

January 77

THIS MONTH

With the beginning of this new year, we celebrate the "first free territory of the Americas," the Cuban revolution, as an inspiration to the peoples of Latin America and the U.S. For 15 years the Cuban revolution has grown and transformed peoples' lives. It has virtually eliminated the scourges that afflict the rest of Latin America under U.S. imperialist influence—illiteracy, epidemic diseases, staggering infant mortality, mass hunger and malnutrition, slum housing, unemployment and an economy subservient to foreign neo-colonial economic interests. It has created popular new forms of organization to deepen mass participation in all levels of decision making, putting an end to the legacy of corruption and dictatorship (see the reverse side for more on Cuba.)

The Barlow Benavidez Committee Against Police Crimes continues its community organizing efforts this month, after many months of education, legal work and demonstrations, with a rally to accompany the filing of a "wrongful death" suit against the City of Oakland, Police Department and Officer Michael Cogley. Barlow Benavidez was a victim of police repression and racist terror, but his death has sparked mass organizing for justice and community control of police. (See Jan. 11 listing for more information.)

This symbol means a place is wheelchair-accessible: +

SAT 1 Happy New Year

1959: *Victory of the Cuban Revolution and 26th of July Movement: first defeat of U.S. imperialism in Latin America.*
1976: *Menominee Warrior Society occupied Abbey in Gresham, Wis. and demanded that it be turned over to the tribe for use as a health center. The Alexians later rescinded their offer.*

SUN 2 "Ask Your Mama" program

Wright's "Native Son" read by James Earl Jones & "Feet Live Their Own Life" read by Ossie Davis, on KPFA 94 FM, 7-10 pm.
1920: *Palmer Raids began in which 10,000 workers, mostly immigrants, were arrested in pre-dawn raids in 70 cities by the federal police under the direction of Attorney General Palmer and his aide, J. Edgar Hoover, for being "reds."*

MON 3 Self-Help for Women

Common Women's Force, Every Woman's Clinic, 2600 Park Ave. Concord, 7 pm (825-7900).
Grey Panthers general meeting at West Berkeley Public Library, 1125 University Ave., Berk., 3-5 pm. +
"Any Woman's Blues!" Open Studio program highlighting performances for women at San Bruno Jail, KQED-TV, channel 9, 8:30 pm.
"I Was First Locked Up When I Was Fourteen," documentary on the physical and emotional reality of incarceration, by Women's Prison Collective, KPFA 94 FM, 2 pm.
1868: *In Trinidad, Colorado, a newspaper reports 300 Chicanos have blocked all roads around Trinidad in retaliation for an Anglo mob shooting Chicanos. This is first incident of Trinidad Wars.*

TUE 4 "Pop!" Alan Arkin & Rita Moreno

in a warm film about Spanish Harlem, Oakland Community Learning Center, 6118 E. 14th St., Oak., 7 pm, free, refreshments. +
Kaiser Worker-Patient Alliance, concerning complaints about Kaiser Health Service and employment, meets every Tuesday at Piedmont School, 4314 Piedmont Ave., Oak., 7:30 pm (call 548-2470 for further information).
Martes Popular, Pena Concert with Jose Luis Orozco (Mexico) and Renee Chavez (Argentina) at La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk., 8:30 pm, \$1. +
Native American Culture, program on KPFA 94 FM, 7:30 pm.
1937: *Auto workers in Flint, Michigan, occupy four General Motors plants and hold them for 44 days until the owners recognize the United Auto Workers. Sit-down tactic is employed to a degree unequalled in American history.*

WED 5 Political Posters

benefit for San Francisco Poster Brigade, A Slide Documentary, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berk., 7:30 pm & 9:30 pm, \$1 donation. +
Jobs for Older Women Action Project Weekly meeting, 3102 Telegraph Ave., Berk. Call 849-0332 for more information.

