society." grichls now-patented warning that Ilover the next six or eight months you will see a fairly serious effort to go after mell elicits only a few Chair squeaks. Gingrichis problem is that here the most tangible Villain at lowed per year in honoraria. IlThe idea that a congressman would be tainted by accepting money from private industry or private sources is essentially a socialist argumentf explains Gingrich. -D. B. 1

MOTHER JONES 3 I

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thicsW, roars Ralph Nader. llWhere does Mother
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with Congress?7 and theylre not gonna say, lWell, therels a problem with ethicsf Theylre gonna say: These guys are in the pocket of the rich, the big corporations, the fat cats. They don't care about mef 11 Nader charges that Congress_Democrats and Republicans alike-isnlt interested in real ethics reforms that would lessen the power of moneyed interests on the Hill. And he seems to have a handle on public opinion. A recent Harris poll found that eight in ten adults believe llindividuals, groups, and corporations which contribute to political campaigns end up having too much influence over the public officials to whose Campaigns they contribute? Most considered braking money in return for political favors11 the worst ethical violation a politician could commit; only 4 percent considered extramarital sex thore serious. Suddenly, in the wake of recent scandals, clean-government groups like Common Cause, Citizens Against PACs, and the Nader-founded Public Citizen are gaining momentum. While their agendas overlap quite a bit (Newt Gingrich dismisses elements of all as usocialistll), Public Citizenls is the most aggressively democratic with a small lldfl Here are the basics: O Limit overall spending and provide partial public financing. Candidates who voluntarily agree to establish spend-30 oc'i'oum 198 9 uuu. . ruuAAv .u...nn..o .. o..m....- ,Jiy major party candidate could be heard even without access to big money. O Curtail the role of PACs. At present, PACs can give \$10,000 to a congressional candidate during an election cycle. Their influence is actually even greater, since similar PACs run in packs, giving en masse to favored candidates. PAC donations during an election cycle would be limited to \$3,000 or less under the Public Citizen plan. Also, a limit would be placed on an aggregate amount a candidate can receive from all PACs during an election cycle-8125,()00 for House races and up to \$1.5 million for Senate contests. ' Guarantee television and radio time for candidates. As a condition of their right to broadcast over the public airwaves, TV stations would be required to provide a limited amount of free airtime to qualified candidates. O Ban honoraria. Members of Congress and their staff would no longer be allowed to take speaking fees and free trips from special-interest groups. Campaign spending limits and public financing are the most important of these reforms, ones Congress is least likely to impose on itself, says Michael Waldman, director of Congress Watch, a

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Newt Gingrich, ever ready with a partisan blast, says the Democrats, in their drive to preserve a majority, llhave rigged the game better than Noriega? Would he, then, limit campaign spending? llThatls the opposite of a good reform. The fact is, in almost any other business in America we spend vastly more Illustration by Victorju/msz

money trying to communicate with the American people than we do in campaigns. Look at the cost of advertising beer? Eliminate honoraria, then? Gingrich dismisses that as Ilantifree enterprise, anti-private market. My speeches are frankly worth \$2,000. IfI were a private consultant I would make a lot more? In fact, Gingrich thinks members of Congress should have more time off to make money giving speeches. He suggests, lIYou may want to make rules that no association or companies doing business with the committees I serve on could have me give a speech for money, Iandl rules that say I have to give a real speechfi

Gingrichls own reform agenda contains proposals designed to weaken the incumbents advantage, including abolishing congressional junk mail, requiring candidates to start campaign funds from scratch every two years, limiting PAC money, and requiring that 50 percent of direct contributions come from the members own district. Illf anybody spends over \$100,000 out of their own pocket, there would be no contribution limits to the other candidate, which is an explicitly antirich people provision, "Gingrich says. At the same time, he would increase the amount of money individuals and businesses could give to parties, and the amount parties could then funnel into races. IIThatls hardly a moneyed-interest set of conditions? declares Gingrich.

Michael Waldman begs to differ. IIRepublicans don,t like public financing, because the way theyive traditionally won is to outspend Democratic incumbents. They say no PACs, but they also support a vastly increased ability to channel money to parties from rich people, and thatis going to be Republicans? While Gingrich and his peers try to ngure out how to reform Congress without challenging their own power bases, cynicism spreads. Philip Stern, co-chair of Citizens Against PACs and author of The Best Congress Money Can Buy, says people vote less and less because they live in llan America where money power talks louder than people power. That leads to a sense of futility. The ethics debate is not really about ethics.

Its about democratic representationfl

Ralph Nader believes that as the Democratic party becomes increasingly reliant on big money, it abandons its original bedrock of poor and working-class voters. If Democrats can ensure incumbency by courting PACs, thereis little incentive to mount voter registration drives. IIOver 350 districts donlt have a competitive second party getting more than 30 percent of the vote. In safe districts theres no interest in the poor votingf says Nader, adding, mIIV is the new precinct. The two parties are skeletons beaming electronic ads at one another? While Gingrich wants to strengthen the fund-raising power of the parties, Nader wants to hold them a: countable. The only way to unseat entrenched, money-backed politicians, he says, is with IIa new kind of political movement that can fluctuate strategically, without any adherence to party labels?

In the meantime, donlt look to Newt Gingrich as a shining example of even his own proposed reforms. Not only did he receive \$265,697 in PAC money for his 1988 re-election campaign, hels one of Congressls highest spenders On junk mail. Naturally, he also pocketed close to the limit, \$26,800 of \$26,850, allowed per year in honoraria. I"lihe idea that a congressman would be tainted by accepting money from private industry or private sources is essentially a socialist argument? explains Gingrich. -D. B.

"The Left is to blame for the current diseases which have struck society." Eisenhower and Atwater to Patton, are nearly drowned out by cheers and whoops. Atwater rushes onstage to hug and raise fists with Gingrich. RNC co-Chairjeanie Austin takes the microphone, eyes shining. IIIsnIt he something? Maybe we can all get that on videotapeW Gingrich is flushed, soaking up the ovation. Bob Dole is no longer in the room. The hatchet is passed.

THE NEXT DAY GINGRICH IS ADDRESSING A FAR LESS FRIENDly crowd on his home turf. Georgiais Sixth Congressional District wraps around southern Atlanta, encompassing the busy international airport, fast-growing suburbs, textile-mill and farm towns, the states richest county (where Gingrich does best in elections), and pockets of black poverty. Though Griffin, Georgia, is no metropolis, the agricultural collegels old brick auditorium is Hlled with some one hundred constituents, many of them downright hostile toward their congressman. The first question comes from Ed Henderson, a bespectacled Republican college student and former Gingrich campaign worker. Heis upset that Gingrich-who once urged the expulsion of Representatives Gerry Studds, a Massachusetts Democrat, and Dan Crane, an Illinois Republican, for having sex with congressional pages-hasnit gone after Representative IIBuziI Lukens, a Republican from Ohio convicted of having sex with a sixteen-year-old girl. IINow Newt, I know the two of you are good friends . . . and very likely he $\,$ voted for you, giving you the one-vote majority you needed to become Republican whip? Henderson is then disappointed with Gingrichls answer that Lukens should be investigated and censured but not expelled because the sixteen-year-old girl, unlike the pages, wasnit in the care of Congress. A single mother stands up. If Congress is so worried about its own pay raise, why did Gingrich oppose the minimum wage hike for people like her? III donit know of a single economist who disagrees that when you raise the minimum wage you kill jobs for the poorf, Gingrich shoots back, then suggests, over some snickers, that a tax cut for minimum wage earners would be better policy. Several Eastern Airlines employees take turns accusing Gingrich of ignoring their plight while he was ranking minority member of the aviation subcommittee of the House Public Works and Transportation Committee. Gingrichis district is reputed to have more aviation workers than any other in the country, and more than a third are striking Eastern workers. That he gave up the committee assignment and became whip has only deepened their skepticism, and the dark rhetoric that worked so well for Gingrich the day before in Washington doesn,t seem to connect here. His railing against the IIcorrupt liberal welfare state, draws no applause. And Gingrichis now-patented warning that hover the next six or eight months you will see a fairly serious effort to go after med elicits only a few Chair squeaks. Gingrichis problem is that here the most tangible villain at MOTHER JONES 31

the moment is not some liberal bureaucrat but that symbol of unregulated capitalism run amok: Frank Lorenzo. Most airline pilots are military-trained Republicans, and Gingrich has always been able to count on their votes and money. Now, in addition to the Eastern strikers, much of the local Airline Pilots Association has become wary of Gingrich. Even though he wears a big anti-Ilorenzo button pinned to his lapel and has vowed to have Lorenzo investigated, hels also accepted campaign contributions from Lorenzos Texas Air. What irks the strikers most is that Gingrich failed to support a House measure asking President Bush to convene an emergency board to arbitrate the dispute. In early june, a striking Eastern machinist-one of Gingrichs constituents_killed himself, a drama that seized the local imagination far more than the Wright resignation.

uI supported Newt when he first ran," says Eastern pilot Pat Broderick after he and colleagues have met privately with Gingrich later in the day. "When we went to him with the Eastern situation he shied away from it because he saw it as an attack on big businessfa In the 1990 election, says Broderick, tilld be very surprised if Gingrich wins? In a July 1988 poll conducted for Democratic opponent David Worley there is ample evidence of this sentiment: less than half the constituents sampled could say, ltNewt Gingrich cares about people like me?

IT HAS BEEN FIVE YEARS SINCE MOTHER jomzs LAST LOOKED in on Representative Newton Leroy Gingrich. Then in his third term, he was grabbing attention with tirades delivered to an empty I-Iouse chamber_but beamed into living rooms The Cases

Against Gingrich

ongressmen are not bribed anymore. They simply have a lot of friends who are willing to help them out whenever they 19nd it necessary. 8 -Newt Gingrich, candidate for Congress, 1974

The too-generous help of influence-seeking Ilfriends8 and shady dealings regarding a book eventually hung Speaker Jim Wright. Now, the same elements may prove Newt Gingrichls undoing. In late july, the House Ethics Committee was preparing to launch an official investigation of Gingrich.

Then in early August, the picture darkened still further for him. Representative Bill Alexander, 21 Gingrich foe, sent a letter to the committee alleging he had evidence of llover two hundredll instances of potentially unethical practices-including illegal campaign contributions and a Ilquestionable8 real-estate deal. A primary object of the committees scrutiny so far is the unorthodox deal Gingrich constructed to promote his 1984 book Window of Opportunity. When his publisher deemed the work not marketable enough to warrant a hardcover run and extensive promotion, Gingrich created a private partnership, COS Limited, managed by his wife Marianne. Twenty-one donors, most of them wealthy businesspeople or influential Republicans, including beer 32 OCTOBER 1989

nationwide via C-Span cable television. When he repeatedly accused the Democrats of being 11blind to communismf an enraged Speaker Tip OINeill committed his now-legendary misealeulation in 1984. 11You deliberately stood in that well before an empty House, and challenged these people, and challenged their patriotism? roared O4Neill, land it is the lowest thing Ilve ever seen in my thirty-two years in Congress? It was the Speaker, though, whose remarks were ruled out of order and stricken from the record as too personal an attack, and the confrontation moved Gingrich from cable to network news.

When Motherjones reporter David Osborne went back to Newtls roots a short while later, he discovered a politician nothing like the clean crusader image Gingrich had promoted. Friends and former staffers in his own district south of Atlanta told on him as a candidate who ran a llfamily values8 campaign while cheating on his first wife, Jackie, then appeared at

her hospital bedside as she recovered from surgery to negotiate a divorce. They described a moderate Republican who relied heavily on moderate friendsl hard work in two failed election tries, but who, in his victorious third attempt, heeled sharply to the right and shoved those friends aside. Osbornels profile has become a kind of shadow dossier: it was circulated by the Democrats during the Wright scandal, and a recent Washington Post profile drew heavily from it. This summer, in the speech that so excited the Republican National Committee, Gingrich denounced the 1984 article as IItruly vicious? He has never, however, rebutted the piece factually. His former wife, Jackie Gingrich, says today, IIAII I can say is Mother jones scooped the world on Newt Gingrich?

baron Joseph Coors, kicked in \$5,000 each for advertising and a Gingrich book tour. Publisher Jim Baen then agreed to print the book in hardcover as well as paperback, ensuring Gingrich the higher royalties possible from hardcover sales.

