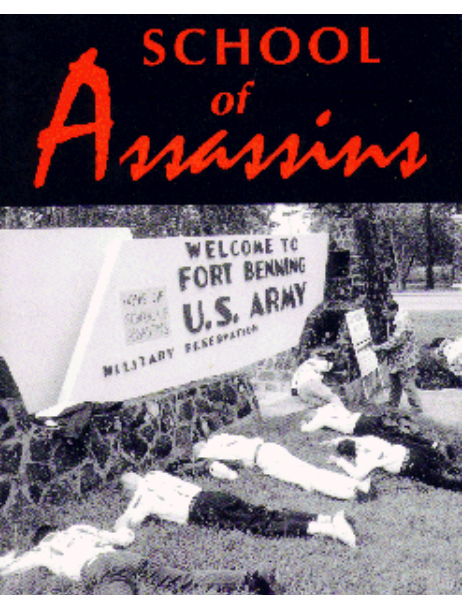


On November 22nd, 1998, over 100 of your neighbors joined the largest protest at a military base since the war on Vietnam...

Over 2,300 peaceful people defied the law against free speech on base, while twice that many joined in support just off base...

Why would so many reasonable people risk several months in prison and thousands in fines? To close down a U.S. Army terrorist training camp in Georgia known as the ...

CLOSE THE SCHOOL OF THE AMERICAS!



Founded in 1946, the School of the Americas (SOA) trains 1,000-2,000 Latin American military personnel each year in subjects like counter-insurgency, infantry tactics, military intelligence, and commando operations.

It is hard to find military atrocities in recent Latin American history that do not involve SOA grads. In 1996, the school was finally caught red-handed, forced under the Freedom of Information Act to release training manuals that explicitly advocate torture, subversion of democracy, and other human rights violations. These manuals were used at least from 1982-1991, and were produced from previously used Vietnamese-era CIA manuals, some still unclassified. See the blackboard at right for samples.

Of course, the SOA *claims* such things are no longer taught, but it would be foolish to believe them after 50 years of lies. Unsurprisingly, the best independent evidence is that the "human rights" changes since 1992 have been merely cosmetic. The Pentagon calls the torture training a "mistake," and has not even retracted the more serious anti-democratic elements.

The militaries are tools in the continuing war waged by the few local rich (and US business "interests") against the many poor (and ordinary US taxpayers). Until the militaries are reduced in power, yielding genuine control to civilian governments, there can be little hope for justice or peace. —Eric Lormand ☑



Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz

SOA 101: How to Detect "Guerillas"
 - Sympathy w/ demonstrations or strikes.
 - Energetic union organizing or recruiting.
 - Worker demonstrations against the government.
 - Accusing govt of not meeting basic needs of people.
 - Demanding agrarian reform.
 - Peasants refuse to pay taxes or rents.
 - Protesting high unemployment or low salaries.
 - Clergy embracing liberation theology, or concerned w/ political, rural or labor discontent, or giving adult men refuge, food, or help.
 - Celebration of nat'l & religious festivals.
 - Demonstrations by minority groups.
 - Visits of strangers to towns, cities, etc.
 - Accusing military & police of corruption or brutality.
 - Characterizing political leaders as U.S. puppets.
 - Civilians avoid military forces or refuse to provide intelligence to government forces.
 - Children don't speak or associate with U.S. troops invariably indicates that guerillas dominate the area or that they intend to launch an attack.
 (Combat Intelligence manual, pp. 161-9)

SOA 201: How to Crush Democracy
 - Capture and detain political leaders known or thought to be hostile to Armed Forces or National Government.
 - Neutralize local or nat'l parties opposed to the Gov't.
 - Intellectual & emotional persuasion is the principal arm of the insurrection. **WARNING!** The insurgents can resort to elections replacing unfriendly officials.
 (Commie Ideology 50-51)

SOA 301: What to Do about These Menaces
 - In all cases the mission of the military forces has priority over the well-being of civilians.
 - Neutralization targets may or may not be hostile.
 - Hostile groups: paramilitaries, labor unions, dissidents.
 - Place agents in political parties, unions, youth & student groups, business, social & charitable organizations.
 - Children are very observant & can provide precise info if interrogated in the appropriate manner.
 (Counterintel, 10; Terrorism & the Urban Guerilla, 112; Human Subjects 7, 75, 26)



cans of Western European ancestry—don't do terrorism; "we're the good guys."

At least, that's what "we" are desperate to think about ourselves.

When two of our African embassies were bombed in August, Americans asked, "What have we done to deserve acts of terrorism?" We thought, "We're opposed to terrorism. We don't commit it."

But we do. We just don't call what we do terrorism.

What we prefer to call terrorism is exemplified by the Achille Lauro cruise ship hijacking of 1985.