THU 6 International Songs Jazz

with the unique Charles Moffett Family, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berk., 9 pm, \$1.75. +
Self-Help Clinic for Women, concerning health care for women, Oakland Feminist Women's Health Center, 2930 McClellan St., Oakland, 7-9 pm, donations.

"**Cantata de Santa Maria de Iqueque!**" an Open Studio program featuring performances by Chilean musical group Quilapayun and a group of Bay Area cannery workers, recounts a strike by Chilean nitrate workers, KQED-TV, Channel 9, 9 pm.
"Third World Collage," programs about Cuba & Puerto Rico (6:45), Police crimes—an epidemic in the Bay Area and community response (7:30), and Prison Poetry (9 pm) on KPFA 94 FM.

"With a Little Help," Open Studio program on home-aid devices for elderly and disabled people—easy to make and simple to use, KQED-TV, channel 9, 8:30 pm.
1937: *Abraham Lincoln Brigade formed to fight fascism in Spain.*
1970: *Miners in West Virginia wildcat to protest murder of Jock Yablonski, reform miners' leader.*
1975: *12,000 black workers strike at Vaal Reef's gold mine in South Africa.*

FRI 7 Laney Asian Film Series

Fire, the first Vietnamese dramatic feature ever released in the U.S., Laney College Forum, 10th and Fallon Sts., 7 pm, free.
Film Benefit, We're Alive and Women in China, to raise money to finish film about Lesbian mothers and child custody, at Bachanal, 1369 Solano Ave., Albany, 8 pm, \$2.
El Tango: La Voz de un Pueblo, a history in 12 songs of Argentina's most popular musical form, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk., 9 pm, \$2. +
YWCA First Friday, film and discussion on South Africa, YWCA, 2134 Allston Way, Berk., 7:30 pm, Free. +
Berkeley Free Clinic All-Clinic orientation, for everyone interested in training, at Trinity Methodist Church Basement, Durant and Dana, Berk., 7:30 pm.
"Cantata de Santa Maria de Iqueque" KQED-TV, 2 pm, see Jan. 6.
"An Answer to a Cry for Help!" Open Studio program on social services that help parents under stress prevent child abuse, KQED-TV, channel 9, 6 pm.
1865: *Letter of International Workingmen's Association (1st international) to Lincoln drafted by Karl Marx.*

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SAT 8 Benefit for Blue Fairyland Childcare Center

dinner \$1.50, dance to Berkeley Women's Chorus and Ms. Claudy, \$2 (\$1.50 students, welfare, senior citizens), also auction of new and used unusual items, Unitarian Church, 1924 Cedar St., Berk., childcare provided.
"Rebellion in Patagonia," film benefit with a speaker from Argentina, at Peoples' Restaurant and Cultural Center, 721 Valencia St., San Francisco, 7:30 & 9:45 pm, \$2. +
Malvina Reynolds in Concert, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berk., 9:30 pm, \$2. +
An Evening with Lois Ann Thomas, comedy and political satire, Womanspace, 1437 Harrison, Oak., 9 pm, \$2, women only, childcare. -
1964: *U.S. troops kill student protesters in the Panama Canal Zone.*

SUN 9 Benefit for Teatro de La Gente

with their new production, *The Man Who Turned Into a Dog* and traditional Mexican music, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berk., 9 pm, \$2. +
Breakaway (a Women's free school) planning meeting for interested new and past members, 434 66th St., Oak., 7 pm, childcare, women only.
"Women on Wheels!" videotape of Oakland concert February 1976, presented by Just Us at Freight and Salvage Coffee House, 1827 San Pablo, Berk., \$1.50.
"Ask Your Mama," program featuring poetry of Margaret Walker, author of *Jubilee*, plus *Landladies* by Langston Hughes, on KPFA 94 FM, 7-10 pm.
"Potemkin" (1925), Russian classic film depicts mutiny during 1905 Russian uprising on KQED-TV, channel 9, 8 pm.
1905: *Revolution in Russia begins in Petrograd.*

MON 10 "Alameda County Social Services" workshop

American Indian Adult Education, 1479 Fruitvale Ave., Oakland, 6:30 pm, Free.
"Del Monte in South Africa and the Caribbean," program on agribusiness imperialism, on KPFA 94 FM, 10 pm.
Self-Help Clinic in Concord, see Jan. 3.
Drop-In Self-Help Presentation, with slides, demonstration, and discussion, at Berkeley Women's Health Collective, 2908 Ellsworth, Berk., 7 pm, \$1 donation, women only, children welcome.