Marianne Gingrich was paid 311,5 00 by the partnership, and the Gingriehes have netted \$24,036 in royalties-on sales of only 29,000 copies. Baen has said he knows of no similar deal in the publishing industry; Gingrich has termed it Ilweirdf but defends it as a straight business venture.

Gingrichls critics read it differently, charging that the \$5,000 contributions were illegal gifts. Some of the partners have indicated that giving Gingrich exposure, not making money, was their main motivation. IIIt was a soft investment? local developer Joel Cowan told Michael Hinkelman of the Atlanta Business Chronicle. llThe reason I got involved was because I wanted to help disseminate his IGingrichlsl ideas? COS Ltd. lost more than \$100,000 during the books first five years, and partners got tax write-offs, which may be illegal. According to the tax publication Highlights (a Documents, 81f the point of the book was to promote Gingrichls career, then the expenses of promoting it could be classified as political campaign expenditures? which are not tax-deductible.

Window of Opportunity investors and their family members also contributed at least \$60,000 to Gingrich congressional campaigns between 1978 and 1988. And some of them have bid on or received federal contracts. One question certain to be uppermost in the minds of the ethics committee: Didnlt many partners join his high-risk venture simply because he was in a position to sway legislation to their benefit? nThis was no riskier than a Broadway

Five years ago, Gingrich was hard to take seriously. He promoted wacky ideas such as statehood for space colonies and replacing Social Security with mandatory IRAs. He headed the Conservative Opportunity Society, a kind of young, rightist, best-and-brightest club in Congress, but didn,t manage to author any significant bills. And Bob Dole wasnlt the only one branding Gingrich a hypocrite. Early on, it surfaced that Gingrich the ultra-hawk used student and parental deferments to avoid Vietnam duty. Then his penchant for pork-barrel and liberal-style spending was discovered by conservative columnists like George Will, who dubbed Gingrich and friends the 8Conservative Opportunist Society? (Gingrich once lobbied for the sale of locally made Lockheed planes-to Libya.) Even fellow Republican Representative Mickey Edwards dismissed Gingrich as llirrelevanf, in 1984. But now, Lee Atwater tells me he considers Gingrich, who still has authored no significant legislation, one of the 8two or three most importantll Republicans, a llprofile in couragell playf asserts Gingrich. 811m a public celebrity . . . so is William F. Buckley. William F. Buckley routinely raises a lot of money for National Review every year without any legislative influence? So they invested in the book because Gingrich is a celebrity, not because he is a congressman? 8Thatls right? Gingrich replied. Long before Gingrich could call himself a celebrity, however, he raised \$13,000 for another book. In 1977, after two losses, Gingrich was gearing up for a third, successful run for Congress, but was strapped for cash, say those close to him at the time. A group of prominent Republican businesspeople formed a limited partnership to advance him the money to write a novel about the Russians invading Europe. Gingrich used the \$13,000 to take his family on a research trip to Europe, but he never produced a complete manuscript. Gingrich says this, like the COS partnership, was an aboveboard venture that didnit work out; he simply found out he was no novelist. The deal for the 1977 novel llwas nothing more than a sweetheart arrangement by a select group of Newt Gingrichls wealthy friends? charges Arkansas Representative Beryl Anthony, Jr., chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (DCCC). llAfter eleven years and no book, it now appears the real objective of this business partnership was to allow Gingrich a means for financial gain not available to the average American? Photograph by john Spink Gingrich being chalngleed at a town meeting in Griffin, Georgia. with an llunlimitedli future in the party. Gingrich has become not only the second most powerful Republican in the House, but its self-styled ethics czar as well-personally filing the charges that eventually brought down Speaker jim Wright. The Wright/

Coelho debacle made some ethics-reform legislation inevitable, and Gingrich will be one of its key architects. Of course, lbethics ree formll could mean a serious improvement in how democratically the

United States elects and pays its Congress, or it could mean quite a bit less. (See 11The Real Ethics Debate? page 30.) Gingrich, for one, sees ethics in the starkest of partisan terms. About not only Wright but the entire Democratic leadership in the House, he has asserted: llThese people are sick. . . . They are so consumed by their own power, by a Mussolini-like ego, that their willingness to run over normal human beings and to destroy honest institutions is unending? But direct a few questions about his own ethics Gingrichls way, asking him about his own suspect book deals or any other of the odd arrangements now under investi- (Continued on page 42) For a self-styled champion of entrepreneurship, Gingrichls own ventures tend to raise more accusations than money. Last year, the DCCC charged a Gingrich-headed political action committee, Conservatives for Hope and Opportunity (CHO), With mail fraud. An April 1986 direct-mail piece signed by Gingrich assures previous donors, 11Your gift has been put to work helping CHO fund conservatives running for the House of Representatives in this years electionf then hits up the reader for more money. In fact, while CHO raised \$217,868.80 from March 1985 through June 30, 1987, only \$900.00 was spent on direct contributions to candidates. The rest was spent on direct mailings, fees for consultants and vendors, and travel for Gingrich. On January 31, 1988, nine days after the DCCC filed its charges, CHO told the Federal Election Commission that because it 9is now obvious that CHO cannot get out of debtf it had ceased fund-raising. That averted an investigation, but Anthony is convinced Gingrich and his PAC knowingly bilked the public. CHO treasurer Robert Weed has admitted, llWe realized about the middle of 1986 that we were going to crash? Asks Anthony, 91f they knew CHO was a failure in mid-1986, why did they continue to make claims to donors that their money was going to candidatesw Gingrichls defense: 9Everything we did was clearly, without any question, within the normal pattern of American politicsfi-D. B . MOTHER JONES 33

Doctor E AZE

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It was a pleasant trip to Mlima Moja. But What about the trip out? The doctorate achieved, she fled homeward as if the ascent into privilege had not begun right there. She had specialized in Strategies of Economic Development. Beyond stats and models, she concluded the economists she had studied with were nice people but that they were in no position to know how Africans A Short Story_b)1

Ayi Kwei Armah

could lift themselves from poverty to wealth without the use of slaves, colonies, Or Bantustans. Home from the Western world, she was appointed Technical Adviser in the Ministry of Economic Development. She fed the Principal Secretary factual data and technical advice on planning. Because she had Photo by Sebastido Salgado/Magnum

taken the job without first trying the international honey boats, the Principal Secretary nicknamed her Doctor Kamikaze. A week after she started work she told the man to drop it. He seemed hurt, but promised never to call her Doctor Kamikaze again. The Principal Secret tllry didn tdislike paperwork but he had 11 civil se rv1111t 5 soul and w as comfortable signing documents, not writing them. Soon the two settled into 11 pleasant office marriage: she wrote the memos, he signed them. In tilnel she realized that she and her fellow economists had been theorizing about vigorous mountain streams when all they were required to eontemplate was 11 motionless pond losing water through evapora-Three months after her arrival some joker tripping through the international development maze hurled a conceptual brick into the pond. Up came the cyclical question: what are these governments doing to end their crisis of negative economic growth? The government reflex was quick, modem: hire consultants. In the office air a hot name floated above the others: SYNDEV INTERNATIONAL, HOUSTON. She wrote a four-point memo on the Choice, which not only brought the Principal Secretary rushing to her office but also made him forget his promise never again to call her Doctor Kamikaze. Reminded, he apologized. llBut what are you trying to do: speak truth to power? Leave that to the watchtower people." She said: llllll revise every point you think unsound.n lKYour points are reasonable.v He ticked them off. llOne: were paid to think, not to hire foreigners to think for us. Two: were broke; we cant afford American experts. Three: SYN-DEV has no experience in the field anyway. Four: We have competent people. Why not put them to work? Very reasonable. Look, 1111 tear up the memo for youfl llWhatls the problem? wIf this goes to the President, helll iail you or make you 11 minister. Either way itls 11 fate worse than rapef' uYouire hiding something from me? llMoneyf he said. "There's 11 tied US. aid grant for the study." lllf I take personal responsibility, will you send it in?" she asked. llCertainlyfl SYNDEV ARRIVED, A TEAM OF FOUR 111110111 AMERICANS. They got suntanned in December at their Seaspray Hotel operational base, took helicopter trips to regional towns to collect onthe-spotdat11,11ndleftin April. In june their report arrived. Title: Blueprint for Development. It was 11 high resolution job, tastefully ventilated with Charts and graphics, trll5rllntwlth optimism from first to final page. Yet no matter which way she turned it, it looked like A practical joke. In the interests of efhcient management, the country s ten re gions were to be doubled. Each region was to have its ministerial-level Regional Development Agent. A grade below the 36 oc'ron 11.11 19 8 9 team of giraffes flowed into sight, then disappeared among silvery saplings, as if riding on the breeze. RDAs there were to be Regional Finance, Administrative, then Liaison Agents. Each agent would have an assistant. One hundred and sixty new high-level bureaucratic posts in just one microstate: she thought the notion was so absurd she felt relieved. No intelligent cabinet would accept these proposals.

On a cool evening the news began with the announcement

that His Excellency the President had approved an innovative development blueprint guaranteed to launch the country into full-fledged modernity by the year 2060. She turned off the radio and went to bed.

In the morning she was surprised to End the Principal Secretary had come to work early. He was cheerful, eager to talk about the changes.

tlYou deserve it? he said, his voice breaking. TlDeserve what? she asked.

asked.
tlYou didnlt listen to
the news last night?
lll felt tired,n she said.
ltlth your celibate
life? He showed her the
newspaper. wThere.
Thatls you. RDA for Vil-

ima Region Excellentperks. Two cars: one Volvo, oneieep. You won t need your salary to live on. The peasants will bring you gifts of food After one year you ll be rich. You re the first woman to land such a ministerial appointment.

11A fate worse than rapef she said.

All was joking then?

She was to report at the State House conference room the following morning. She arrived five minutes early to find the others already assembled. The President arrived, a small man who might have made an excellent headteacher in a viable n11-tion. He read a speech about loyalty, then withdrew into an office behind the dais, and the new officials took turns going to him for short talks.

When her turn came, the President told her he hoped she would consider this transfer up-country a welcome challenge, not, 115 many high-echelon cadres would assume, a punishment. It would help her get to know the country not as an idea but in its profound reality. On her way out she saw the presidential dais 11nd heard the distant echo of 11 school by mm in her mind It made her inhnitely sad.

In her school days thereld been a sports festival each year, a month before the exams. A prefect in her final year, she had accompanied the school team to the school hosting the events. Walking about that strange compound, she found it hard to believe it was 11 school in the same sense hers was. No clock tower to regulate the students movements, only hand bells rung erratically along the corridors. Toilets, clean porcelain fixtures at her school, were holes in the ground here. Unused to such arrangements, sheld wet herself badly the first time she tried them and had to find a place to wash off 11 spray of old urine from her bottom while from the Held another of her schoolTs victory songs wafted into her ears.

On her return, curiosity had pushed her to read about her school. In the library, she discovered the other school received less than a quarter the subvention allocated hers, and had to

educate twice the number of students.

Contemplating the enormity of gains unaccounted for, she felt afraid. On the way to her dorm she almost panicked at the thought: what if Ild gone to the other place? Relief followed a calmer thought: I am here. Sunlight touched her eyelids, and she felt a breeze lift her.

After the Hnal exam, prize day came. That year also she won several prizes. But partway into the school anthem she remembered a spray of old urine and her happiness soured. The song over, she looked at the headmaster reciting the years triumphs, introducing the prize-day speaker. She saw the speakerls polished shoes, and her eyes wandered down to the mobile stairway sheld have to climb to receive her prizes.

The top step was steeper than the lower steps. 80 each prizewinner had to do a slight hop at the end of the climb. In previous years sheld done it without a thought. Now she wondered if she would have the energy.

The speaker wound up. Work hard, be loyal, disciplined; the heights reached and kept by great men. Then it was time to go for the prizes. She heard her name and started up the makeshift stairs. For a flash she was sure she wasn,t going to make it up the final step.

But from behind her came a tide of affectionate applause. It entered her feelings, touched her consciousness, conjured away her panic, calmed her fear of failure. She felt lifted above the last step, and in the same motion she smiled up at the first lady as they reached out to each other. The tidal wave of affection brought her back to her seat, died down, then gently rose for another chosen child.

IT WAS A PLEASANT TRIP TO MLIMA MOJA, CAPITAL OF VILIMA Region. She traveled in a green army Mercedes van with tires so new they looked oiled in the sunlight. Once, off the road to the right, a team of giraffes flowed into sight, then disappeared among silvery saplings, fluid in their motion, as if riding on the breeze. In the distance ahead, the mountain from which the town took its name swung into view, a remote bluish white top above a spray of clouds, a summit with no visible means of support on the earth below.