Four Palestinians took "The hijackers seemed to have something against New Jersey." by Libya, and over the ship, claiming full accordance with international law, U.S. warplanes bombed the cities of Benghazi and Tripoli on April 14, which killed at least 100 people, mainly civilians, including Qadhafi's two-year-old daughter. As it turned out, there never was any proof that the nightclub bombing was sponsored by Libya; it is far more likely that it was drug-related or, given the fact that the victims were Black, a hate crime.

History repeats itself with our bombing of Sudan in August. Again, we claimed "concrete evidence" that the Al-Shifa Pharmaceuticals Industries plant in North Khartoum was producing VX nerve gas, and that by attacking it we were "protecting ourselves against future attack." Again, it was a lie.

A September 7 column in U.S. News

of the Palestinian Liberation Organization. At least hundreds of civilians were killed in the process, and thousands more were injured and traumatized by the daily pounding by American weapons. The men who killed Leon Klinghoffer had suffered the deaths of family members and friends killed by U.S. bombs, in an action that was condemned by the United Nations. How would we feel and act in their place, grieving the deaths of a beloved sister or uncle blown apart by a foreigner's bomb?

But, of course, what the commander in chief, the officers and sailors of the USS New Jersey did was not terrorism, according to our definition. We think killing one American is terrorism, but slaughtering hundreds of innocent men, women and children in their homes is fighting against terrorism. And if they retaliate against our violence, they're terrorizing again. And when we kill more of their family and friends in return, we're retaliating.

Small-scale terrorism is fueled by grief and hatred over oppression and wanton large-scale terrorism, almost always at the hands of our nation or our client nations. It is sparked by the desperation of trying to fight back at the most militarily powerful nation in history, one that sanctimoniously invokes international law when its interests are violated, but flouts it when we think mining a harbor or invading a nation or bombing civilians or raining Cruise missiles on a pharmaceutical plant will serve our interests.

Committing terrorism against terrorists is morally wrong and practically counterproductive. If we want a sure defense against terrorism, the only solution is justice. We will never "win" a "war" against terrorism using violence; we will only be safe when we compel our government to act justly in its dealings with other nations and peoples. In fact, given the fact that our country is arguably the world's leading terrorist nation, a good first step would be to dismantle the CIA and most of our military we've projected over the globe, and cease our evil ways.

And this just in: According to the New York Times on November 18, British Prime Minister Tony Blair is joining President Clinton in pressuring Iraqi opposition groups to "remove" Hussein. Can you imagine the reaction of our governments if Hussein—or the head of any other government—said the same thing about Clinton and Blair? ☑

Beginning S.O.A Activist

A Recipe (from Lisa Murray, one of the newly-converted)

Ingredients: Self, I.D., Conscience, Toothbrush (optional)

Instructions:

1. Read about the School of the Americas and its graduates. Mutter & curse. Let conscience rest for ten minutes/weeks/months.
2. Come across another story about atrocities committed by graduates of the SOA, and how their training is funded with U.S. taxpayer dollars. Put beer down, slam fist on table, then feel despondent. Rest again.
3. Read about planned trip to Fort Benning, GA and decide to take action. (Do not omit this step.)
4. Call local political organization, sign up for trip.
5. Tell friends about trip and reasons for going; assure parents/partner/co-worker that you'll be fine. Agitate. Ferment.
6. (optional) Get a cold six days before start of trip, consider dropping out.
7. Recover. Prepare trip ingredients; mix well.

•(National) SOA Watch - www.soaw.org (Local) www-personal.umich.edu/~lormand/soa Ann Arbor Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice 734-663-

8. Start trip. Meet van-mates; feel like you are much too old/young/cool/uninformed to be going. Make grueling, all-night drive to destination. Become annoyed with van-mates' talking/snoring/foot odor. Wonder if you will regret decision to come. Sleep fitfully and arrive exhausted.
9. Revive when you see thousands of fellow activists at rally site. Attend rally and civil disobedience training sessions. Eat huge dinner and fall asleep very early.
10. Next morning; eat huge breakfast. Brood on decision to participate in civil disobedience and its ramifications. Return to rally site, prepare for action.
11. Take deep breath and cross line onto fort property.
12. Suddenly realize that your life feels a little more purposeful than it did a few minutes ago, that perhaps your action may actually help the SOA get closed down, and that you have just joined a long and venerable tradition of rabble-rousing and demonstrating. Continue walking. Feel very, very alive.
13. Encounter police; have I.D. ready to hand over. Get processed by them at slow speed.
14. Return home and continue with letter-writing campaigns, local demonstrations, and other efforts to publicize cause. Agitate. Ferment.
15. Repeat steps #1-14 until SOA is closed. Serves many.

STATE TERRORISM IN THE MIRROR

by Thom Saffold

Terrorism: "Violence committed against civilians for political purposes." In the hours following the Oklahoma City bombing, rumors flew about sightings of Middle Eastern men near the site. Clearly the bombing was a terrorist act, and therefore terrorists must be responsible. And since in the public mind, terrorism was something that people in other nations do, Arabs—or some other "non-Americans"—must be responsible. Real Americans—that is, white Ameri-