TUE 11 Demonstration and Press Conference

sponsored by Barlow Benavidez Committee Against Police Crimes, to file wrongful death suit against Oakland Police Dept. and Officer Michael Cogley for murder of Barlow Benavidez last June in Oakland, at 13th and Oak Sts., Oakland (Alameda County Administration Building), 12 noon.
"Cornbread Earl and Me!" film about police murder and the response of an outraged Black community, Oakland Community Learning Center, 6118 E. 14th St., Oak., 7 pm, free, refreshments.
"Collecting Unemployment," a Pro-Per legal workshop, at 1125 University Avenue, Berk., 4 pm, donations appreciated.

Martes Popular, Pena Concert with Los Viajeros singing folk music of North and South America, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk., 8:30 pm, \$1. +
Kaiser Worker-Patient Alliance, see Jan. 4.
1912: *Lawrence, Mass. textile strike begins, 10,000 workers picket.*

WED 12 Benefit for Office for Political Prisoners and Human Rights in Chile

(OPHRICH), La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk., 8:30 pm. +
Two Films by Bunuel: Illusion Travels by Streetcar (7 & 10 pm) and *The Discreet Charm of the Bourgeoisie* (8:35 pm), Roxie Cinema, 3117 16th St. at Valencia, San Francisco, \$1.50, \$5.00 with membership card.
1876: *Jack London, American novelist and socialist, born.*

THU 13 International Song: All Woman Band

Rosie and the Riveters, playing rock, country swing and original compositions, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berk., 9 pm, \$2. +
"How to do your own Personal Bankruptcy," a Pro-Per sponsored legal workshop, at 1606 Bonita (upstairs), Berkeley, 7:30 pm, donations appreciated.
"South Africa from the Inside," a program featuring reports from three native South African Blacks, on KPFA 94 FM, 8-10 pm.
"Going past Go: An Essay on Sexism," program on how sexism affects men, women and children, on KQED-TV, channel 9, 10 pm.
Self-Help Clinic for Women, see Jan. 6.
Two Films by Bunuel, see Wed., Jan. 12.
1846: *President James Polk orders the U.S. Army to invade and occupy Mexican land between the Rio Nueces and Rio Grande in Texas, thus forcing the war with Mexico.*
1924: *Daily Worker, first communist daily in English in the world, began publishing.*

FRI 14 Benefit for AISC, new Argentine Film Rebellion in Patagonia

La Peña, 3105 Shattuck Berk., 7:30 pm & 9 pm. +
"We are Filipinos!" Open Studio program featuring Filipino Youth Troupe from San Francisco, with skits, songs, dances, on KQED-TV, channel 9, 6 pm.
Women Video makers, tape made by women in the Bay Area presented by Just Us at Womanspace, 1437 Harrison, Oakland, \$1.50, 8:30 pm. +
"Dance Free West!" an alternative to the disco scene, 2nd & 4th Fridays every month, at Everybody's Dance Studio, 51st and Broadway, Oak., 9 pm, \$1.
1879: *Last of Molly Maguires, labor radicals in Pennsylvania coal fields, hanged.*