The town was a modest interruption in the mountain scenery. The main street, haphazardly tarred, went up to the administrative buildings on a steep hillside. Lower down there was a redroofed school next to a hospital dying for paint. Apart from that there was just the unplanned Village.

The third day after her arrival she started work. She asked to see all files on development work done to date. What she got was a catalog of unrelated projects: resurfaced roads, bridges, waterworks facilities. She drew up a schedule of inspection trips. When shown the itinerary the clerk in charge of logistical details seemed distressed. "I don,t understand? he said. She explained the obvious: IlTake out road and track maps covering the region. Pinpoint each project listed as completed. I need to see what we have to start with?

On the way to the first project site the clerk was morose. The project indicated should have been a solid concrete bridge. The Kijito valley came into sight. Opposite a lone hill on the far bank the jeep stopped. She looked at the map. The river was narrowest at this point, between foothills on the right bank and a wooded spur on the left. The bridge should have been here. She looked from the river to the clerk. The clerk looked at the vehicle floor. She sat thinking of the rivers power and the beauty of the place as if they were a consolation for losses unaccounted for.

The clerk said nothing when she asked to see the next site. The road was bad, and it took over an hour to reach the dam site. There was a structure on the spot; it wasnlt a dam, though. It was an abandoned jetty. The clerk said a German priest had come to set it up early in 1945. Heid died of heart failure when the Nazis were defeated.

Back at work she had the clerk prepare letters inviting the contractors listed on the disbursement sheets to a meeting with all regional agents. The clerk looked at her in dismay but com-

plied.

The contractors came, four men. Sheld met them before, only then theyId come as members of the Regional Party committee: the Chairman, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and the Liaison Officer. She started with the information in the files: each contractor had received funds from the government treasury for work to be done.

The Regional Party Chairman put in a correction. IIThe government has no money. Aid money. Foreign loans? She didnTt follow up the point. lIAt the sites I found no construction work done? she said. III trust you have a satisfactory explanation?

The Chairman stared at the tabletop. The RDA recast her statement as a question. The Chairman rose: IIWe need time to prepare our defense.w $\,$

The Development Agent explained that she was not accusing anyone. She was asking, as a routine part of the preparation for doing her job, exactly what had happened.

llWe heard you the first timef the Chairman said in a dignified tone. lIGive us time. Welll give you your explanation? Early Tuesday morning she found a majestic sheep, its whiteness heightened with blue laundry dye, tied up outside her front door. The watchman said a relative of the Regional Party Chairman had brought it.

She wrote a note thanking the Chairman but declining the gift, and added a reminder that the Civil Service Code proscribed such gifts. The watchman left with the sheep, looking murdered in his soul.

Wednesday after work the Party Secretary came with an offer of a bungalow held originally intended for himself, beautiful on a scenic ridge. She declined the gift, recycling the now-limp defense-the Civil Service Code.

Next Monday, the Party Treasurer came. He bore no gifts; only a conversation circling round the importance of relationships, the sacredness of a persons livelihood, especially the livelihood of men, family heads each with numerous dependents. Cut one down, you starve whole clans to death. The third Monday the Party Chairman came. He gave every sign of having forgotten the incident of the rejected sheep. He called the RDA his beautiful daughter and wished her a prosperous career.

IIWe here know more about you than you suspect? he said. llWe know you,ve got all the degrees a human being can get without going completely mad. One day youlll tell us all about books, aeroplanes, skyscrapers, the wonders beyond our horizon. But today let me talk about what I know: life in this region. IlWhen the President first came here, he needed help. He was agitating against the colonial government. It was a risky business. But he had grasped something: there was a new world coming, and there would be room on the mountain peak for a MOTHER JONES 37

few Africans able to control the colony more cheaply than the white government agents. ul was a Works Department cashier at the time. I risked my career to help him. Hels been grateful ever since. That's the secret of his power: that man doesn't forget his helpers.

llAt first he imagined held create the Party by persuading honest individuals, one by one. I told him to be a politician, not a priest, and to see the notables instead. Once they agreed with him the rest followed. Thatls how we did our part to plant the seeds of independence.

"But power brought the President a sad surprise. On the mountaintop he found no fruit, only rind and pips. Sometimes fruit gets like that. Pretty, but cut it open, the worms have been there. Its bitter, our independence.

"We are told that far from having fruit to share, every African nation is in debt. My beautiful daughter, even debtors can't stop eating. What to eat when the fruits of independence have vanished? Whatever comes. Loans. Aid. Where are you from? The personal question caught her off guard. Recovering, she answered: llThe capital.n

llWent to school there?" llYesfl

llTbe school, no doubtPll

The accuracy of this probe made her

laugh as she nodded yes.

llAnd after that you went abroad to all those universities? the Chairman said, smiling. llHow long did you stay overseas? Seven years? she said.

llNice. Time to read and think. NO worrying how the butcher kills, the farmer digs. So young, yet already youlve been given everything. To see the world, then come home to a spacious house, cars, servants? llTheylre not mine? she protested. uThey

IITheylre not mine? she protested. uThey come with the job?

The Chairman laughed: uAnd whats a government job like yours but a lifetime promise youll1 never starve or worry? Be kind, my daughter. Donlt look down on us. Very bright, the fruit taken straight from the sun. Here we're content to wait for fruit that drops into the mud, where we live. Donlt search too deep under the roots ofyour luck. You might have to ask yourself why, after the nation paid for your education and sent you abroad to open your eyes, the same nation welcomes you back with a job that makes you rich in a burgled country, instead of ordering you to pay a lifetime billfl As he rose to go, his smile was inclusive, protective, loving.

The planned meeting of contractors and Development Agents took place as scheduled the next Monday. The RDA read her 38 OCTOBER 1989

terms of reference, emphasizing her duty to find out what had been done with resources allocated. The Party Chairman opened his eyes when the RDA ended her speech, and he had to reply.

He spoke of peace. llPeace in each soul.

Peace in the nation and in the great world, why not? livery year the value of the crops we sell in the markets of the world goes down. People say: lYoulre being robbedf llWe answer: lPeaceY With peace a little of the stolen wealth finds its way back here. Aid. Loans. And, "he nodded pleasantly toward the RDA, llscholarships for our young. When the Finance Minister signs a loan agreement and the money gets shared in the capital, we don,t march there to call the sharers thieves. If we did, life here would become a dance of guns. And the same whites who give grain so reluctantly to help us live would rush to give us bullets to help us die.

llWe prefer peace. When we get a little something, we distribute it carefully. Thatls why welre all at peace here? The other eontractors walked out with him.

In the postmortem conversation the Regional Financial Agent said the RDA should have avoided antagonizing the local Party notables, going to see the dam site, the road, the bridge.

The RDA asked the RPA: uDid you know these constructions didnlt existFll llEveryone knows thatfl

llTherels been a waste of national funds, v the RDA said.

llNot really? said the RFA. llThe nation no longer has any funds. Thatls what the Party Chairman and Secretary were trying to tell you. They don't believe anyone is developing anything here. Every fool knows where the project loans went. The Chairman set up a timber business with foreign exchange. Touch him, you wound the President. The Party Treasurer is a shareholder in the Seaspray Hotel system. His partners include the President's wife. She has a slogan: lMy husbandls business is integrity; my business is businessf One more thing: llf you quote me llll deny everythingm The meeting cracked up on that one.

To keep unsettling thoughts at bay she turned her energies to practical work. The area around the regional capital was potentially good farming territory, but water was a problem. Studying hydrological stats she found this strange. The place should abound in mountain springs.

She set out to investigate, taking long strolls after hours. About nine kilometers from the town she was shown a spring of such volume and power that she returned ehastened because it was unused. Ancestral permission had to be sought for tapping the water, she was told. She assumed that was a problem, but the priestess guarding the spring was pleased when consulted. llltls not my opinion you wantfi the priestess said, hits the ancestors'. You plan to take the water to irrigate common land. Take all you need. But the day you decide to sell it to traders, youlll have to kill me to unlock the stream? The priestess added one condition: that a stand of trees near the spring, cut down the previous year by a certain timber merchant, be replanted. At the Regional Works Department the

RDA found plastic tubing that had lain unused because officials had assumed the custodian of the waters was a wild traditionalist who wouldnt let the spring be tapped. She talked to technicians capable of laying irrigation pipes but too young to have reached decision-making positions in the Works hierarchy. What remained was to bring people together to work. The Party Chairman had traveled to the capital in some haste, the RDA was told. The Party Secretary had accompanied him. She asked to see the Assistant Secretary, and found a calm, quiCk-eyed fellow about twenty-five years old, who in a single day brought together over a thousand individuals armed with digging implements. In a week the trench was complete, the pipes were laid and fitted, and the water of the spring began its controlled flow to the fields near the town. Working with this generous line of people stretching down the mountainside, the RDA felt her thoughts blocked by the knowledge that only she and a handful of bureaucrats would draw salaries from the common work. The Regional Party Chairman and the

The Regional Party Chairman and the Secretary returned from the capital to find over a thousand Party members celebrating the completion of a long-postponed irrigation project. The young Assistant Secretary went to greet them in the street, but they ignored him publicly and went home. The next day the Assistant Secretary was expelled from the Party on charges of attempting to create a faction loyal to himself prior to a power grab.

The third night after the water began to flow, the RDA was in her bedroom rewording an appeal on behalf of the sacked Assistant Party Secretary, re-examining old contract tiles and trying to decide what further steps were called for in the case of the phantom projects, when the lights went out. She could hear the generator still throbbing. She took her bedside flashlight and went to the fuse box in the entranceway. She was checking the fuses when she was seized by several strong but palpably nervous hands. She was carried rather gently to the kitchen and made to watch (Continued on page 46)

R0 Ck Between Australia's Caucasian and aboriginal cultures is Ayers Rock, one of the country's most spectacular sites and symbol of its emerging identify struggle. Ayers Rock, center of the aborigines' world, at sunset (right); on aboriginal rock painting at Kakadu National Park. TRIPS By Robyn Davidson Dreams N THE BEGINNING, BEFORE the world took on its present form, carpet-snake people journeyed from the east and settled at a sand hill containing what they came to call the Uluru water hole. Soon after, a party of venomous snake men came from the west to attack their peaceful settlement. At the close of the battle, Uluru rose up #a monolith bearing all the physical and metaphysical signs of epic destruction. A water hole that now sits at the foot of the Rock came from the blood of a dying carpet-snake man; a fragment of stone is the severed nose of a venomous snake warrior; 3 large cave was formed from the mouth of a woman weeping with grief for the loss of her son and spitting aru/zwita, the spirit of disease and death, over her enemies.

Thus was created Ayers Rock, one of the most spectacular sites in Australia. For the Pitjantjatjara aborigines, descendants of the ancient carpet-snake people, the Rock, located at the center of a vast tract of desert spreading over three Australian states, forms an axis around which the universe turns. Ethnocentricity perhaps, but when you gaze for the hrst time at Ayers Rock, floating like Leviathan in a sea of orange sand, its easy to agree with them. Uluru, as they call it, is like nothing else on earth. It rises, isolated and improbable, over a thousand feet above the dunes. From a distance its size is difficult to appreciate, but as you travel Closer, its grane deur begins to penetrate your consciousness until, walking around the six-mile base, you are receiving a powerful dose of what jorge Luis Borges called 11the wonder distilled from elementary thingsfl Europeans, who have been on this continent for only two hundred years, also have a special feeling about the place, clinging as they do to anything that enhances a sense of national identity. Aboriginal people not only come from the land, they are the land. Concepts of ancestor, descendant, country, story line, and ritual art form an eternal continuum. Or, as a Pitiantjatjara elder put it, "This

Photographs by Gene Russell (rig/JI), and Dylan Andrew,

both courtesy of The Travel Image is not a rock, it is my grandfather. This is a place where the dreaming comes up, right up from inside the ground."

