Vocero de la Comunidad Mexicana

Huebner Plotting To Stop It

Vista Verde Project In Jeopardy

During the last few weeks of September, City Council has been reviewing staff proposals for spending about $2 million to be granted to San Antonio by the Economic Development Administration (EDA) of the US Department of Commerce.

Although EL PUEBLO goes to press before the results of the Council deliberations are known, there is some important background information that we can supply to our readers to assist in understanding the issues.

This $2 million is the projected amount for the second year of a Federal program known as the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

In 1978, City Council approved a CEDS plan that described the City’s goals for public investments that will lead to the creation of more jobs for San Antonians. This plan listed a number of crucial projects and grouped them in order of their importance.

In this fiscal year, the City received $1.5 million from EDA, which it invested in building a skills training center to be operated by Texas A & M.

To build a complete skills training center required additional funds from the State, but the Texas Legislature refused to appropriate any. The EDA funds will still be used to construct a smaller facility that will hopefully be the beginning of the kind of center that is needed.

There were a number of other very important projects listed in the CEDS such as the Vista Verde project on the near Westside. This project would not only bring new businesses and jobs to one of the most economically depressed areas of San Antonio, it would provide much needed new housing. This project is strongly supported by CPS and the Economic Development Foundation.

City Manager, Tom Huebner, however, has consistently opposed the Vista Verde project. City Council had to force him to submit the application for an Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG) for Vista Verde.

Even though the Federal government has raised questions about this UDAG application, the project is not dead by any means. The chances for UDAG funds would be greatly increased if the City were to commit its $2 million second year CEDS grant to Vista Verde.

Tom Huebner has directed his staff not to recommend using CEDS funds for the Vista Verde project. Rather, City staff have presented a proposal to spend these funds on repairs to La Villita. This proposal is given much lower importance than Vista Verde in the CEDS plan because of its weak connection with economic development and the creation of new jobs.

Huebner opposes the Vista Verde project because it has been developed by the San Antonio Development Agency. Huebner resents that he does not control this agency. He would like to make it a city department as he is trying to do with the City Water Board.

Cutback on Funds and Services

Hospital Needs Ignored

San Antonio

Bexar County Hospital District says that it needs at least $1 million to begin to provide adequate medical care during the next fiscal year. On September 4, Bexar County Commissioners Court voted to give the Hospital District $2 million in Federal Revenue Sharing Funds, but not to raise the taxes to be paid to the Hospital District. The Court did increase the taxes to be paid to the County by 23%. The Court’s decision means that the Hospital District’s budget problems have not really been dealt with. Without a steady source of funds, the Hospital District will have to come begging to Commissioners Court next year, and the year after that, and so on.

The problem is that the rich and powerful in Bexar County do not want to pay taxes to support medical care for the poor and the workers. Commissioners Wentworth, Holhanderke and Vickers are responsible for the decision not to provide increased tax funds for the Hospital. They are afraid of people like the group of businesses and individuals that sued the County on September 5 to stop the County’s own tax increase.

This group includes Ingram Mall, Southwestern Bell, and Pearl Brewing, as well as Stanford Busby, who owns $30,056 in taxes to the County and $106,836 to the Alamo Heights School District.

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Vocero de la Comunidad Mexicana

Union Drive in Hospital Continues

As the Mexican PRI government continues to give false speeches about the official proclamation of amnesty, in the jails there are hundreds of political prisoners. Mothers and families of those missing demand information on relatives and friends jailed or disappeared, but in response they only get speech after speech on amnesty.

Work sites are administered like prison systems to impede the democratic organization of the workers.

In spite of all odds, the struggle continues to organize independent democratic unions, that is to say that they are not tied to sell-out government unions—"charros", as they are called in Mexico. As an example, there is

Section 14 of the National Union of Public Health Workers, that represents the General Hospital in Mexico DF.

Fourteen months ago the PRI, with a strong police force, broke the strike that demanded better working conditions, security and a hygienic atmosphere, an end to repression and better health services.

Seven leaders of the Executive Democratic Committee of the Union, are free on bond, under constant threats of being returned to prison. During the 30 days that they were in prison, they were systematically tortured.

All this because they raised the demands of workers (Continued on Page 4)
How The Court System "Works"

By: Armindin Saldivar

In June ex-councilman Rudy Ortiz, took councilman Robert Thompson, who won over him in district 6, to court for using fraudulent and illegal tricks in the campaign that cost Ortiz 300 votes. During four days of testimony many witnesses told of irregularities in absentee ballots and the use of poverty workers from Barrio Betterment, a poverty agency under BOC.

Railroad District Judge Eugene Williams took only a few seconds to rule that Ortiz had failed to prove his case. The truth is that no matter who had been Ortiz's witness, the judge would still have ruled over him.