SAT 15 "From Isolation to Community," men and women

in the struggle against sexism, open meeting to plan spring conference, at East Bay Men's Center, 2700 Bancroft, Berk., 12-2 pm.
Peoples Boogie with "Elements of Soul," at Peoples' Restaurant and Cultural Center, 721 Valencia, San Francisco, 9 pm, \$2. +
Pena Concert, Voz Del Sol, playing music of the Andes with indigenous instruments, at La Peña, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berk., 9:30 pm, \$2. +
"CultureShock!" discussion & information for women new to the Bay Area, at Womanspace, 1437 Harrison, Oakland, 7:30 pm, free, childcare. +
1919: *Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht murdered by German police, two labor leaders who helped form the Spartacus League to fight the movement for war and helped continue the internationalist tradition of the labor movement.*
1929: *Birthday of Martin Luther King.*

SUN 16 Folk Dances of Latin America

Full Folkloric Dance Ensemble, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berk., 9 pm, \$2.50. +
"Ask Your Mama," program featuring Angela Davis reading from her autobiography, *Freedom on My Mind*, plus, "Banquet of Honor" by Langston Hughes, on KPFA 94 FM, 7-10 pm.
Two Italian Films: The Conformist by Bertolucci (3:30 & 7:20 pm) and *Lucky Luciano* by Rossi (5:25 & 9:15 pm), at the Roxie Cinema, 3117 16th St. at Valencia, San Francisco, \$1.50, \$5.00 with membership card. +
Open House at East Bay Socialist School, 6025 Shattuck, Berk., 1-5 pm, teachers will answer questions about Socialist School classes—from Marxism to Oakland politics to political music and more. Begins Jan. 17. +
Day-long Workshop, with film *Men's Lives* and workshops on variety of men's issues, at East Bay Men's Center, 2700 Bancroft, Berk., noon-6 pm, \$2, food and childcare provided.
Potluck for Lesbian mothers, their children & friends (bring food to share), at Womanspace, 1437 Harrison, Oakland, 1-5 pm. +
1966: *First Conference of the Organization of the Peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America (OSPAAAL) in Havana, Cuba.*

MON 17 Grey Panthers general meeting

at West Berkeley Public Library, 1125 University Ave., Berkeley, with films and consciousness-raising at 1:45, meeting 3-5 pm. +
Two Italian Films: The Conformist (8:30 pm) and *Lucky Luciano* (6:35 & 10:25 pm), see Jan. 16.
Self-Help clinic in Concord, see Jan. 3.
East Bay Socialist School classes begin, (see January 16). +
1946: *Eisenhower calls Back Home Movement "hysteria" and issues orders banning GI demonstrations against government plans to occupy Asia.*

TUE 18 "The River Niger," film

about a Black family on the brink of destruction, at Oakland Community Learning Center, 6118 E. 14th St., Oak., 7 pm, free. +
"Higher Education," workshop, at American Indian Adult Education, for information on different schools in the Bay Area, talk with representatives from Laney, Meritt, Cal State Hayward and UC Berkeley, 1479 Fruitvale Ave., 6:30 pm, free.
Martes Popular, Pena Concert, Norman Jayo, Filipino-American music and poetry and Ricardo Mendosa, Mexican and American songs, at La Peña, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 8:30 pm, \$1. +
"How to do your own Uncontested Divorce!" Pro-Per collective workshop, see Jan. 11.
1958: *Native Americans battle with Ku Klux Klan and drive them out of Maxton, N.C.*

WED 19 "Cultural Evening with Eritreans" Fund Raiser

with songs and dances by Eritrean Relief Committee, at La Peña, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berk., 7 pm, \$1. +
Benefit for Assassination Information Bureau (Kennedy, King and Hampton), Speaker, Jeff Cohen, Zapruder Film, Roxie Cinema, 3117 16th St., San Francisco, 7:30 & 9:30 pm. +
1920: *First major inter-ethnic strike in Hawaii with the Filipino Laborer's Assoc. starting the strike and Japanese workers joining later. Spending \$12 million to break the strike, attacking mainly the Japanese workers, the owners took advantage of the weakness of the workers' unions based on different nationalities and succeeded in breaking the strike.*