I FIRST VISITED ULURU PARK OVER A DECADE AGO. IT was under the control of the Northern Territory government, which promoted state rights and economic development at any cost. The government was promining, anti-land rights, and decidedly antagonistic toward "southern do-goodersf of which I was one. During the protest years of the seventies, land rights for aborigines became an article of faith across the spectrum of left and moderate politics. Liberal whites-lawyets, anthropologists, advisers of all sorts-arrived in Alice Springs, about two hundred miles northeast of Uluru, to work for newly formed black organizations. I had gone there to prepare for a journey across Australia by camel, and soon became involved emotionally and professionally in the aboriginal battle for land. But in 1977 it was time to leave politics, along with everything else, behind me. I set out with my camels on a journey that would take me right through Pitjantjatjara country, and that would, years later, provide the material for my book Tracks.

When I first came upon Uluru, I had been walking MOTHER JONES 39

for two weeks without seeing 21 soul. Up one sand hill, down another, and on either side of me an infinity of dunes stretching away into blue. I was not looking forward to seeing, the Rock, having overdosed on its shape on billboards advertising life insurance and on T-shirts sold in kitsch shops in Alice Springs. But when I saw that great blue mass shimmering on the horizon, I was spellbound. Uluru was too ancient to be corruptible.

lspent a week there, exploring every cave, fold, and gully of it. There were three small motels at its base, a little shop, and some houses for the rangers. Aborigines lived in humpies inst outside the settlement; tourists wandered into those camps taking photographs. I spent another week there before continuing west into blissful emptiness. In 1983, after eight years of lobbying, the Pitjantjatjara were granted freehold title to the park, which they then leased back to the government. They received a share of the financial benefits of tourism and, more importantly, acquired a majority on the board of management. Since the arrival of Europeans in the area during the early part of the century, the Pitjantjatjara had been forced off their country by ranchers and miners, been employed as virtual slave labor on the great cattle estates, and had their half-caste children taken from them by welfare agencies. They had watched their young men force-marched three hundred miles to prison in neck chains for the spearing of a sheep and seen relatives blinded or killed by the British nuclear bomb tests at Maralinga. In returning the Rock to its original owners, white Australia made a gesture toward acknowledging those injustices. The handover ceremony was, by most accounts, very moving despite the outrage expressed in the local press. As one headline put it, IIAyers Rock is white manis dreaming too? A D1-ZCAIH-L IS A LONG TIME TO LIVE WITHOUT experiencing the sand-hill country of central Australia. When a friend came out for a holiday last autumn, I decided to return to Uluru. After getting off the plane, I gave in to nostalgia and pantheism and walked the five miles to YuIara-a village built twelve miles north of the Rock to house tourists, taking the ecological pressure off the Rock and the social pressure off the aborigines who still live at its base. My friend, reluctant to walk such a distance, climbed into a bus along with all the American. japanese, and German tourists.

The dunes were the color of conch sheIIs, of rosebuds. Thanks to the rain, there were explosions of color everywhere-purple parakeelya, bright yellow greviIIea, blue shrubs sprouting scarlet flowers, silky or-40 OCTOBER 1989

ange trunks of desert poplars, and, furring the ridges of the dunes, pincushions of pale green spinifex. I struggled to the top of a sand hill, and there it was: the Rock, bruise-eolored, striped by waterfalls, and capped with gray mist. The rain came down in buckets, but what did it matter? I was in the

heart of the world and I was happy. Until I turned a corner and saw Yulara. This was no village; this was a blueprint town complete with a Sheraton hotel, a mock Greek amphitheater, and tourist-trap boutiques. We rented a car and drove straight to the Rock.

As it swelled before us, the IIskinII of the Rock was changing from steel gray to purple to shiny red. We parked the car and stepped out into the freezing wind. The path took us around the western face, past the white line painted up the side of the Rock. By the time I had walked a mile, I was so numb with cold that it seemed perfectly sensible to take off my drenched clothes and plunge into one of the new water holes beneath a cascade thundering down at us from the gods. The water was pure as crystal, and so deep in places that it was bluish black.

After my impromptu swim, we continued walking around the Rock, struggling through the needles of rain until we came to a sign notifying the public that this small fenced-off area was a sacred site closed to visitors. A group of tourists was reading it; one of them crossed the fence and headed off for the cave. I called him back and explained in my most polite voice that the Rock bee longed, morally and legally, to the aboriginal people, and that he was their guest and about to break their law. Since he could exe plore every part of the Rock except two or three tiny sections, I added, why did he feel the need to trespass? He walked on. I recalled the words of a frail, elderly aboriginal woman who once told me, "When ignorant men go into a womenIs place, they rape all womenn-not just us Iaboriginal womenI, but all women everywhere. They

ruin everyone with their ignorance? TOURISM IS NOT A BENIGN INDUSTRY. UN-Iess it is rigorously controlled, it can fundamentally alter the natural environment and adversely affect the host culture that tourists wish to experience. The custodians of Ayers Rock are lucky in many respects: they have the power to veto the use of Uluru. (Recently they turned away a musician who offered enormous amounts of money to make a video on top of it-a new definition of IIrock clip?) Even so, many of them are abandoning it for more private settlements out in the desert_away from public display. They worry about and feel responsible for the climbers who fall to their deaths, and they are powerless against the trespassers who blunder about in fertility eaves, ignorant of

the deep distress this causes.

Eventually, the very element that now attracts so many visitors to Uluru Parkaboriginal culture-could be subsumed by a kind of tourist imperialism; or the Rock itself, the return of which was such an important aboriginal victory, could be taken over by commercial interests after all. As one disgruntled Pitjantjatjara elder put it, uYou are money people, with money to burn. You work like hell for money. We work for the land, to look after the land?

All this isnIt to say that we shoulant join

the hordes visiting this wonder of the world -only that tourism is full of uncomfortable ironies. Even with the best of intentions, cross-cultural travelers can never be a neutral presence.

Robyn Davidson is an Australian writer living in London. Her latest book is Ancestors, published ibis month by Simon (7 Schuster.
"Our daughter tells us youIre a choreographer."

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m GINGRICH

(Continued from page 33) gation by the House Ethics Committees special outside counsel Richard Phelan (who also led the investigation ofjim Wright), and Gingrich is likely to say, ulf youlre a whistle-blower in the conservative movement . . . there are no holds barred in trying to destroy you." (See 9The Cases Against Gingrichf page 32.)

This is vintage Gingrich, and it is also a vintage kind of US. politics, what Richard Hofstadter over two decades ago named lithe paranoid style? What seems to work some of the time with some of the people, what demagogues like McCarthy have ridden to bold, if ultimately soiled, fame is the practice of positioning oneself as the lone warrior exposing and battling an evil, alien conspiracy within as well as outside the country. It has traditionally been a politics of resentment against power centers and social change that has played especially well in the South. (In 1968, Gingrichls district voted for George Wallace in the presidential election while surrounding areas voted for Nixon.)

The paranoid style was supposed to play less well in the New South, the more educated, white-collar, postindustrial districts like Gingrichis own. But Gingrich is expert at converting up-to-date concerns into grist for his conspiracy theory. While he claims to hold out a positive vision-the high-tech, deregulated utopia outlined in his 1984 book Window of Opportunity-for Gingrich, its not morning again in America, its the twilight before permanent, moonless night.

Take drug abuse. We associate drugs with the llvalues11 of the sixties, do we not? And the children of the sixties are now the Democratic politicians and liberal bureaucrats and lileftll media of the eighties, who, Gingrich argues, have spent the last 9twenty years misleading this country about how destructive drugs are? Therefore, he continues, the Left is to blame for the present crack epidemic and the countrys other drug problems. Now that communism isn,t the credible evil it was even five years ago when Democrats were ltblindil to it, uIslamic extremism may well be the greatest threat to Western values and Western security in the worldf, Gingrich says. 111th steadily replacing communism as a threat on an active basis." In Washington, where the media lusts

In Washington, where the media lusts for the big quote and political parties can always find a role for a rhetorical pit bull, Gingrich has made a career of this kind of talk. At home, Gingrich fine-tunes the sig-42 OCTOBER 1989

nal for the particular frustration of each interest group. After the town hall meeting in Griffin, Gingrich allows me to tag along with him to a session with a group of doctors and insurers at the Griffin Hospital. Dr. Alex Jones, the white-haired chief of medicine, asks why Medicare covers less while red tape grows. Could Newt be their

advocate, modify the program? Gingrich listens for a while, then launches into a discourse on the ilHarvardl-stylel centralized bureaucracy-driven model of health care, which is inherently, catastrophically bad. . . . There are two realities to the current system: one is the government is trying to cheat you. And the second is the government is lying to you about what its doing? Gingrich says his llbiasli is to abolish the whole federal health-care bureaucracy. illim very seriously thinking about putting a bill in, just a symbolic bill that says look, you cant reform that culture. . . . Nobody on the battle line would notice that they were gone if you decapitated the top twelve thousand bureaucrats and started over with a new model? Instead of Medicaid, he proposes tax credits for doctors whenever they treat card-carrying indigents, a farfetched scheme for dozens of political and practical reasons, not the least of which is that it would force the poor to rely purely on the kindness of health-care strangers. But that, and a ilsymbolical attempt at bureaucratic decapitation, is all that is offered today by Gingrich. At one point, while CXe plaining why malpractice suits persist, he tips his hand: 11The public has to have a bad person? he lectures. ultls the nature of Western culture? This follows the grand overview: "There has been a fifty-year-long war between the Left, which loves socialized medicine, loves coercive centralized bureaucratic power. . . and the rest of us. And theylre very smart," he says, pausing for effect. 9They always conceal their greed for power in the language of love." His listeners are no friends of bureaucrats, yet they seem startled at the distance theylve traveled in the half hour since Dr. Alex jones asked the original question. jones, a confirmed conservative and Gingrich fan, admits later that Gingrich had conjured an appealing, but impossible, dream. uYouill always have the bureaucracy? he says, coming back to earth, dbut I think it can be reformed so the patient is number one? NEWT GINGRICH, A FORMER HISTORY teacher, clearly imagines himself a historic figure. 91 have an enormous personal ambition. I want to shift the entire planet. And Fm doing itf he declared in 1985. These days he equates his toppling of Wright with the momentous events in POland, China, and the Soviet Union, and he has already created an archive for his personal papers at West Georgia College, where he was terminated (ironically, for not publishing enough) in 1978 after seven years of teaching, according to Dean Richard Dangle. Sometimes, apparently, the hne points of congressional ethics can seem an obstacle to history-making, though. Dolores Adamson, Gingrichs self-assured former aide, is in a position to know. Gingrich

asked her to stay on as district assistant

when he succeeded Democrat jack Flynt in 1979; at his request, she took him to the local mall and showed him how to warm up to people, stand in line with kids waiting for Braves autographs, .th up to someone and be a congressman.n Adamson was happy to oblige; at hrst she thought Newt was ligreatf, In the first months, Adamson remembers, 9He would always say, lIf ever I get out of line, call me down, 9 But after the first term, tilts like he turned a corner? Adamson says. 11There seemed to be a new Newt. . , . He quit being the humble servant? For one thing, Gingrich began to insist that his every public utterance be taped. 11And I asked him, 1Don,t you think that when we record your voice at every meeting you go to, that youlre looking like a pompous someone who wants to hear themselves talk? 9 Adamson remembers. KlHe said, No, its important? . . . He thought . . . thereld probably be a museum someday where you could go and check one of those tapes out? If posterity was slighted because a staffer failed to record him, Gingrich would dock that persons pay up to \$200and dock Adamsonis as well. Then, for good measure, "Held cut you down, blast you unmercifullyfl Adamson remembers tussling with Gingrich most, though, over matters of ethics. 11Dolores was his conscience when it came to ethical things. She was all our conscience, n says Dot Crews, a veteran Republican activist who worked in the office then. She was a real stickler about keeping congressional and campaign stuff separate, very, very tough." But Gingrich wasn't conscientious, Adamson says. Though the rules prohibit it, Gingrich many times tried to use tax-paid staff and office space for campaign work, according to Adamson. 91 would say no, you cant do that. You, ll have to go to someoneis home. . . . We went to a lCongress-sponsored seminarl for ethics. We had a manual this

high. So why were we arguing about it? . . .

