AN ALTERNATIVE OUTLOOK
By Everett W. Gross

Now we are watching our national legislature agonize over whether
to send a hundred million dollars to aid the Contras in Nicaragua.
The issues and arguments now sound quite complex, but they grew out
of something that was quite simple one or more generations ago. When
moral principles are trod underfoot, the necessary steps to solving
the resulting problems get more complex and not simpler.

Nicaragua is one of several countries where the masses of people
suffered severe oppression under governments endorsed and supported
by US (the US). In each case, when the people rose up in revolt,
they latched onto the only other alternative they had ever heard of.
Also, in each case, if that alternative was not already communistic,
the followers of Karl Marx quickly stepped into the picture.

Now we worry about a "threat at our doorstep". In case you
haven't noticed it, the threat is a lot closer than that. Our own
academic community is leaning ever farther toward the Marxist
ideology.

Even if we succeed in helping the Contras win a military victory
over the Sandinistas, do you really believe the communistic threat
can long be delayed in coming to us?

In our own country, the poor are getting poorer and increasing
in numbers. This is happening not only in agriculture. Our national
debt is growing out of bounds and you can name a dozen more symptoms
of just plain old poverty.

If the masses of people of Nicaragua are divided as to whether
their true rescuers are the Sandinistas or the Contras, the poor
classes don't know they will be disappointed in either case. No one
has ventured to tell them about a third alternative -- social and
economic justice.

We spend most of our time with more exciting subjects such as
athletic contests. The causes of the problems which threaten us
are operating over a long time. When we think we are going to solve
them by throwing a few dollars that way and hurrying back to our
athletic contests, we are mistaken.

We can study the principles which will save us from a calamity
that has not yet shown its face, or we can be destroyed.