The Presentness of Central America Photography and Memory in Group Material's 1984 *Timeline*

by

Erina Duganne





OP OF THE WEEK

Newsweek

DECEMBER 15, 1980



oland: The Invasion Threat

pland was under the gun. At its borders, Soviet diions were being fleshed out with enough men and pment to launch a massive invasion. But Moscow Il hoped to avoid sending in its tanks. The Soviets wened an unannounced summit of Warsaw Pact lies and gave Polish leaders one more chance to keep eir country on "the socialist path." Under intense ssure, Poland's Communist leadership reshuffled its olitburo and appealed for calm. NEWSWEEK's cover ory analyzes the crisis while separate pieces examine scow's potential invasion scenario and Gen. Mieczyaw Moczar, Poland's new police enforcer. Page 38



Behind a desk at his home in Pacific Palisades, Ronald Reagan labored in seclusion over his lists of possible Cabinet nominees, hoping to begin naming names this week. But the President-elect was still having trouble nailing down his choices for State and the Treasury, and one problem was the stringent conflict-of-interest rules engendered by Watergate. Page 26



was mum.

The bilingual-education

63 EDUCATION

Killing Ground

A grave in a cow pasture in El Salvador yielded the bodies of three American nuns and a lay volunteer murdered by terrorists, increasing fears that rightwing extremists in Latin America might confront Ronald Reagan with an open challenge on human rights. Page 51



Movable Feasts A Passage to India

Harried working women are turning to professionals to cater either a party for 50 or a romantic dinner for two. Today's movable feasts can be light and simple dishes or elaborate inventions. And the catering industry is flooded by gifted amateurs who cook for fun and profit. Page 90

Will Brian Sipe lead Cleveland



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INTERNATIONAL

EL SALVADOR

The Missionary Murders

There was more violence in El Salvador last week, and this time the dead included four American women. From San Salvador, NEWSWEEK'S Beth Nissen filed this report:

L eftist groups had promised a game eftist groups had promised a gathering revolutionary force." But only a few thousand Salvadorans-most of them curious, rather than committed-gathered in front of San Salvador's cathedral last week for the funeral of six assassinated leftist leaders. The ceremony went off quietly, and leftist gunmen-most of them teen-agers-were

transparently disappointed by the small turnout and the lack of confrontation with the right. "This funeral was not meant to put the dead to rest, it was meant to shock the living to action," said one restless 15-year-old carrying a well-oiled but idle M-16. "But in this country, funerals aren't too shocking anymore."

About 25 miles southeast of the cathedral, in the dusty farm town of Santiago Nonualco, a more shocking funeral was taking place. As a local justice of the peace and a half dozen armed National Guardsmen stood by, local campesinos were

pressed into service to secretly bury four American womenthree nuns and a lay volunteer-whose bodies had been found along a country road. The Catholic women had disappeared two nights before on their way home from the country's isolated new International Airport. Government officials found their fire-gutted van the next day on a deserted road 3 miles from the airport. News photographers discovered the common grave the following morning, dug deep into the side of a cow pasture.

The dead women were Ita

Ford, 40, and Maura Clarke, 46, both Maryknoll sisters from New York City; Dorothy Kazel, 40, a nun from the Ursuline Order, in Cleveland, Ohio, and Jean Donovan, a 27-year-old accountant, also from Cleveland, who volunteered for missionary work in El Salvador a year ago. All four women had been shot in the head, and there was evidence that at least two had been raped. The four women were the first known American victims of the political violence that has claimed nearly 8,500 lives since the overthrow of President Carlos Humberto Romero fourteen months ago. "Jean used to joke that blue-eyed blondes were the safest people in Salvador, because they were so American-looking and no one would kill Americans," recalled Sister Christine Rody, as she stood a tearful watch over the dirt-caked bodies at the grave site. "I guess she was wrong."

Complicity: No political group claimed to have committed the murders. Several government officials argued that agents provocateurs of the extreme left had committed the crime, hoping to bolster sagging public support of the left by pinning the murders on the army. Many people did hold the army accountable, if not for the actual murders, then at least for complicity in the clandestine burial. El Salvador's Archbishop Arturo Rivera Damas blamed "circles close to the government" for the death of the Americans. And Robert White, the American ambassador, said angrily, "We are convinced the government could do a great deal to control the violence and instill some discipline in its security forces."

But many others blamed the extreme



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But many others blamed the extreme

Atrocity: Bodies are removed from grave, and other nuns pray over them







ARTISTS CALL AGAINST U.S. INTERVENTION IN CENTRAL AMERICA

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- 1868: U.S. troops intervene in Colombia.
- **1873:** U.S. troops intervene in Colombia.
- **1885:** U.S. troops intervene in Panama.
- 1888: U.S. troops intervene in Haiti.
- 1891: U.S. troops intervene in Chile.
- **1894:** U.S. troops intervene in Nicaragua.
- **1895:** U.S. troops intervene in Colombia.
- 1896: U.S. Marines invade Honduras.
- **1896:** U.S. troops intervene in Nicaragua.
- 1898: U.S. troops intervene in Nicaragua.
- 1898: Battleship *Maine* sunk. U.S. initiates Spanish-American War.
- **1898:** U.S. troops invade Puerto Rico to 'liberate' it from Spain.
- 1899: U.S. troops intervene in Nicaragua.
- 1901: U.S. troops intervene in Colombia.
- 1902: U.S. troops intervene in Colombia.
- 1903: U.S. troops intervene in Honduras
- **1903:** U.S. troops intervene in Dominican Republic.
- 1903: U.S. troops intervene in Panama.
- **1904:** U.S. troops intervene in Dominican Republic.
- 1904: U.S. troops intervene in Panama.
- 1907: U.S. troops intervene in Honduras.
- 1910: U.S. troops intervene in Nicaragua.
- 1911: U.S. troops intervene in Honduras.
- 1912: U.S. troops intervene in Cuba.
- 1913: U.S. troops intervene in Mexico.
- 1914: U.S. troops intervene in Haiti.
- 1915: Marines land in Haiti and occupy it until 1934.

- 1919: U.S. troops intervene in Honduras.
- 1920: U.S. troops intervene in Guatemala
- 1924: U.S. troops intervene in Honduras
- 1925: U.S. troops intervene in Honduras.
- 1925: U.S. troops intervene in Panama.
- 1926: U.S. troops intervene in Nicaragua.
- 1928: Banana workers strike in Colombia against United Fruit Co., 1000 killed.
- 1932: 3 U.S. and 2 Canadian warships arrive in El Salvador.
- 1932: Salvadoran peasants begin mass insurrection; military retaliates massacring 30,000.
- 1954: CIA overthrows Arbenz government in Guatemala.
- 1958: Panama declares state of seige after 6 are killed in anti-U.S. riots.
- 1959: John Foster Dulles approves "thorough consideration be given to the elimination of Fidel Castro."
- 1961: CIA defeated in Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba.
- 1962: U.S. naval blockade of Cuba initiated.
- 1964: U.S. troops kill student protesters in Panama Canal Zone.
- 1965: U.S. invades Dominican Republic.
- 1973: U.S.-sponsored coup in Chile overthrows Popular Unity government; Allende murdered.
- 1975: 40 students killed at University of El Salvador demonstrating against U.S. intervention.
- 1983: U.S. Marines invade Grenada.