It always would amaze me how insignificant Newt thought all of that was. Because to me it was significant? Adamson neared the breaking point when, after returning from a week-long vacation, she found out that against her wishes Gingrich had put the district office staff to work editing and copying early drafts of Window of Opportunity. 111n my mind, it was illegalf Adamson says, and by strict interpretation of the law and House rules, she may be correct. Not long after that confrontation with Gingrich, Adamson quit. Gingrich has said that only one staffer helped with the book. But Dot Crews, who along with Adamson has not discussed her relationship with Gingrich publicly before, confirms Adamsonls version. She remembers working on the book, though one higher-up tried to convince her it was just a government-related policy statement, not llstrictly a business venture, as Gingrich has since proclaimedt Crews, who worked in Gingrichls office until she resigned in 1984, says that after Adamson left, Ginr grich and his staff began to llblur the line of separation between congressional and campaign work? That line has apparently continued to blur at taxpayersl expense. Records show that Gingrich took members of his congressional staff off the payroll to work on his campaigns in 1986 and 1988 and then gave them big, temporary raises when they returned to congressional work. If the money was meant to compensate for campaign work, Gingrich violated federal law. 11We werenit trying to avoid campaign lawsf, Gingrich declared when his practice came to light this summer. the weren, t doing anything that isnlt done widely by many members? Dot Crews, still a Republican Party booster, came to her own conclusion about her former boss: tlHe never had a philosophy, he always had an agenda: to get where he is right now. He,s not interested in ethics as an issue, he,s interested in ethics as a tool to complete his agenda? AT HOME, ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL, Mr. Ethics has developed a reputation as Mr. Hardball. Gingrich, who once told a roomful of college students that tlone of i ,SANDAL REPAIR SERVICE RESOLE & s17 RECONDITIONING This Includes new soles and cork 16 PAGE F ULL COLOR CATALOG itOuick Service tGuaranteed Fit repair. NEW SUEDE \$14 LINER INSTALLED If your sandals are cracked across the ball of the foot, they need a new liner, 53 Polish Leather Uppers 56 Heel or Toe Taps t29 Styles CALL OR WRITE

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break-in to taint the opposition.

For L. H. llKipll Carter, another former Gingrich ally, the smearing of Speaker Foley has a familiar ring. He was Gingrichls first campaign treasurer and one of his closest friends and advisers until becoming disillusioned with the young congressman in 1979. "IWe created a monster, and 1111 never be able to do enough good things in my lifetime to balance the scale." the businessman now tells the press whenever he gets a chance. But hels paid a price for his conversion. After Carter blasted Gingrich publicly, a rumor began circulating that Carter was a homosexual, evenmally working its way into the local Carrollton paper. Carter was forced to deny the rumor in print. Most jaded of all among Gingrichls for

Most jaded of all among Gingrichls for mer supporters, though, might be Lee Howell, Gingrichls first press aide. Howell, along with Carter, provided a lot of information in the first Mother jones profile. Nothing since has changed his mind, says Howell today. llNewtls like a bully. Remember when youlre kids and therels always some tough-talking little kid, and when somebody stands up to him he caves in? Newt,s never had anybody stand up to him. Newtls scenario is always: Weire talking the truth, and youlre playing dirty?

A YOUNG, CLEAN-SHAVEN AIDE IS DRIVing. Press secretary Sheila Ward sits beside me in the backseat. Gingrich is in the front passenger seat, staring ahead, saying, 9The thing that shocks people . . . is that I mean what 1 say. I dorft use hyperbole." 1 ask why he didnlt fire Karen Van Brocklin, the aide who spread the lie about Foley, and Gingrich doesnlt miss a beat, calmly explaining that Van Brocklin had done a great job leaking damaging information about Wright to the press, lland she was never burned. . . . I would have given any person with that track record one major mistake? He goes on to blame the New York Daily News columnist who linked Van Brocklin with the rumor: 11He called her. . . . She answered him honestly, she told him flatly we were not investigating Foley. . . . He then turned that into a viciously dishonest column? The week before, openly gay Massachusetts Representative Barney Frank had called Van Brocklin uMadame Defargef telling me in an interview that she uwas not only passing the rumor along, but in the most despicable fashion saying Foley likes little boys. When people use these smarmy, smearing methods, use it as a weapon, it reinforces the idea there is something wrong with being gay? But Gingrich doesnlt yield an inch. tlltls a disgustingly dishonest column? he

days next meeting.
"And what your aide did wasnlt disgustingPll I ask.

finishes, as the car comes to a stop for the

llNo . . pipes up Ward, but Gingrich shuts her down with a sharp, angry, 9Let me talkV His big silver head comes wheel-

ing around, and he fixes his suddenly fierce eyes on me. ttMot/Jer jones smeared me. All right? You are lucky that I believe you guys are trying something different. NO Democrat defended me. No Democrat said Tony Coelho shouldn't have sent out hundreds of copies of that article. And no newspaper said it was dishonest, demeaning, or wrong, and nobody was fired. Now, Karen Van Brocklin made a mistake. But a number of hypocritical left-wing news media people and hypocritical Democratic politicians . . . none of whom $\operatorname{\mathsf{ever}}$ minded when John Tower was being smeared, none of whom ever minded when Bob Bork was being smeared, suddenly found religion because it was one of theirs. Now I apologized personally to Foley. . . . All I ask for is a fair shake, and I feel very deeply and very vehemently that the press ought to adopt the same standard for conservatives and liberals . . . and in Washington, DC, in 1989, they donlt. And tbatls why I wouldnlt fire Karen Van Brocklin? Gingrich throws open the car door,

leaving me to sort out these ethical stane dards. The rules of guerrilla warfare would seem the best guide. Karen Van Brocklin, a very useful person, made a llmistake, l and finally got llburnedfl The verified facts of Gingrichls record are no different from the most personal falsehoods spread by Van Brocklin, because all are damaging llsmears? Gingrich will crack down on his own smear artist when the enemy cracks down on its. Victory is paramount.

I ask Sheila Ward if Gingrichls burst of belligerence toward her is common. 11You were here. You saw? is all she will say. EVEN IF NEWT GINGRICH IS STRIPPED OF his power by the ongoing ethics investigation this winter, or turned out by dissatise fied voters in Georgia next year, it is his wing of the party, representing younger, more aggressive conservatives, that is on the ascendancy now. And so his approach to party-building, the deft use of fear_-of drugs, crime, terrorism-is bound to be honed sharper still by an entire new class of conservative politicians in electoral contests ahead, no matter what happens to Newt Gingrich.

But if Gingrich wins his guerrilla war, what would a llreformedil Congress full of Gingrich types be like? Hardly a kinder and gentler place. Would it be more democratic and responsive to constituentsi needs? Not likely, would say the thousands of airline employees in Gingrichls district who hnd him too interested in the party line to make their needs a top priority. A Congress less beholden to corporate wealth? Gingrich happens to be among the top earners of honoraria and a major recipient of PAC money, most of it from corporations and probusiness lobbies, which has allowed him to build a powerful base Of support independent of voters in his district. A Congress in which members are less prone to abuse their office budgets in order to promote their own re-election? Dolores Adamson and others who, ve worked for Gingrich wouldnit put any money on it. A Congress, then, whose members refuse to exploit their position of power by trading access for money? When Newt Gingrich needed money in 1977 to tide him over until his next run for Congress, and again in 1984 to help promote a book he hoped would become a best-seller, he didnlt hesitate to solicit contributions from those he knew had an interest in legislation.

It is the end of the day and Gingrich is resting at his Griffin district office. He is on his favorite subject, how the Democrats have "usurpedl, power and why Republicans will soon be the majority party in the country and in the House. He draws a diagram on a napkin, placing the names Buckley, Goldwater, and Nixon on a rising line until llWatergatell plummets the curve. Then the line moves up again, through Reagan and now Bush, pulling Henally above where Nixon was. This is how

he tracks the U.S. publicls natural affinity for Republican versus Democratic values, and one is only to conclude that Newt Gingrich believes he will be the next champion on the curve, higher even than Reagan and all the rest.

I ask Gingrich about his unew ideasn that he keeps predicting will seize the voters imagination. What new and positive, for example, can he offer regarding the crack epidemic? Eventually he acknowledges that his prescription-more prisons, police, prosecutors, paid informants, border guards, and executions-llis very old-fashioned, because it works? Gingrich talks vaguely of the need for llmuch more empowerment, much more self-control," and programs that promote uself-ownership and self-managementll among llwhat the Victorians would call the deserving poor.m I ask why, if Republicans can offer those things, arenit more of the poor Republicans? His answer: llReagan was literally unknowing in the whole zone of race relations. It wasnit part of his world, and he was very, very insensitive to it. For eight years we communicated a symbol of insensitivity? With Reagan gone, Gingrich predicts Republicans can organize up to half the black community within a decade. jesse Jackson will be a competitor for their allegiance only because uhels an ethnic symbolf Gingrich says.

I point out that the rise of the llliberal welfare statell came in response to some old-fashioned ideas that clearly weren? working sometime around 1929. Don,t the Democrats continue to win congressional elections because theyive forged a coalition of working class and poor, the very people who get hurt in an unregulated economy? llThatls not a very accurate history lessonf, Gingrich says. uThe rise of the liberal welfare state prior to Lyndon johnson tended to be centrist liberals who were very tough on law and order, very tough on anticommunism."

Since then, something has happened to the Democrats, something most people donlt realize, or they certainly wouldnlt keep voting in a Democratic Congress. The Democratic party has been infected by lldestructive values," and Newt Gingrich knows just about when it happened, because he has a name for this new, alien 1 TO STAY

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public has to have a bad person. Its the
nature of Western culture.
David Beers is senior editor of Mother
Jones. Research for this story was sup-
ported by the Mother jones Investigative
Fund.
KAMIKAZE
(Continued from page 38) as the papers
were burned over the stove. She was then
taken back to her bedroom, tied to her bed,
and left in peace.
It was the watchman who freed her. He
had been briefly kidnapped, but not
harmed. It occurred to her that at no time
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had she been frightened. Thereld been a peculiar gentleness to the nights Violence. She concluded this was an event planned not to shake her but to produce an effect elsewhere.

The special Civil Service telegram from the capital came before noon the next day: HALT EVERYTHING RETURN IMMEDIATELY HQ SIGNED PRINSEC MINDEV. She reported back to the Principal Secretary in her old office and was instructed to wait until the President was ready to receive her. llThe news says you were a mover and shaker in Vilima Region? the Principal Secretary said, shaking his head in disbelief. llYou seem to think I went looking for troublef, she said.

llNot If the Principal Secretary said. llThe Regional Party Chairman. In his last but one phone call he said yould subverted the youth wing?

Yltls natural to consult the Assistant Secretary when both the Chairman and the Secretary are awayf, she said.

llLogical, not natural," the Principal Secretary chuckled. ttYou show a Party big shot some teenage deputy can do his job bettert thatls telling him to drop dead?

HWhat was his last call about?"

Security," the Principal Secretary said. 11Yours. Your behavior had so angered the Party faithful some militants had tried to kill you. Is it true you asked to see the work done with aid funds?v

uI was supposed to?

The Principal Secretary stopped laughing. 11What were you looking for?" He wouldift stay for an answer.

The Presidents call came at the start of her third week of waiting. She was ready at 8:55. She was able to go in at 11:23 after a delegation of twelve women wearing the presidential portrait on their bellies and bottoms came out smiling and flashing airline tickets.

The President was pensive, as if he needed to collect his wits after the Party womenls visit. llYour work in Vilima. Efficient. So fastf he smiled at her. llCongratulations, and thank you. Water had been a problem there. You solved it?

lll took part in solving it, Mr. President? she said. tlThere were people ready to do the work, once it could get started? lll understandf the President said. llThe problem then was leadershipV She pretended the interrogative inflection had passed her by. He did not insist. tWX/ewe been asked to send a qualified expert to Geneva. Your work indicated yould be the best we could send there. The UNDP Resident Representative will brief you." In the silence he didnlt dismiss her. He seemed bothered by some explanation ungiven. llDonlt think of your recall from Vilima as a sanctionf he said hnally, and she understood he had decided to leave out explanations, to touch only the core. tholitical relationships cant be ordered neatly. I called you back not because you were wrong. You were outnum-

bered. A thousand young people with you.

But you were outnumbered, you know, even if against you there was only the local political bureau.n

And you, she thought. She had expected the thought to stop there, but something deeper than her self-control let it through: And me. Aloud she said: llThank you, Mr. President." She saw his pupils as she said farewell. They were gray, not brown. Under his white hair his head seemed unnaturally small, as if the exercise of power had shrunk it.

The Principal Secretary was elated when she told him where she was going. llSame bureaucracy? he said, tlbut the international level offers more personal advantages. Come drop some foreign exchange in my pocket whenever you breeze through here. Ah, UNCTAD. Which department?n ltInvisibles."