THU 20 Benefit for San Francisco Chilean Refugee Support Committee

"The Music of Chile—The Historical Process of Chile Through Song," La Peña, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berk., 9 pm, 2 donation. +
"Forming a non-profit corporation," a pro-per collective workshop, see Jan. 13.
Self-Help clinic for women, see Jan. 6.
Nicolas Guillen, revolutionary poet and writer, on KPFA-FM 94, 9 pm.
1973: *Amilcar Cabral, leader of the struggle against Portuguese colonialism in Guinea-Bissau, assassinated.*

FRI 21 Ninth Jornada Por Chile

—The Changing Role of the Church in Latin America, speakers, entertainment, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berk., 8:30 pm, \$1.50. +
Women's Music with Nancy Vogl and Woody Simmons, at Womanspace, 1437 Harrison, Oak., 9 pm, \$2, women only, childcare provided. +
1919: *General strike, Seattle, Washington 1946: Steel workers in 30 states strike against U.S. Steel*

SAT 22 "Tales from the Calendar"

by Bertolt Brecht, songs, stories, poems, a preview at Epic West, 2640 College, Berk., \$2, 8 pm, childcare. +
"An Evening of Music," with Berkeley-Oakland Women's Chorus and Half the Sky, a women's jazz band, at Cedar and Bonita Hall, Berk., 8 pm, \$2.50 (\$2 low-income), childcare, everyone is welcome.
Peoples Boogie with "Salsa Alacran," at Peoples' Restaurant and Cultural Center, 721 Valencia, San Francisco, 9 pm, \$2. +
Pena Concert, The Good Old Persons, Bluegrass and Fiddlin', La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk., 9 pm, \$2. +

SUN 23 Peruvian Night at La Peña

special Peruvian foods and cultural presentations, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berk., 9 pm, \$1.50. +
"Tales from the Calendar," see Jan. 22.
1930: *Watsonville, Calif. Riot took place in which was most blatant and violent of all anti-Filipino incidents in the U.S. The real racial tension was rooted in the "dog-eat-dog" competition for work in the midst of mass unemployment that pitted working people against each other.*
1949: *100 Black veterans march on the State Courthouse demanding the right to vote, in Birmingham, Alabama.*

MON 24 "Moving Mountains in Downtown Canyons"

program with clerical workers in San Francisco organizing for union representation, on KPFA 94 FM, 10 pm.
Self-Help Clinic in Concord, see Jan. 3.
"Tales from the Calendar," see Jan. 22.
1920: *Communist Party membership is considered grounds for deportation by U.S. Labor Department.*

TUE 25 Martes Popular

Pena Concert with Faith Petric singing folk music of the U.S.A., La Peña, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berk., 8:30 pm, \$1. +
Kaiser Worker-Patient Alliance, see Jan. 4.
"Collecting Unemployment!" workshop sponsored by Pro-Per, see Jan. 11.
"Tales from the Calendar," by Bertolt Brecht, songs, stories, poems, performance at Epic West, 2640 College, Berk., 8 pm, \$3.50, childcare.
"Tales from the Calendar," see Jan. 25.

WED 26 Benefit for ZANU, Zimbabwe African National Union

films, speakers, at La Peña, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berk., 8 pm, \$1.50. +
"Tales from the Calendar," see Jan. 25.

THU 27 Self-Help Clinic for Women

see Jan. 6.
Angela Davis Speaks, program with commentary, analysis and phone-in, KPFA 94 FM, 7:30 pm.
"Small Claims Court," a Pro-Per workshop, see Jan. 13.
International Song: Concert with Sean-Nos, Irish Folk Music and Dance Troupe, with Dennis Brooks, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berk., 9 pm, \$2. +
1973: *Vietnam Peace treaty signed. Victory for Vietnamese people as U.S. is forced to withdraw troops in defeat at the hands of the NLF, and international condemnation of U.S. aggression.*

FRI 28 "A Political Perspective on Street Crime"

forum at the Socialist School, presented by Center for Research on Criminal Justice, 6025 Shattuck Ave., Berk., 8 pm, 75 cents donation, childcare provided.
"Soldier Blue," film benefit for radio station KPFA, at La Peña, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berk., 7 and 9:15 pm, \$2.
"Great Black Music!" program with Jerel de Leon, on KPFA 94 FM, 7 pm.
"Dance Free West," see Jan. 14.
Birth of Jose Marti, hero of Cuban independence.

