

ground in El Salvador. The first phase of the left's "final offensive" announced in early January was a miserable failure, despite encouragement by U.S. ambassador Robert White who exclaimed at the time that "the genie is out of the bottle and no one can put it back again."

Over this past week, it appears that the FDR has made some real gains. There are reports of guerrilla attacks in as many as 50 cities and some successful recruitment of government troops who have deserted the military. By and large, however, the left's "final offensive" has merely provided the junta with the pretext for accelerating the "tribalization" process described by *Le Matin*.

After the FDR announced its offensive, the military launched a psychological terror campaign under the guise of showing the population how to defend itself

from expected attacks. In El Salvador's second largest city, Santa Ana, police forces reportedly distributed leaflets instructing people how to avoid getting killed in the crossfire. Parents were advised to take only one child out on the streets with them at a time.

What is clear is that there is a real diplomatic offensive on to build up support for the left, and expand the conflict even further.

This past week the FDR's top leader Guillermo Ungo traveled to Mexico as the first phase of his announced "international diplomatic offensive." Ungo is provocatively seeking Mexican recognition of territory "liberated" by the FDR in El Salvador. In an effort to pit López Portillo against the new Reagan administration, Ungo's colleague José Rodríguez Ortiz told the Mexican press that "no one has yet dared to say that the United States could consider an intervention with

U.S. radicals prepare for a 'new Vietnam'

The El Salvador civil war has become the major focus for U.S. radicals to organize support for left terrorists throughout Central America. On Jan. 11, the Committee for Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (Cispes) held a conference at the United Methodist Building in Washington, D.C., attended by more than 1,000 people from 300 groups. The rallying cry of the meeting was "Never Again Vietnam" while the theme of the speeches was that U.S. intervention in El Salvador will become an issue that will drive Reagan from office as Vietnam forced Lyndon Johnson to step down.

The informal sponsor of the meeting was the Institute for Policy Studies (IPS), a well-financed outpost of the Socialist International in the United States. During the 1969 Weatherman-organized terrorism in Chicago, IPS provided a bail fund for arrested rioters.

Following the 1973 coup in Chile, IPS became the employer of Allende's ambassador to the United States, Orlando Letelier. Letelier and IPS organized against the Pinochet dictatorship, but ended up reinforcing the "free enterprise" economics of its austerity regime—compiled by Milton Friedman. When Letelier was assassinated in Washington several years ago,

IPS demanded U.S. intervention in Chile to arrest the suspected murderers, thus driving the dictatorship into an even more repressive role.

The Jan. 11 meeting is intended to kick off a series of followup events, including a possibly violent disruption of the Jan. 20 presidential inauguration. The inauguration rallies coincide with a "National Solidarity Week" of sympathy with the El Salvador rebels, announced for Jan. 18-26 by Cispes. Spokesmen for the Salvadorean umbrella insurgent group, the Democratic Revolutionary Front (FDR), will tour the United States.

The tour will include Chicago, New York, Washington, Baltimore, Memphis, Kansas City, New Orleans, Miami, and Chapel Hill, N.C. Guerrillas operating with the Democratic Revolutionary Front have carried out brutal acts of terrorism; under cover of war-like conditions, the guerrillas have implemented Pol Pot-style razing of the countryside.

Groups attending the Jan. 11 meeting included: the American Friends Service Committee, Workers World Party, Socialist Workers Party, antinuclear groups, National Council of Churches, National Lawyers Guild, National Organization of Women, Maryknoll nuns, a representative of the Major Superiors of Man, Network, and the Puerto Rican Socialist Party.

Also attending were the Communist Workers Party (CWP), the Communist Party USA, the AFL-CIO, the AIFLD (a Socialist International-controlled labor organization), the Anti-Klan Network, the Anti-Klan Coalition, and Chutzpah, a radical Jewish group reported to be working with the CWP.