The following excerpts are from a recent letter from Teosinte. They reflect both the impact of increased military action on the villagers and their unwavering dedication to rebuilding their community.

Dearest Brothers and Sisters of Arlington:

We send our fraternal and affectionate greetings. The community of Teosinte is celebrating the third anniversary of its repopulation on August 16 and 17. We would like to invite you to come to our anniversary for us to celebrate with you one more year of struggle to live and rebuild our lives with your support.

On Sat., August 10, 600 soldiers from the Salvadoran Armed Forces, Fourth Infantry Brigade of Chalatenango, sponsored by the Christiani Government, arrived on the outskirts of Teosinte. They entered the areas that we had cultivated with corn, broke through the fencing, and ate 2,000 ears of corn from our corn field. In addition, livestock belonging to the village of Tejutla came in through the fencing that was destroyed by the army and ate 6.8 acres of corn that had been cultivated cooperatively by the women and children of Teosinte.

We feel that the Christiani government's recent peace declaration is propaganda. The mortaring, machine-gunning, threats and psychological terror continue against the civilian population, especially the repopulated villages.

We have increased the livestock project to include 96 head, and have formed a council of women. In July we held three training sessions, one for teachers, one for health promoters and ome for those who work in agriculture and with livestock.

Our goals for the coming year are to improve training in different work areas including agriculture, livestock, clinical laboratory, sewing, carpentry, shoe making and pastoral work. We also intend to build a fish pool, do reforestation work and raise pigs (organized by families of the community).

Dear brothers and sisters, greetings and thanks for all of your efforts and solidarity on behalf of our community and our Salvadoran people.

With a lot of affection,

The Community of Teosinte

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Updates

To ask Congress to withhold war-related aid to El Salvador, Neighbor-To-Neighbor urges us to call the Congressional Switchboard Room, 202-224-3121. The Dodd-Leahy bill cuts aid.

Join the Rapid Response Network so that we can act quickly when activists are given death threats, or similar harassment is happening to El Salvadorans. Call Cindy Silver for more information.

Milagro Tobar, a community activist from the region of our Sister Cities in the Cambridge area, will be on tour Nov. 15-21st. We hope to invite her to visit with us in Arlington during her time here. An event commemorating the Jesuits deaths on Nov. 16 is being planned also. Further details will be forthcoming.

A Sister City Regional Meeting will be held in Cambridge on Sept. 29. Our delegates will report at our next meeting.

Donations for our delegates to take to Teosinte include: notebooks, pencils, games, medicines as children's aspirin or Tylenol, multi-vitamins, antacids, Band-aids, gauze, athletes-foot cream,tweezers, small scissors. If you can give any of these, contact Cindy Silver. Also a copy in Spanish of "Our Bodies: Ourselves" has been requested.

Parents of Ben Linder will be in Cambridge on Oct. 3rd with a slide show of Ben's project and to raise fund to complete it. Call 661-6462 for more info.

(For ACAC: Publicity, Judi Paradis; Newsletter, Sally Rogers)