SAT 29 Gran Pena Fiesta

Orchestra Papo, a 12-piece orchestra playing Salsa, Cumbia and Bolero, at La Peña, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berk., 10 pm, \$2.50. +
An Evening of Music with "Flor del Pueblo" and "Voz del Sol" at Peoples' Restaurant and Cultural Center, 721 Valencia, San Francisco, 8:30 pm, \$2. +
"Be Be K'roche" women's rock music at La Salamandre Coffeehouse, 2516 Telegraph, Berkeley.

1919: 2,300 GIs held in stockade refuse to work until prison conditions are improved

in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.
1936: *Thousands of striking Firestone workers in Akron, Ohio, sit down on job. This was the first big use of the sit-down tactic. They won.*

SUN 30 La Peña closed for special National Lawyers Guild Benefit for Chile

Dinner and Cultural program. For more info. call 285-5066.
1968: *Vietnamese freedom fighters launch Tet Offensive, totally disrupting Pentagon's military strategy. U.S. bombers level several cities in retaliation.*

MON 31 "Bay City Blues," program on "Organizing the Eateries"

organizing among restaurant workers—and also "Who Will Police the Police?"—who controls the Oakland Police—on KPFA 94 FM, 10 pm.
Self-Help Clinic in Concord, see Jan. 3.
1865: *Abolition of slavery in U.S.*

ETCETERA

Clothing Drive the first two weeks in January, to send new & used clothing to Zimbabwean (Rhodesian) refugees in Mozambique, drop off at Oakland Community Learning Center, 6118 E. 14th St., Oakland, sponsored by Third World Fund, African Liberation Support Committee, ZANU, and HLWU Local # 10.
Free Hot Lunch, anyone over 60, at Presbyterian Church, 1941 High St., Oakland, 12 noon Mon-Fri, sponsored by Senior Citizen Nutrition Project.
Survival Rights, a radio program about welfare, unemployment, social security problems, KPFA-FM 94 every Tuesday at 5:25.
Volunteer Nurse is available for phone consultation Tuesdays & Thursdays 9-12 at 548-4370, sponsored by Bananas.
Multi-Cultural Resource Library has reopened at Cal State Hayward, Rm. 110 North Science Bldg., with 8,000 books, pamphlets, periodicals, pictures, for all ages and with 4 cultural areas—Black, Spanish speaking, Asian-American and Native American, call 881-3072 for info.

A Boycott of South African Goods sponsored by trade unions throughout the capitalist world will be in effect Jan. 17-21. The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions initiated the action and is asking the support of the AFL-CIO and the International Labor Organization, a U.N. agency.
Iranian Students Protest continues in Berkeley and other cities in support of 92 Iranian students and supporters arrested Nov. 9 in Houston. 100 police, FBI and SAVAK agents (the Iranian Secret Police) brutally repressed a peaceful demonstration in Houston, and 42 Iranian students now face deportation and certain reprisal by the Shah's regime. 20 Iranian students have been on a hunger strike to protest the deportations, and two have been hospitalized in Berkeley.
Honor the Picket Line, boycott U.A. Theater & Elmwood Theater (U.A.) in Berkeley, support United Artist Theater workers on strike!



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east bay calendar of political & cultural events



January first marks victory for the Cuban revolution—the first socialist revolution in our hemisphere. On January 1, 1959, the U.S.-backed dictator, Fulgencio Batista, admitted defeat and fled. The people were victorious after many sacrifices: three years of guerrilla warfare in the Sierra and seven years of popular resistance in the cities (20,000 dead at the hands of Batista's police). The guerrilla war, acts of sabotage and general strike were the last battles in a century of struggle against foreign domination.