"Dont sound so ruefulfl

ttI feel I'm getting initiated into some 0c-cult sect," she said.

"You are? For a flash she felt weak, but then unaccountably a surge ofenergy rose in her. The questions rising in her mind gave way to a pleasant rush of warmth. She heard applause, not in her mindls ear, but all over her body. It was mingled with almost-forgotten phrases from school songs, the sound rising in a friendly wave that lifted her away from the present place and moment, beyond the prevalence of failure.

Q1989 by Ayi Kwei Armab. Ayi Kwei Arma/a is a critic, essayist, and fiction writer living in Popenguine, Senegal.

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Beacon Press, 221 pages, $22.95.
hat have we learned from the last twenty
years of feminism in the United States? What
have we forgotten? Where are we going? Who
are hweh? In Women Together, Women Alone,
journalist Anita Shreve interviews women
around the country about their experiences in
19705 consciousness-raising groups; philoso-
pher Elizabeth V. Spelman examines problems
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Inessential Woman.
These two engaging, optimistic books represent a
growing genre: looking back and forward at the
Illustration by Nicole Hollander
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By Valerle Mmer new CR groups.

some are even starting . .

through vociferous exchanges about housework, sexuality, motherhood, physical appearance, and sexism On the job. As the years pass, many members become immersed in their private lives and express nostalgia for the old feminist collectivity;

tickets. The President was pensive, as if he needed to collect his wits after the Party womenTs visit. TTYour work in Vilima. Efficient. So fastf, he smiled at her. hCongratulations, Democratic party. He calls it hpost-McGovern." And as the man says, the public has to have a bad person. 1th the "HES" AIIII Blann,, natureiofWestern culture. f NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IF MAILED IN THE CROSS AND SWORD An Eyewitness History of Christianity in Latin America Hr Mt lwnnw (Iomlpmturv This vpir' eyewitness history givvx flesh and blood to 300 years otChristianity In Latin Amorir a and the Carihhoan. Paper \$12.95, Cloth \$29.95 ROMERO: A LIFE ldmvs R. B'OCAIUJH "The reader will (lose BHX kmank biog raphy feelings . the need to see that Romero's life and death wull serve the highest purpose of the Salvadorean people, " -ED ASNER Paper \$9.95 CRUCIBLE OF FIRE The Church Confronts Apartheid lrm Ha/Hs and loyce Ho/Iyday; editors Foreword by Alan Boesak. Through the words of South Africa's leading Christian figures in the anti-apartheid resistance, Crumble of Fire brings home to every Christian the urgent need to know and to act. Paper \$995 THE CHURCH AND SOCIALISM IN CUBA Raul Camel Treto Foreword by Iohn Kirk. A provocative analysis of the developing relationship between the Catholic Church and the socialist government in Cuba, Paper \$995 WAR AGAINST THE POOR Low Intensity Conflict and Christian Faith /d(k .N'o/son-PaI/mr-yor How the poor in the Third World (ountrim are Vi(timized by economic psy(hologi-(,al, diplomatic, and military interforvnto designed to blork smial change. Paper \$9.93 DANIEL BERRIGAN: POETRY, DRAMA, PROSE Muhav/ Irut', P(Ilmr COHMTHIIUJ, the "host of Bvrrigan," this Ix the most up-to-(Ltto anthology dvailahlv today. Interviews, Ivttors, nmnifostos, journal entries, parables, poetry, and drama are (ill im Iudvd. Paper \$12.95, Cloth \$24.93 ORBIS BOOKS Maryknolh New York 10343 1-800-258-58 58 In NYS Collvtt 914-941-7687 46 OCTOBER 1989 BUSINESS REPLY MAIL T Permit No 671

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shaker in Vilima Region? the Principal Secretary said, shaking his head in disbelief. ctYou seem to think I went looking for troublef she said.

TTNot If the Principal Secretary said. hThe Regional Party Chairman. In his last but one phone call he said youid subverted the youth wing?

KtIth natural to consult the Assistant Secretary when both the Chairman and the Secretary are away," she said.

TTLogical, not natural,u the Principal Secretary chuckled. stYou show a Party big shot some teenage deputy can do his job better, that,s telling him to drop dead." hWhat was his last call about?" uSecurity,n the Principal Secretary said. nYours. Your behavior had so angered the Party faithful some militants had tried to kill you. Is it true you asked to see the work done with aid funds?

uI was supposed to?

The Principal Secretary stopped laughing. uWhat were you looking forPT' He wouldrft stay for an answer.

The Presidents call came at the start of her third week of waiting. She was ready at 8:55. She was able to go in at 11:23 after a delegation of twelve women wearing the presidential portrait on their bellies and bottoms came out smiling and flashing airline s.su uuxuuu.

And you, she thought. She had expected the thought to stop there, but something deeper than her self-control let it through: And me. Aloud she said: tsThank you, Mr. President." She saw his pupils as she said farewell. They were gray, not brown. Under his white hair his head seemed unnaturally small, as if the exercise of power had shrunk it.

The Principal Secretary was elated when she told him where she was going. TtSame bureaucracyf he said, hbut the international level offers more personal advantages. Come drop some foreign exchange in my pocket whenever you breeze through here. Ah, UNCTAD. Which departmentPTT Tilnvisibles."

'TDonTt sound so rueful."

"I feel Iim getting initiated into some Occult sectf she said.

"You are." For a flash she felt weak, but then unaccountably a surge ofenergy rose in her. The questions rising in her mind gave way to a pleasant rush ofwarmth. She heard applause, not in her mindis ear, but all over her body. It was mingled with almost-forgotten phrases from school songs, the sound rising in a friendly wave that lifted her away from the present place and moment, beyond the prevalence of failure.

Q1989 by Ayi Kwei Armab. Ayz' Kwei Armab is a critic, essayist, and fiction writer living in Popenguine, Senegal.

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\$121M OF Acaz'NcrteveN J900cm! you 9:114. LQOK C1009 'N meats): CLOWE; You wore ' high SLHOOL AND CALL': i123 Conscious Of the Past WOMEN TOGETHER, WOMEN ALONE: The Legacy of the Consciousness-Raising Movement, by Anita Sbreve, Viking, 275 pages, \$19.95. INESSENTIAL WOMAN: Problems of Exclusion in Feminist Thought, by Elizabeth V. Spelman, Beacon Press, 221 pages, \$22.95. hat have we learned from the last twenty years of feminism in the United States? What have we forgotten? Where are we going? Who are bbweii? In Women Togelber, Women Alone, journalist Anita Shreve interviews women around the country about their experiences in 19705 consciousness-raising groups; philosopher Elizabeth V. Spelman examines problems of exclusion in feminist theory in her scholarly Inessential Woman. These two engaging, optimistic books represent a growing genre: looking back and forward at the Illustration by Nicole Hollander womenk movement. In the last five years the feminist bookshelf has expanded to include histories, autobiographies, anthologies, novels, poetry, and drama, their authors all conscious that the future of the movement depends on remembering its past(s). Women Together, Women Alone is a lively though narrowly focused chronicle of the experiences and legacies of the grass-roots consciousnessraising movement. Shreve juxtaposes portraits of members of a hctionalized New York City CR group with more traditional interviews, tracking a number of women from the first blush Of sisterhood through vociferous exchanges about housework, sexuality, motherhood, physical appearance, and sexism On the job. As the years pass, many mem_ bers become immersed in their private lives and express nostalgia for the old feminist collectivity; Some are CVen Starting - , o By Valerle Wiiner

new CR groups.

Shreve inelutles a hlueprint for 199% eon-SClOUSILLWH-IKHNIHgt otlering over two hundred questions to kick off the next movement.

Slireye writes well; the fictional story that threads through the direct reportage is particularly strong.

While I lintl inueh to identity with in Women 'liigef/wr. Women Alone, I am astonished hy the relative laek of public ac tiyism among Sltrey'os suhjeets and by their predominantly white. middle-elasst heterosexual worlds. Her questions seem oblivious to the diversity of feminist friendships, eon-fereneex demonstrations hooks, and eourses that have developed during the last two MUSIC

decades.

'lihroughout the hook, Shreve maintains an odd authorial detachment. Although she asks a range of intimate questions, she doesn't introduce herself in the text with details about her race, class background, sexuality. or age. Did sbe participate in CR during the 19705?

One of the most surprising aspects of Women 'Ioget/Jer, Women Alone is the author's consistent assumption that women want to he partnered with men. Aren't there happy single women? And what about leshians? Shrevels treatment of gay women ranges from the embarrassing to the offensive_from the first chapter, in which she PddfbM

firsts Tracy

Chapman and

Suzanne Vega

The Magazine of Record

uzanne Vega. Michelle Shocked. Tracy Chapman. All three singers seemed to burst forth, hona title overnight sensations heralding a new revival of folk music. In truth, they were "discoveredn long ago and recorded by Fast Ilollc, a not-t'orv profit ltmusieal magazine" thatls heen documenting the scene for seven years.

livery six weeks, Itzst FolkTs editors send out a twelye-eut album aeeornpanied by a twenty-page magazine. The disc features well-known singers.stleh as eomie crooner Christine Lavin, as well as newly discovered talent. The magazine provides lyrics, as well as essays, record reviews, hios of featured artists, and the foremost guide to t(ilkie happenings. Through sixty albums the publication has consistently encouraged songwriters to make strong political, romantic, and environmental statements, as it did Shoekedk hashing of the Pentagon and David Massengills documentary on racism.

To order a twelve-month, teneissue subscription, send \$65 to Fast Folk Musical Magazine, PO Box 938, Village Station, New York, NY10014.

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- Valerie (Ia/egari

dehnes being alone as being without a man, to her infantilized portrait of the token fictional lesbian character, to her final blue-print, where the only specific question about lesbians, under "Sex? is Tllf you are not a lesbian, how do you react when you meet a woman whom you know is a lesbian?

Women Together, Women Alone is a sort of journalistic Heidi Chronicles, an impressively crafted, sympathetic account of one sector of the womenls movement.

Elizabeth V. Spelmanls Inessential Wom-

an is an analysis of and an antidote to the shortsightedness of Western feminism. The word llinessentiall' is intentionally ambiguous, recalling that traditional philosophers denied women essential human qualities, while criticizing the homogenizing essentialism that currently inhibits womenas studies. A philosophy professor at Smith College, Spelman examines Plato and Aristotles distinctive misogyny, then takes on such feminists as Simone de Beauvoir, Nancy Chodorow, Betty Friedan, and Shulamith Firestone.

Spelman suggests that anyone who says llwe feministsll or llwe womenll needs to examine the social construction of "we? Many contemporary feminists, when they do acknowledge difference, tend to see identities such as working-elass or Native American or Chinese as accessories to the basic definition of llwomanll rather than as lenses through which to understand various concepts Of tlwoman." This dismissal of distinctionseoften done, seemingly innocently, in a rush of solidarity-is the root of white domination in so many feminist activities. tlThose of us who have engaged in it must give up the hunt for the generic woman-the one who is all and only woman, who by some miracle of abstraction has no particular identity in terms of race, class, ethnicity, sexual orientation, language, religion, nationality? Spelman writes. "Donlt misunderstand me: 1Tve never met a generic woman I didn't like. But I wouldn,t want my brother, or my sister, to marry one? During a time when men are assuming procreative authority in the laboratory and in the court, when women's studies is being swallowed by gender studies, when the media dilute popular feminism into vague humanism, these two books illustrate the power of female friendship and scholarship to provoke, support, and provide momentum for the feminist movement. Amid the tlpostfeministll gloom-peddling, the expanding bookshelf forms a literary barricade against despair by marking the essential link between memory and vision. Valerie Miner is a novelist whose newest book is Trespassing, a collection of short stories published by The Crossing Press. Illustration by Christopher Bing