Unless of course, that witness belonged to the political and economic power structure made up of OGL and developers who control this city and who put Thompson in office.

Ortiz and his attorney, Paul Rich, met with the judge an week before the trial for preliminaries. At that time, the judge already arrived in court and included as part of the case a violation of the Voting Rights Act.

The first day that the trial started the judge decided to exclude it without giving any reason. The judge is allowed to do this by law if he wishes. However, the judge did not even bother to give a reason for doing it.

It is not known if within the week between the preliminaries and the trial the judge who has been a judge for at least 30 or so years, went to farm subsidies - which means cash payments to wealthy farmers to NOT plant certain crops. More of our money goes to food prices high than to welfare.

The bankers received $89 for the National Debt. This DDT is partly by the bankers to the government for the financing of wars.

(To be continued next issue)

News Briefs

El Salvador: The president of El Salvador, General Carlos Humberto Romero, along his right-wing supporters have been carrying out a blood-bath of workers and students.

Fearing a popular uprising, the rich rulers of El Salvador have savagely arrested any and all public protests and workers' boycotts. The military regime imposed a state of siege this summer in order to control the workers' discontent.

The wave of strikes staged, the murder of workers and students kept the order of the day. Today, almost 3 million African immigrants, workers and their families, live in France, along with 40 million immigrants from other countries.

There are an estimated 200,000 undocumented African immigrants from Africa who are often subject to police raids.

Ireland: Germany is having a bone in its hand holding that country touse restrictions on importing workers from countries outside the European Economic Community (EEC). Germany is blocking the new workers from poorer EEC countries like Ireland, both the Republic in the South and the English-occupied North.

To meet this demand, unemployment and labor contractors are helping Irish workers with promises of guaranteed hours and wages, a place to live and other benefits.

Many Irish migrant laborers who have arrived in Germany only to find that none of these promises are true. They have been dumped in a strange country where they don't know the language. Frequently they are "sold" by one contractor to another.

BOYCOTT CAMPBELL'S LIBBY'S JUSTICE FOR FARMWORKERS

On Welfare

Nearly half of our tax money, 46.22, went to "Other Payments." This includes education, highways and health services. However, most of the 46.22 went to federal employees salaries, the FBI and an unknown amount of money to the CIA, as its budget is SECRET.

Unlike the US with 3 kids and on welfare, that a family who lives in Alazan Courts and is on welfare; all those people that are often criticized as "lazy" and "living good" - really do not take much of our tax money. In fact, they are not to blame for high taxes or high food prices.

Much more of our money goes to fight the "war on poverty," to the bankers, business people and rich politicians instigate for us to fight for them. Welfare for workers then is to help those of us who are unemployed or cannot work. We should side with them and demand a better guaranteed income, jobs and training instead of welfare.

Next month PERSPECTIVA FEMENIL will conclude "On Welfare" with another kind of welfare system that we all demand, not as the Mexican working people should demand instead of welfare.
**Historic Date For All People**


This is a date of sorrow and at the same time, of historical importance to the Mexican people.

On the 2nd of October, 1968, nearly 15,000 people marched in this city arriving at the Tlatelolco Plaza. Present at the rally were high school and university students, being that it was a student movement, but also present were industrial and agricultural workers, the pressing of men, women, and elders, all showing their support and solidarity.

The speakers that afternoon spoke on the chances that the people were demanding of the government. Among the demands, the main ones were:

- the discontinuation of the repressive police force known as Carneros (similar to the defeated National Guard of Sonoma),
- the deletion of Article 145 of the Penal Code (this qualified as a ‘political crime’ the participation of public workers in the democratic demands of the people),
- compensation for the families of the dead and wounded in previous repressions of popular movements,
- freedom for political prisoners.

It was 11 years ago that the PRI government answered bullets to the democratic demands of the working people. Understanding of course, that students are workers in the process of being trained.

The army had already surrounded the plaza when it opened fire upon the people. From above, a helicopter showered fatal bullets in all directions. Over 400 dead that afternoon and thousands of wounded, detained, tortured and disappeared.

Since that day, humble blood has continued to run in the streets of the cities, upon the earth in the country side, in the jails and torture chambers and in the pockets of the strikers.

Does the PRI government think that the people will forget and unconditionally forgive the massacre of over 400 men, women and children that peacefully demonstrated that which by civic obligation and by human right they had to say?

The 2nd of October is alive in history and in every honest and democratic conscious.

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**Peoples’ Solidarity Wins**

**Freedom For Political Prisoners**

CHICAGO — 10 September.

Amidst a crowd of people loudly cheering “Viva Puerto Rico”, the four Puerto Rican nationalists were embraced.