The history of Cuban resistance begins with native Cubans resisting Spanish colonization. Most of the Indian population was wiped out and the Spanish, in need of cheap labor to harvest sugar, tobacco and fruit, brought Black slaves from Africa. Between 1819 and 1865 the first uprisings—and repressive laws—happened.

Under the leadership of people like Antonio Maceo, Carlos Céspedes and José Martí, the uprisings became a prolonged war for independence. For 30 years, between 1868 and 1898, Cuban patriots fought for independence from Spain. In the process they forged themselves into a nation and a people. The Liberating Army, whose troops were made up of rebelling slaves, peasants, agricultural workers and enlightened landowners, brought the largest Spanish colonial army in the New World to the edge of defeat. Led by Black and White Cuban patriots, the rebels were committed to creating a free, equal and democratic society.

But the Cubans won their independence from Spain only to fall under the total control of the United States. In 1898, under the pretext of the explosion of the "Main" in Havana harbor, the U.S. intervened against Spain and took Possession of Puerto Rico, Guam and the Philippines. The Platt Amendment, imposed on Cuba by the U.S. Congress in 1902, turned Cuba into an American protectorate, managed economically and politically as a huge estate. The United States imported its Jim Crow racial discrimination and segregation to the island, produced a society of corruption and dominated every aspect of life in Cuba.

In 1933 a new generation of Cubans rose up. With mass strikes and a rebellion in the army, they were able to overthrow the dictator Machado. A popular government was set up that promised to nationalize industry, raise wages and make sweeping social reforms. Recognizing this as a threat to U.S. control of the island, the U.S. Ambassador and his handpicked Cuban collaborator, Sgt.

Fulgencio Batista, staged a military coup only three months later.

On the eve of World War II, Batista's government was forced to accede to popular demand for a new, democratic constitution. The Constitutional Convention, broadcast live on Radio, brought the speeches and arguments of such working-class leaders as Blas Roca, Lazaro Pena and Juan Marinello—communists and popularly elected delegates to the Convention—to every part of Cuba. This constitution continued to be an important reference point in the fight for democratic rights. Batista stepped down under pressure in 1944 and went to live on his accumulated wealth in Florida. The governments succeeding him were elected, but continued the corrupt practices and subservience to U.S. interests that had characterized Batista's regime.

In 1952, on the eve of national elections, Batista returned to engineer a military takeover and cancel the elections. Supported by the U.S. government, the Mafia and large U.S. corporations, his power reinforced by his repression of the left, Batista no longer made concessions to popular demands; he set up a full-blown right-wing dictatorship. Together with his U.S. allies, he made Cuba a haven for prostitution, drug traffic, gambling casinos, tourism and big profits for rich foreign companies.

It was against this regime that the July 26 Movement (named after the July 26, 1953 attack on the Moncada Garrison) organized and, under Fidel Castro's leadership, was victorious in 1959.

January 1, 1959 was the beginning of a new phase of struggle against imperialism in our hemisphere and, within Cuba, the beginning of the struggle of a whole people to change their society. This story of a people's effort to change their economy, culture and social structure is as detailed as the lives of all the individuals involved, and is far from complete. Free medical care, education for all (including adults), land reform, adequate housing were the first overwhelming needs of the people. Under an imperialist economic boycott, the Cuban economy had to be changed utterly from dependent neo-colonialism to a system of production geared to people's needs. Under the pressure to rebuild the economy, the Cuban Communist Party and the people as a whole recognized the crucial roles women would play. Through women's organizations and the Family ode (which requires husbands by law to do half the housework and childcare when women work) women's increasing participation in the workforce and social decision making was ensured. The whole society is organized into mass organizations to build democratic participation.