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Illustration byjamie Hogan
TELEVISION
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Previews
A new program to
expand PBS'S
creative boundaries
opens its doors.
and a series that plumbs such
wotking-life issues as benefits
packages, unions, and job
stress. One-shots might in-
clude a compilation film in
which a group of filmmakers
responds imaginatively, not
journalistically, to a national
crisis such as the one caused
by last springis brutal Tiwild-
ingi, episode in Central Park.
The Corporation for Pub-
lic Broadcasting, which dis-
tributes federal funds to pub-
lic TV, lobbied hard against
the formation of the produc-
tion service. tTWe felt we were
already allocating significant
production dollars to inde-
pendent producersf, says
Mary Maguire of CPB. Op-
.. X. _.
Beyond Masterpiece Theater
ver think the Public Broadcasting System could do
better than to air increasing numbers of wildlife
shows and preapproved British imports?
If so, prepare for a change. Last year Congress
passed a law creating a new independent production
service, the sole mandate of which is to expand the
creative boundaries of PBSis programming. With an
initial $6 million a year to spend over the next three
years, the program opened its doors this month and
will shortly begin soliciting responses to its ideas for
projects. The results should roll on the small screen a
year or two from now.
Among the possibilities: a magazine show that
critiques television the way the Sweater Guys d0
movies; a program designed to prepare inner-city
adolescents for adulthood (Sesame Street grows up);
posing the CPB was a group
known as the National Coali-
tion of Independent Public Broadcasting Producers,
whose members feel that PBSTs programs are too
unimaginative to truly serve the public and that the
way to counter cables continuing raids on PBS,S au-
dience is with alternative programming, not with
more of what,s already being offered.
Though the National Coalition won round one,
the bell for round two wonit be rung until it comes
time for PBS stations to decide whether to air the
new programming. The stations have the right to
turn down any shows they feel donit meet their
standards. National Coalition Chairman Lawrence
Daressa expects resistance. In fact, he says, TTWe rel-
ish the prospect. ItTll mean we have actually done
something that hasnit been done before?
-Erik Hedegaard
MOTHER JONES 49
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Previews MIAMI 1989, byl)ar121yLy()n Mood Over Miami

Danny Lyon is perhaps best known for his pictures of the civil rights movement, taken When he was staff photographer for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. But Lyon has been roaming across the United States for over twenty-hve years, making films and photographs of bikers in Chicago, prisoners in Texas, and subway riders in New York City. He says he began experimenting with collage several years ago because nI want to get more out of a photograph than there is in a photograph? Lyonis first all-collage book, I Like to Eat Right on the Dirt: A Cbildk journey Back in Space and Time, will be published xhis fall by Bleak Beauty Books.

MOTHER JONES

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REFUGEES

(Continued from page 27) helping with such basic needs as finding adequate housing and financial assistance or employment before we can counsel them on mentalhealth problemsfl says Director of Clinical Services Diana Li-Repac. The shame and stigma attached to being seen going into a mental-health clinic causes some to feel that they might jeopardize future opportunities for marriage. TlAmong Southeast Asians, no one would come in and announce, Tm depressed,' ll says Paul DeLay. Those who come usually want a quick fix. "When they go to a doctor, they expect to receive somethingf says Cambodian counselor Touch Sim. llAnything, even if its an aspirin? Many donlt return after the first visit. Explains Dr. Evelyn Lee, chiefprogram director of the Department of Psychiatry at San Francisco General Hospital, 110ur patients say lFix the handle of my cupl and donlt understand why you want to look all around the cup? Sim observes, TlThey donlt see the use in all that talk, talk, talkfl But enough clients eventually come back to keep counselors overworked and clinic waiting lists long. Thatls because, as Diana Li-Repae says, TlThe presenting symptom is rarely the whole problem. Therels a lot of confusion between physical pain and cultural pain? Counselors are further hampered by the lack of reliable client histories. While mental conditions such as insanity or sexual deviation can be grounds for the US government to deny immigrants entrance, few of those fleeing Southeast Asia have been scanned for much more than tuberculosis, syphilis, and leprosy. Doctors reporting to the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service tend to view complaints in terms of intestinal parasites rather than emotional unhinging. American diagnostic tools like the Hopkins Symptom Checklist 25 are beginning to come out in Cambodian, Laotian, and Vietnamese versions, and, fortunately, there has so far been no equivalent of the 1917 H. H. Goddard study-a low point in the practice of refugee psychology. By testing Eastern and Southern European immigrants at Ellis Island with questions full of American values and reference points, making no allowance for language difficulty, Goddard came up with results that deemed some 50 percent of all immigrants admitted to the United States llfeeblemindedfl This conclusion led to Goddardk infamous argument that lit is never wise to discard a scientific result because of apparent absurdity.n But with the current wave of immigrants, there is a different set of uapparent absurditiesll that canit be dismissed. 52. OCTOBER t989 PATIENT C, A YOUNG VIETNAMESE, SUFFERS

PATIENT C, A YOUNG VIETNAMESE, SUFFERS from an eating disorder. She consults her fortune-teller, who divines that lla strange man from the East will heal you? C tells a San Francisco clinic worker about her faith in this prediction. The therapist recalls that a psychiatric social worker from New York, a young man, has just joined the staff. Cs

therapist says that you must never discount the patientls beliefs, that you must relate to a patient as a llgood auntu would. Southeast Asian clients require a shrink who can be a healer, even a friend-not an aloof and objective monitor. uThe therapists in the clinic need to respect the patientls cultural values and the familyls tradition. . . . You know youlve won trust when your clients say youive got a good heart? Cs therapist says. Some patients put their faith in coin-rubbing, chanting mantras, or shamanism. And faith is the only medicine a therapist can offer. 50 C is referred to the stranger from New York. She knows she will be cured by this llman from the East?

AT WARE END, THERE WAS ONLY A HANDful of psychiatrists in Vietnam-not counting those brought over to console invading forces. There were probably no Laotian anae lysts. Throughout Southeast Asia, maladies of the mind are traditionally viewed as imbalances of the body, treated by village healers with herbal remedies and acupuncture; or as imbalances of the spirit, treated by holy men or shamans, who have the power to exorcise ancestral ghosts. Southeast Asians believe numerous souls can inhabit or reinhabit the body. 111n the Southeast Asian concept, an individual has at least three souls, and the greatest misfortune is to die with no male heirs to feed these immortal soulsfl says Tuan Nguyen. ilOf course, there are differing beliefs in all the countries. You cannot j ust lump everyone together as lIndochinesef That,s a colonial term." Among the Mien tribe, for instance, the standard treatment for depression is slaughtering a pig. Some of the refugees are not even used to conceptualizing in a written language, so it would be absurd to force them into an binsight-oriented" Western approach. By contrast, Asian approaches to mental health could be called liresult-orientedll-not such a bad idea when you consider the number of neuroties stuck in analysis twice a week for decades. The Asian view of an individual tends to be more holistic, suggesting that everyone functions within a web of relations, including past karma and future fate, and that everyone has a spiritual balance to be maintained.

What unites East and West, in the end, is the human psyche and its response mechanisms. llDepressionf says Paul DeLay, bis depression in all cultures. It has the same vegetative symptoms? During refugeesl adjustment to their new land, survival skills are stretched to their fullest, and most families are able to focus on new challenges and new learning. Itls only after this govercompensationf when refugees become reasonably settled, that lldecompensationll can trigger severe symptoms. Old wounds emerge and new ones grow from conflicts between the quickly assimilated young and their overly strict elders. Corporal abuse and marital violence become more common. llRefugee parents often see American culture as being too permissive, so there,s a great deal of parent-child conflict? says Diana Li-Repac.

PATIENT D 15 A FORTY-TWO-YEAR-OLD MAN referred to the clinic because he canlt concentrate in English classes. At first, he complains only of the chronic pains from shrapnel wounds he suffered in the Cambodian army. After a period of stability during his adjustment to the United States, D is involved in a car accident while learning to drive. Through no fault of his, a woman passenger in a second car is badly injured. The event stirs memories of the war, triggering flashbacks and auditory hallucinations. He has recurrent dreams about being buried alive. Twice, D tries to commit suicide by lying in the middle of a busy street. But his concern for the victim of the car accident enables him to speak aloud for the first time of two daughters who starved to death on the South China Sea. He describes to the therapist how his wife committed suicide on the boat after the death of their daughters. He stops having hallucinations. He no longer fears being buried alive. How IS IT THAT SUCH MEMORIES DO NOT bury the entire Southeast Asian community? Part of the answer is that the refugees themselves have stepped forward to become trained in their new countryls methods of care-giving. At last count, there were eighteen Vietnamese mental-health professionals in the ten counties of California that have the highest concentration of Southeast Asian refugees-including Minh Ta, an idealistic young man practicing in San Jose who speaks of wanting to enter the mental-health field uever since I saw the children of my village throwing stones at a naked madwomanfl Evelyn Lee, who was raised in a Chinese refugee family, prefers to stress the positive features of the culture refugees bring. 111 think we must recognize the strength in refugee families, not just the pathology? argues Lee. the can all learn a lesson by identifying what makes most of the FOBs-thatls fresh off the boat-and the

JOjs-just off the jet-cope so well with un-

precedented change? Like all stereotypes, the image of hardy, industrious Asians is a backhanded compliment rooted in some element of truth. tlThe new refugees bring with them a highly dedicated group orientation? Lee says. ItThey give each other a tremendous amount of community support, and where families have been destroyed, they are able to recreate extended family networks. The strong belief in fate can help in the acceptance of cataclysmic events. The emphasis on hard work and discipline enables many of the Southeast Asians to maintain self-respect and focus quickly on new dreams. Above all, they are products of some of the oldest cultures, cultures that emphasize trust in neighbors, gratitude for the smallest gestures, and patience with hardship? The refugees, according to Lee, are writing a prescription for mental health that other Americans would be wise to follow. IlDonlt forget, this is a society where alienation and loneliness are the major problems? she argues. tVile cantt just take people who come out of isolation and depression and help them assimilate into a mainstream that is largely isolated and depressed? Given the current psychic condition of the nation they are entering, Southeast Asians face difficulties no refugees have ever encountered. Illn 1940;, Lee continues, llhigh school students listed the main problems to be running in the halls, talking in class, too much gum-chewing. In a 1980 survey, the answers were drugs, rape, alcohol, and suicide? Argues Lee, ItOur job shouldn,t be to accustom people to these things. We donit want to create more popcorn-those are little yellow kernels that, under pressure, turn white. We mustntt complete a genocide by forcing people to give up their identities? E, HANDSOME AND AFFABLE, IS A CAMBOdian counselor. He was recruited by a socialwelfare group when he was still in a refugee camp and has since supplemented his natural skill at helping others with coursework at a junior college. His dress and confident manner seem entirely Westernized. ttIn Cambodia? he scoffs, Itthere was only one word for crazy: cbakourt. There was only one hospital and the people sent there never came back. Cambodian people believe that mental problems are caused by loose spirits. When you have a problem, then you consult a Buddhist monk or a shaman. When I was a boy, I went into an area of the forest which I was warned might have ghosts. I woke in my sleep, eyes wide with a crying spell and convulsions. Maybe it was a childhood fever, and maybe I had seen a tiger. My father had to call the monks to chase the ghosts from me. I was cured with offerings of sticky rice, palm sugar, and eggs. My father, too, had the power to talk to ghosts. My brother, he died from ghosts? When the Khmer Rouge came to power, E had just finished among the top of his class at the police academy. ItOnly Eve or six from my graduating class of one hundred sur-

vived. I avoided execution because I was valuable as a teacher. I escaped the labor camps and spent four months walking across the country to Thailand with only one pair of shorts? As E tells his story, tears form in his eyes. He is his own best client. Sometimes I get too emotional, I am too close to a problem. But I must use my experiences to go with my patients to the depths of their suffering. So many Cambodians, they sit at home and watch the television, they cry and see the past, they see themselves dying in Ere. So the first thing is to get them involved, to get them in a group. They won,t say they are going to a mental-health clinic. They call it E clinic, after me. For my people, I am not a social worker, I am a community leader. I am like a shaman to them. There are many shaman in Oakland. They still sacrifice animals in their houses. I cannot tell you where, because that is illegal? And do Cambodian-Americans still seek the power to placate ghosts? IIOf coursef, says E. IIThere are plenty of ghosts in California, toof, AREN,T MOST AMERICANS HAUNTED BY ANcestral ghosts from lands left in turmoil? Evelyn Lee paraphrases the intuitive wisdom of a friend: ltWhen I came here, I was like muddy water. After three years, the mud has settled and the water is clear. The last thing I want is people to stir up the mud at the bottom. I want them to respect me for $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right)$ what is different? Respecting differences is hardly an American specialty, especially when dealing with differing concepts of time and rationality, spirit and flesh. Yet if our psychiatric system can respect and absorb some of our latest immigrants means of maintaining wholeness, then the United States may yet become a saner placeguided by a broader formulation of mental health, even a multicultural definition of self.

