

"the whole damn pie shop"

May-June, 1983
Number 6

Our name is from a quote of a Brixton, England demonstrator who when asked in 1981 if he wanted a larger share of the pie, replied, "No, we want the whole damn pie shop!"

Reagan's Dominoes: Rx for Disaster

by Rick Nadeau

Basic civil liberties, including the right to life, liberty and the freedom of personal and political expression, suffered a drastic setback in 1981. In more than a dozen region nations, even the most fundamental rights—life and the inviolability of the person—were transgressed by the government-condoned practice of harassing, torturing and murdering political opponents of those in power. . . . These reverses can be linked to policies adopted by the Reagan administration . . . (which) has allied the U.S. with the most violent regimes in the hemisphere. He has sanctioned atrocities and human rights abuses by providing those governments with essentially unconditional U.S. support.

Council on Hemispheric Affairs,
Jan 12, 1982

Must we sit by while independent nations of this hemisphere are integrated into the most aggressive empire the modern world has ever seen?

Ronald Reagan, April 27, 1983

In his nationally televised address to Congress, the American emperor Ronald Reagan told his skeptical subjects that his foreign policy efforts in Central America were designed to protect "democracy," "freedom," and "self-

determination" in El Salvador. He also claimed that the insurgency in El Salvador was part of a larger communist conspiracy directed by evil demons from Nicaragua, Cuba, and the Soviet Union. Finally, he asserted that American "national security" was threatened by the upheaval in El Salvador and by the Sandinista government of Nicaragua. Some Americans are aware, however, that the emperor has no clothes.

President Reagan's speech contained numerous escalator clauses combining elements from the Monroe Doctrine (1823), the Truman Doctrine (1947), and the Nixon Doctrine (1969). These doctrines have provided the ideological legitimation for the extension of American economic, political, and military power throughout the world. The military industrial complex, the National Security State, and the multi-national corporations have expanded on the basis of these doctrines and have in turn reinforced them.

The Monroe Doctrine announced the end of the Spanish and Portuguese colonial empires and the beginning of the American imperium by stating the following three foreign policy principles: (1) "The American Continents . . . are

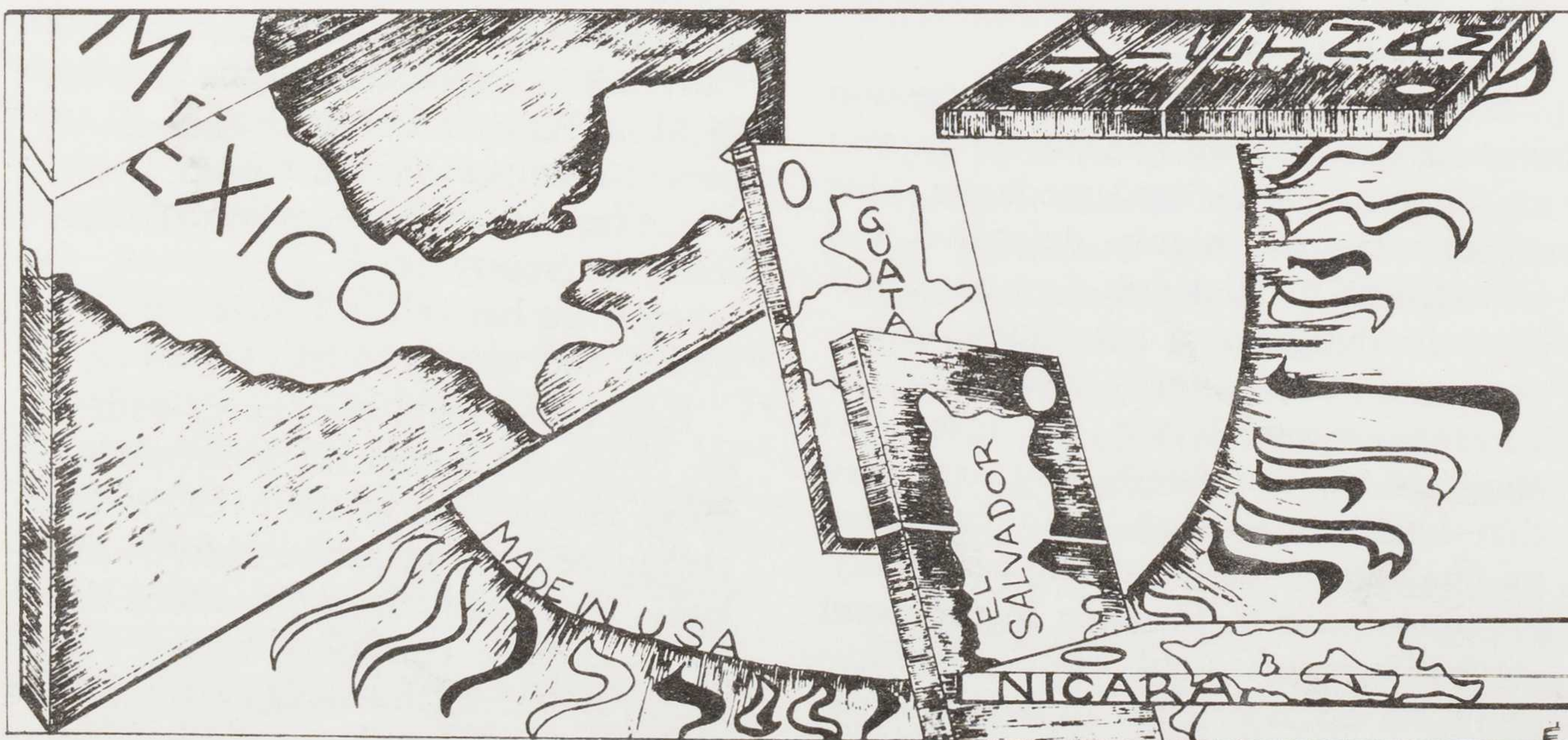
henceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonization by any European powers"; (2) the United States would not tolerate any attempts by those powers "to extend their system to any portion of this hemisphere"; and, finally, (3) the United States would not interfere in the "internal concerns" of the European powers.

Thus, the United States unilaterally warned the Europeans to stay away while keeping its own hands free to develop a continental empire and a hemispheric division of labor. This doctrine provided the U.S. with a "right to intervene" throughout Latin America and led to the Spanish-American War (1898) and numerous military operations against Nicaragua, Panama, Honduras, Cuba, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic. It is important to note that this tendency to intervene in Latin America was well established long before the Russian revolution (1917).

Global Responsibility

Reagan quoted extensively from the Truman Doctrine (1947) which officially announced the Cold War and set the stage for McCarthyism, the Korean War, and numerous interventions and CIA sponsored military coups: in Greece (1947), Turkey (1947), Iran (1953), Guatemala (1954), Lebanon (1958), Cuba (1961), Vietnam (1963), Congo (1964), Dominican Republic (1965), and Chile (1973). This doctrine claimed that America had a global responsibility to preserve "freedom" against Soviet spon-

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