ANNOUNCEMENTS ☞ ANNOUNCEMENTS

ENCUENTRO OF LATINA WOMEN IN MASSACHUSETTS On August 6, 1988, fifty latina women gathered at UMASS for an "Encuentro" of Latina Women in Massachusetts. The Encuentro was sponsored by the Comite de Mujeres Puertorriquenas Miriam Lopez Perez. This Encuentro brought together Latinas who are working on various issues and struggles in different Massachusetts communities. During the course of the day many important issues affecting the social, economic and political lives of Latinas were discussed.

Among these were: The Violence in Our Lives; I'm Going Out Con Mis Friends - Latina Youth; Eyes That Fail to See - AIDS; Among Ourselves - Breaking Down Barriers Between Latina Lesbians and Heterosexual Latinas; and Food and Shelter - Basic Rights.

The Encuentro proved to be an informative and enlightening day. In the next few months, el Comite de Mujeres Puertorriquenas will be transcribing the proceedings of the different workshops and preparing a document that will summarize our political position on each area discussed in the Encuentro. We will also be organizing another gathering to further discussions and develop strategies for organizing our work. Keep in touch with us. Comite de Mujeres Puertorriquenas Miriam Lopez Perez, P.O. Box 279, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130.

PUERTO RICAN ORGANIZING RESOURCE CENTER TO OPEN SOON. The Puerto can Organizing Resource Center will soon open in the area of Roxbury. The Center is a joint effort of the Boston Committee for Puerto Rican Civil Rights, the Miriam Lopez Perez Puerto Rican Women Committee and La Alternativa. The main objective of the Center is to develop the Puerto Rican community's organizational capacity to fight for social change and a better quality of life.

We invite the participation of all interested. Soon we will let people know our office hours. If you want more information on the Center please call us at 427-6064 or write to the PRORC, P.O.Box 1222, Jamaica Plain, MA. 02130.

CONCERT FOR PEACE AND INDEPENDENCE IN CENTRAL AMERICA. The Francisco Morazan Honduran Committee will present the concert "For Peace and Independence In Central America" at Chelsea High School, 8 Clark Ave. Saturday, September 27th at 7:30 p.m. in Chelsea. The folkloric Dance Group from Honduras will make its debut and Grupo Fortaleza will also perform. Buy your ticket today at CASA 492-8699, Centro Presente 497-9080, or in Chelsea 889-2841. Tickets $5. in advance $6. at the door.

LOURDES JIMENEZ IN CONCERT. The Boston Committee for Puerto Rican Civil Rights will present in concert the Puerto Rican singer Lourdes Jimenez. Lourdes has participated as a vocalist in well known groups such as Moliendo Vidrio, Harry Fraticelli's Orchestra, Pijuan and his group, etc. Ramon Muniz of El Reportero newspaper said that Lourdes "is not one of the singers who have gotten to the top by her contacts.

The melody in her accent is her greatest wealth and the strength printed in her song allow us to value this Puerto Rican youngster's who struggle in the harsh world of show business". The concert will also be the warm up to the September 24 demonstration to Hartford. Lourdes will appear at Cantares, September 21, at 8:00 p.m. For more information call at 427-6064.

EVENING IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE STRUGGLE FOR PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE. Come an hear representatives from the support committees and other individuals that work for the independence of Puerto Rico. Saturday, September 10, 7:30 p.m. 16 Newbury St. in Boston. Childcare will be offer and a donation will be requested at the door. For more information call 424-1176.

Plese fill this out and return with your donation to:
BOSTON COMMITTEE FOR PUERTO RICAN CIVIL RIGHTS
P.O.Box 1222, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

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❑ I WANT TO BE ON YOUR MAILING LIST
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Please make checks payable to: *Boston Committee for Puerto Rican Civil Rights*

Stop Police Brutality

On June 14 the police violently entered the home of a Puertorrican women in Roslindale allegedly looking for drugs. They broke the door and left the house a dump. When the family called the police station all they could say was "we are sorry".

On June 6, two policeman fired and injured a Dominican man on his back. As a justification for the firing the police claim the injured man was threatening to fire at them. Not even in the days when "law of the gun" reigned was firing at someone's back a legitimate defense.

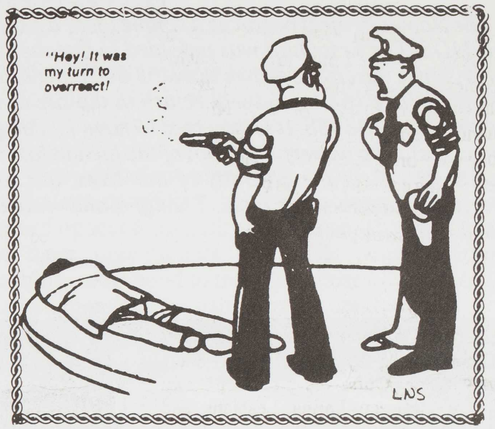
On August 3, a few policeman beat up a young Puerto Rican man without apparent reason. Not satisfied with beating him in his own neighborhood in Egleston Square, they also beat him at the police station.

The "war against drugs" has become a war against latinos. Today, if you are black or latino and walk the streets of Boston you are placing your life in danger. The men in blue are the biggest bullies in the world especially when dealing with people of color.

On the one hand, "aggressive police work " hasn't reduced the presence of drugs or drug pushers in our neighborhood. But the police confront each latino in the street as a potential drug dealer and openly and arrogantly hassle people.

Who will be next? The time has come to say enough! Enough of police brutality against people of color and more specifically on our ever growing latino community. People of color have the same rights as white people—the right to feel safe at home or to be peacefully out in the street, or in the community without the fear that the police will stop you or arrest you for nothing except the fact that your color of your skin is different.

If the police wants to be respected by our communities they must change their behavior. How long are we going to stand for these abuses? Right now, we can't expect people to stand up to the police individually, on their own.



Together we must (1) support victims so that they know that they are not alone (2) publicize all brutality or undignified treatment, big or small and (3) organize. If you are a witness to police abuse, watch closely, let the police know that you are watching them and let the person know that you'll go to Court with them. If you are mistreated let other people know. Go to Court with victims who are arrested on trumped up charges so that the accused is not the only Latino in the Court and so the police know that they are also on trial.

Participate in community forums and demand police accountability. The Boston Committee For Puerto Rican Civil Rights will help individuals who need support or referrals and will help groups organize and publicize. The telephone of the Comite and some of the legal referral groups is printed below.

BOSTON COMMITTEE FOR PUERTO RICAN CIVIL RIGHTS P.O. Box 1222, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130. Tel 427-6064
LAWYERS COMMITTEE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS. 294 Washington St. Boston, MA 02108. Tel. 482-1145
MASSACHUSETTS CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION. 19 Temple Place, Boston, MA 02111. Tel. 482-3170.

Helped in this issue: Elba Crespo, Juan Vargas, Lenore Glaser, Elias Castro, Myrna Merced, Milagros Padilla, Maria Morison

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Everyone to Hartford Sept. 24