In the meantime, there is not much that can be done to calm Patient A or answer his incessant plea, ttWhy you say no when I say yes? Why we cannot all be equal? Why America so selfish? America drives everyone crazy. Like so much madness, AIS problem is seeing too clearly, being just a little too right.

john Kricbts most recent book, El Beisbol: Travels Through the Pan-American Pastime, is published by Atlantic Monthly Press. Sexual

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In order to include some special new items in our Holiday Gift Catalog, we hare decided to include the catalog with ouriVorember issue. Lookfor it next month! .. 1 relics from the decline and fa" 54 ()(,1()151-.R 1989 (Continued from page 23) people in the American Arab community didnlt understand his Arab-Jewish dialogue stuff? says Jim Zoghy, director of the Arab American Institute in Washington. But when local Jews were among those who rallied to support the seven Palestinians and one Kenyan arrested in 1987 by Los Angeles police on suspicion of terrorism, Zogby and other Arab-Americans began to think that Kasemls pleas for dialogue were bearing fruit. Zogby later joined the Foundation advisory board. 111 realized that the Foundation wasnlt just lLetls talk and feel good and understand each otherf 11 says Zogby. .1It was deeper than that? THERFS NOT MUCH SIGN OF THE DEEPER Casey during his weekly countdown, no hint that he knows that the intifada is not an Italian rock band and the 1967 War was not a battle between the Beatles and Stones for chart supremacy. 1Tve been very careful, with the letters that I read and the information that I use, not to bring in politics on the radio show, " he says. He did some radio promos, independently of his show, for the Great Peace March in 1986, and read one dedication that year from a man who asked him to play lllmagineii as a tribute to the nearly seven hundred people on that walk from coast to coast. It remains his all-time favorite dedication. But he also says he cant think of a song he would refuse to play if it was in the Top 40, even Ray Stevensi nasty 1962 hit llAhab, the Arab? His reluctance to be political on the air is a question of credibility, he says; listeners would be turned off if he started to proselytize. Besides, theylve known him for years as the schmaltzy tune spinner who advises listeners at shows end to "keep your feet on the ground and keep reaching for the stars? Its an image, he says, that helps him bring radical politics to mainstream America, to the family driving to church. "Time and time againf he says, "live had people come up to me at rallies for the peace movement and say, You give us credibility, because of your career, because of what you represent, because of the way you look 11 For Kasem, who wears richly patterned sweaters as a kind of trademark on his weekly TV show Americas Top 10, this last part is important. "One of the things wrong with the antiwar movement in the sixties," he says, uwas the way people dressed. If

those same people had been dressed in shirts

and ties and coats, America would have been more willing to listen with both ears." So in Hollywood, political credibility is preserved by telling listeners that Stevie Wonders real name is Steveland Morris and that Bruce Springsteenis llWaW is a cover of Edwin Starr's 1970 hit; political credibility is risked by slipping into the trivia mix that Wonders hometown of Detroit is a center of Arab-American culture, or by saying that the worlds nuclear arsenal has grown by 44 percent since 1970, making war even more dangerous now than it was during11Warials first incarnation.

And while Kasem worries about on-air politics damaging his professional integrity, he readily makes an off-the-air confession that would seem a far bigger risk. It turns out that Casey Kasem, the master of the Top 40 countdowm knows far less about pop music than his show would have you believe.

He doesnt listen to the stuff in his spare time; he doesnt even listen when hels working, since all he does in the studio is record the intros and outros to the songs on the Top 40. You could play part of the number-one song in the nation to him, and he might not recognize it. Play part of number 40 to him, and hes almost sure to draw a blank. He doesrft carry tidbits of pop trivia around in his head, and he doesnt research or write the show. He comes in once a week, after spending several hours editing the script that a team of writers has sent him, and reads the script into the microphone, often using several takes for each sentence. When his day is done and he's driving down Wilshire Boulevard, his car radio is off and his tape deck is playing a speech by Malcolm X or Martin Luther King, jr., or Gore Vidal. Off the top of his head, he,s as likely to know that Wilshire Boulevard is named after an early utopian socialist as he is to know how many times Prince has had a song in the top ten. "live seen lots of singers livef he says when pressed. HI saw Elvis in Vegas and the Beatles at the Hollywood Bowl. Ilye seen Sinatra, Sammy Davis is greatt Mathis is fun to watch, and Ilve seen Julio at his best. . . . But I've never loved listening to music? Perhaps this is business as usual in Hollywood, where your fans don't really care if you know your pop music trivia as long as you give it to them in a tone that says you do. Art has always thrived on illusion shared between creator and observer; why should Caseyls Top 40 be any different? Kasem is, after all, a salesman, a wildly successful commercial pitchman. The Top 40 is simply the most lucrative product he represents. Yet he insists there is a thread between the pitchman and the political activist, a thread that his friends see as well. llCaseyls a fusion of popular culture and political culture? says Jim Zogby. llHis message on the radio is the positive affirmation of life, work, truth,

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and justice. It sounds corny, but after all, its the same vision that has inspired many people on the Left for all these years." That vision continues to inspire Casey Kasem, to give him the juice he needs to run from event to event, from meeting to meeting. This is no time for complacency for a man sensitive to images of Muslims and Arabs in the media; a new wave of Muslimbashing is upon us in the wake of the death threats against Salman Rushdie, which Kasem says he opposed. And once again, television comics are getting laughs with jokes about a show of hands being impossible in Iran because no one there has any hands left.

The contrast between Kasemis political dedication and his musical dedications is sometimes hard to figure. He probably has the largest weekly audience of any progressive in the country, yet he keeps his politics out of his radio show except in the most general of ways. He says he can't yet afford to give away a million dollars a year, even though that would leave him at least 21 million annually in pocket change after taxes. He revels in his celebrityhood, eating out at see-and-be-seen Spagols and then signing autographs for homeless people when 116,5 arrested with them. In the end, he may be reaching for the same stars as other progressives, but his feet aren,t always on the same ground.

But if Casey Kasem is no saint, he's not naive either. He accepts the loopy notion that as long as youlre famous for something, you can be quoted in all seriousness on anything. Its the state of US. political discourse that a disc jockey who worships Noam Chomsky is more likely to be asked to debate a rabbi on television than Chomsky himselfis.

And while it is Chomskys political thinking that most attracts Kasem, the best metaphor for understanding the unlikely mix of corny disc jockey and dedicated political activist might be found in Chomskyls linguistic theory-that each sentence has a surface structure and an underlying deep structure. Think of the breathless disclosure of Phil Collins motherls maiden name as Kasenfs surface structure; Dana Carvey and David Letterman certainly do. But think of Arab Jewish dialogue and outrage over military spending as the Chomskyan underlying structure, the true sources of Casey KasemTS unyielding earnestness. Along with homelessness, animal rights, and several other hits, they make up Kasemls real-life top ten. Bernard Obanian 1s most recent piece, on the San Francisco Mime Troupe, appeared in the january issue. CLASSIFIED

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GOT THE BABY-SI'I'TING JOB AT THE MUNCESI because a girl from my homeroom named Anna Bartolli called me up and said she just got a ticket laid on her for the Five Man Electrical Band and she needed a sub. Itltls an easy job," she said. llThey live on Caseadia." Cascadia was a rich street and I started thinking about all the houses I knew up there with color TVs, shag carpets, Trimlines, and full boxes of Ding Dongs in the freezer. llOkayj, I said.

Mr. Munee picked me up at seven olclock in an old green station wagon with big bite marks all over the dashboard. It turns out therels a eruddy part of Cascadia I didnlt know about and the Munces' house was on it.

Mr. Munce tells me to go inside and get Mrs. Munce for him. When I open the door there's this smell and by the couch I see a baby with a red rash across her face yanking on the ear of a giant black dog who has long strings of slobber dripping down. When the baby sees me she starts screaming

IljanetFII the man says.

and then I hear feet running in and its a little girl in a yellow nightgown who looks at me and starts screaming also. Then the sound of high heels, and Mrs. Munce walks in screwing on her earring and asks the nightgown girl if she wants a spanking and then tells me she cant remember my name. I get a feeling in my stomach like I am going to throw up and then I notice there is no TV.

Mrs. Munce tells me the dogs name is Stinker, the babyls name is Angela, the other one is Clarissa, and if she gives me any trouble spank her good. Im thinking How am I going to get out of this?, and then Mrs. Munce turns down the thermostat, hands me a baby bottle full of green Kool-Aid, goes out the door, and The End.

I pick up the baby who has black dog hairs stuck to her face and go over to Clarissa who is crying at the window and I say itls okay, your mom will be back soon. Clarissa hits me and I tell her the number-one rule is no hitting and she hits me again. The doorbell rings and it's the paper boy coming to collect, a seventh grader from my school named Tonio. He tells me the Munces suck because they never pay. Then the baby reaches out her hands to him and Clarissa leans against me and for about one second its like these are my kids and this is my house and I about tell Tonio to shut up and get off of my property.

It takes a long time to get the baby to sleep. Nothing works except to keep on holding her so I hold her and hold her until its pitch-black outside and I sit on the couch letting Clarissa Ex my hair with a green chewed-up brush. I feel a blob of something cold on my head and its Clarissa rubbing in a giant squeeze of Alberto Stinkerls back.

By the time theylre asleep it's ten olclock. The house is freezing i V05. Then the phone starts ringing and the baby wakes up.
When I answer llMunce residencell its a man who says
Iljanet?" I say he must have the wrong number and lm about to hang up when he says, Iljanet. Wait a second. Im sorry? I tell him wrong number again and hang up. I feel a little freaked out by his voice. I tell Clarissa its time for bed and she asks me if Stinker can come upstairs with us. I say okay, then I notice the V05 all over cold. On the table downstairs I notice a fishbowl full of cloudy water with something moving and I realize there is a hsh in there. I decide to change the water. When I get the fish in my hand the phone rings again.

IlYou got the wrong number A again? Iljanet, wait!, l he says. He sounds like hels crying and I hang up. When the phone rings again I get the sickest scaredest feeling in my stomach and just let it keep ringing. I keep washing S the fishbowl until it slips out of my hands and breaks in the sink. I look at the goldfish swimming 4 in the Yogi Bear glass and pick up the phone. (i IIWhy are you doing this to mePll the man says. III swear to god, you got the wrong numberjl I say, Ilthis is the Muncesl residence. Therels no janetfl Finally he believes I am not Janet and asks me if I will just talk to him anyway. In the background I can hear ltColor My Worldll playing and I think there is no way he can be a killer if he is playing that song. So I say okay and he tells me about Janet, how messed up he is about her and _ how she gave him the wrong number probably on purpose. His name is Victor, hels nineteen from Santa Monica, he is stationed at Fort Lewis, and he hates the army. I feel so bad for how sad he is. Im looking at the Muncesl record player and all of a sudden I see the album Bridge Over Troubled Water and I get the idea to play it for Victor. IIHang onfl I tell him, and I put the phone next to the speaker and start playing the song. All the words seem so significant to Victorls life and my life too. I start imagining him and me together, him forgetting all about janet. I vthink about how this baby-sitting job was all worth it and how : later when Victor was my boyfriend we would tell everyone the 5 incredible story of how we met. And then the song ended and I a picked up the phone and said IIVictorW and there was no one there.

When Mrs. Munce came in it was past 1 A.M. I told her about the fishbowl and that I was sorry and that she didnlt have to pay me and she said okay and she didnlt. Before I left she said, IlGive me your number in case we need you againfl and I made sure I said it wrong.

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RETARDED.
Blagk.
Xmorica IS the land ofoppmtunitV. Exerwno has the Chance to live
in freedom.
But in American courtrooms, some hav 1 a better Chance of being
sentenced to death.
The poor convicted 01:1 brutal killing (110 from the want 013 good lawyer.
The mcntaHy retarded (110 from thc igno Vance 01 their own anions.
The young are sent to the death Chamber for crimes committed before
reaching full physical or emotional maturity.
And blacks convicted ofkilling whites are more likely to be sentenced to
death than any other category 0101fcndors
Tho death penalty
It's a horrifying lotton' in which politicalt financial, community and
racial pressures play a more decisive role in sending a person to the
(10th Chamber than the actual crime itself.
It's irreversible and. own with the most stringent judicial safeguards,
has been111111ttodonthvinnocent.
171timatoly.it's('n'iolationofhumanrights.
The death penalty. It's not a punishment. It's a crime.
Join Amnesty International USA and help abolish the death
penalty. I want to:
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