Of course, socialism cannot be built on one island alone. The fight against imperialism goes on in Central and South America, Puerto Rico, the Phillip-

ines and within the U.S. itself. Cuba by itself is still vulnerable to imperialism. The national bourgeoisies of these countries conspire with each other and the U.S. on how to contain "their" peoples and maximize "their" profits; the resistance must be waged on a continental and international level in order to be successful. Fidel Castro has this to say about solidarity with Puerto Rico:

Cuba's solidarity with Puerto Rico dates from the last century, from the period when we were two Spanish colonies, the last two colonies in this hemisphere. It dates from the period when we struggled, side by side, for our independence, from the period when Martí founded his Revolutionary Party to struggle for the independence of Cuba and contribute to the independence of Puerto Rico. It comes from history, from Martí, from our internationalist principles and from the fact that Puerto Rico is a Latin American country—a nation that has withstood, for more than 75 years, all attempts to break it up, to absorb it, to destroy it and that has shown its power and ability to defend its culture, its language and its national characteristics for all that time."

The United States has not waited passively for the Cuban people to decide their future. Cuba is an example of a successful socialist revolution—the only one in the Americas, a small island only 90 miles from the most powerful capitalist state. The U.S. has therefore unleashed a steady stream of sabotage, terrorism and economic blackmail against it. The economic trade blockade, 1961 Bay of Pigs invasion, assassination attempts against Fidel and other harassments are all brutal attempts to destroy the Cuban revolution.

The latest of many incidents is the October 6 terrorist bombing of a Cubana Airlines plane, killing all 73 persons aboard. In a speech October 15, Prime Minister Fidel Castro detailed evidence that the CIA, with the use of Venezuelan agents, was responsible for this incident as well as other recent bombing attacks on Cuban diplomatic offices and airlines. He also presented proof of further assassination plots. Cuba then cancelled the Air Piracy agreement Cuba signed with the U.S. in 1973. In doing this, Cuba called the bluff on the U.S. for its air terrorism, and all similar attacks on the revolution. In the midst of recent rumors and U.S. overtures for relaxing diplomatic relations, Cuba exposed the brutal hypocrisy of the U.S., and its real intentions toward Cuba. This is another lesson in constant vigilance and courage needed to build socialism in the hostile and repressive climate of U.S. imperialism. Cuba stands as an example for the rest of the Americas, and requires our active solidarity.

Community Calendar
c/o Inkworks
4220 Telegraph Ave.
Oakland, CA 94609

January '77 Community Calendar

who we are:

This calendar is a project of Inkworks Press, a printing and publishing collective. The production and editorial work group is composed of some people from Inkworks and others active in East Bay community and political struggles. The calendar began in March, 1976. Our goal is to publicize the political and cultural struggles for radical social change in our area.

If you see the need for this sort of project, we need your help! First, we want your reactions and suggestions about the calendar. We can also use help with graphics and design, gathering listings, typing, and distribution. If you can distribute the calendar at your workplace or in your neighborhood, drop by *early* in the month. Secondly, please send us info about events you would like to see listed, *by the 21st of each month!* Be sure to include the name of the event, sponsor, program, date, time, place, price, childcare arrangements and accessibility to wheelchairs. We urge you to submit listings *by mail* since we are busy operating a printshop weekdays. Our address is **Community Calendar, care of Inkworks, 4220 Telegraph Avenue, Oakland, CA 94609**. If you need to contact us by phone for last-minute listings or other information, call 652-7111

subscribe:

Support *your* Community Calendar! Although the majority of calendars are distributed free at public locations throughout the East Bay, we rely on your subscriptions to help defray the costs of the project. All the labor and materials involved in the Calendar production—meetings, phoning, typing, listings, typesetting, layout, printing and distribution—are donated by many individuals and the Inkworks collective. Your \$3 subscription (\$10 for organizations) will put you on our mailing list to receive the Calendar each month for one year. And you will be helping to make the Calendar a viable, self-supporting community tool. Of course, donations are also needed and welcome! If you have any friends who have not seen the Community Calendar or belong to any organization that does not subscribe, please share the Calendar and this appeal. The life of the project depends on the active support of the East Bay Community! Please make checks payable to Inkworks and mail them to the above address. Thanks.