After more than 20 years of imprisonment, these political prisoners were liberated, not because of Carter’s “humanitarian clemency,” but due to the prolonged struggle and pressure of the people of Puerto Rico and international solidarity.

Lolita Lebron, Rafael Cancel, Miranda, Irving Flores, Rodriguez and Oscar Collazo, reaffirmed their commitment to the principles that kept them in prison — the right of the colony of Puerto Rico and its right to self-determination.

On several occasions, the Committee on Decolonization of the United Nations, has declared that Puerto Rico is a colony of the United States and therefore, has a right to self-determination and freedom.

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**EL PUEBLO UNIDO**

Last month in this column, we talked about colonialism and of some of the effects that the negative aspects have upon working people. As we said in the conclusion, the most effective way to combat this influence is by means of the unity and resistance of the working people.

Naturally, the resistance must be at all the fronts of aggression against the people.

In the factories, the workers must be constantly alert to ensure that the bosses keep the agreements of the collective contract. In cases of violation, the workers must resist.

In the neighborhoods, the workers must constantly demand self-determination and unity from the public sector.

Boycott

J.P. Stevens Products

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**On Resistance**

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Examples given above, are proof that there are people struggling. Unity and the spirit of struggle begins with each and every one of us. As long as injustices, exploitation, racism and social, economic and political inequality exists, the working people have to resist. How true is the saying, where there is repression there is resistance.

We know by the experience of past years, that the concessions “given” by those who control the money and public power (in reality, brought about by our struggle and our democratic and just demands), they slowly take away as the economic conditions intensify.

Together with inflation, we have growing unemployment, less public services and the assistance programs for the poor are disappearing.

The only things that continue to receive and consequently, cost us more and more money, are the utilities, fuel and the nuclear arms and plants. Resistance therefore, comes with the unity of all working people. Solidarity with any honest and democratic struggle of the workers, is also resistance and unity.
Who Are Our "Leaders"?

The campaign to have local attorney Ruben Montemayor appointed to head the Department of Immigration and Naturalization (INS) points out a serious tactical mistake being made constantly by Mexican organizations. The so-called "upward mobility" syndrome (fighting to have Mexicans in high positions) has reached a point of confusion and distortion. Quantity has become more important than quality.

Montemayor's "qualifications" are only that he knows immigration laws well and has used that knowledge to get rich. The qualifications of any person proposed to serve in critical positions should be closely scrutinized. He or she should have the traditional qualifications if possible. But even more importantly, that person must have earned a reputation in the Mexican and working community for honesty, sincerity and loyalty.

Loyalty to whom? To the double standard of justice our people suffer? To the unjust judicial system? To the blind pursuit of wealth and fame? We think not.

That loyalty must be to the needs and aspirations of our people. We gain nothing by being governed or lead by Mexicans who are not clearly and totally with us. They will become mere administrators and enforcers of an unjust, anti-worker and racist system.

EL PUEBLO submit that we should promote from our ranks only those who have clearly shown that they do not use our poverty or lack of education to accumulate wealth.

It is rather a mistake if we evaluate our future leaders simply on the basis of education, experience and other "qualifications" imposed by the rules of the system. Remember who controls the system and who imposes these rules.

Mexican and other working people will be better off if we are led by honest and loyal, "semi-qualified" and "highly-qualified" characters of questionable honesty and loyalty not in our best interests.

Union Drive

and for struggling for better medical attention for the working people who live in absolutely miserable conditions.

To this date, the government has been unable to impose its corruption within the democratic movement of the workers of the Central Hospital.

Those that work there, do so under the total rigidity of the police and the Mexican Police, a squad that are constantly abusing individual rights, thereby mocking their human rights.

(Continued from Page 1)

BANDERILLAZOS

POLITICOS

By: Armandina Saldívar

Otra Saldívar is a Social Worker and is also a political organizer. This column is based on her professional observations and interests.

Will you believe that Mayor Lila Cockrell is more interested in protecting the Police Department than the constituents? Canavan and the Mill of Rights. She thinks it just applies to Anglo. But what can you expect from her type? After all an cop like her hasn't shocked by imperial conduct, or anything else. As in the case of her character, she once ignored a worker with a sick baby in her arm who went before the council to complain about mistreatment toward her baby by HECO.

Since IROC helped Cockrell into office, she was willing to sacrifice the little baby.

But recently she gave a long speech about why City Manager Tom Humes should get a raise. So does she see nothing wrong in his behavior towards women. She sees none of their complaints of his "sexual" treatment of them. But to condemn his sexual repression of the HECO strikers. Obviously, Cockrell does not have any respectable values.

Will you believe that an Anglo counselor told me that the reason

(Continued from Page 1)