



# The Volunteer

"...and that government of the people,  
by the people, and for the people,  
shall not perish from the earth."

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

JOURNAL OF THE VETERANS OF THE ABRAHAM LINCOLN BRIGADE

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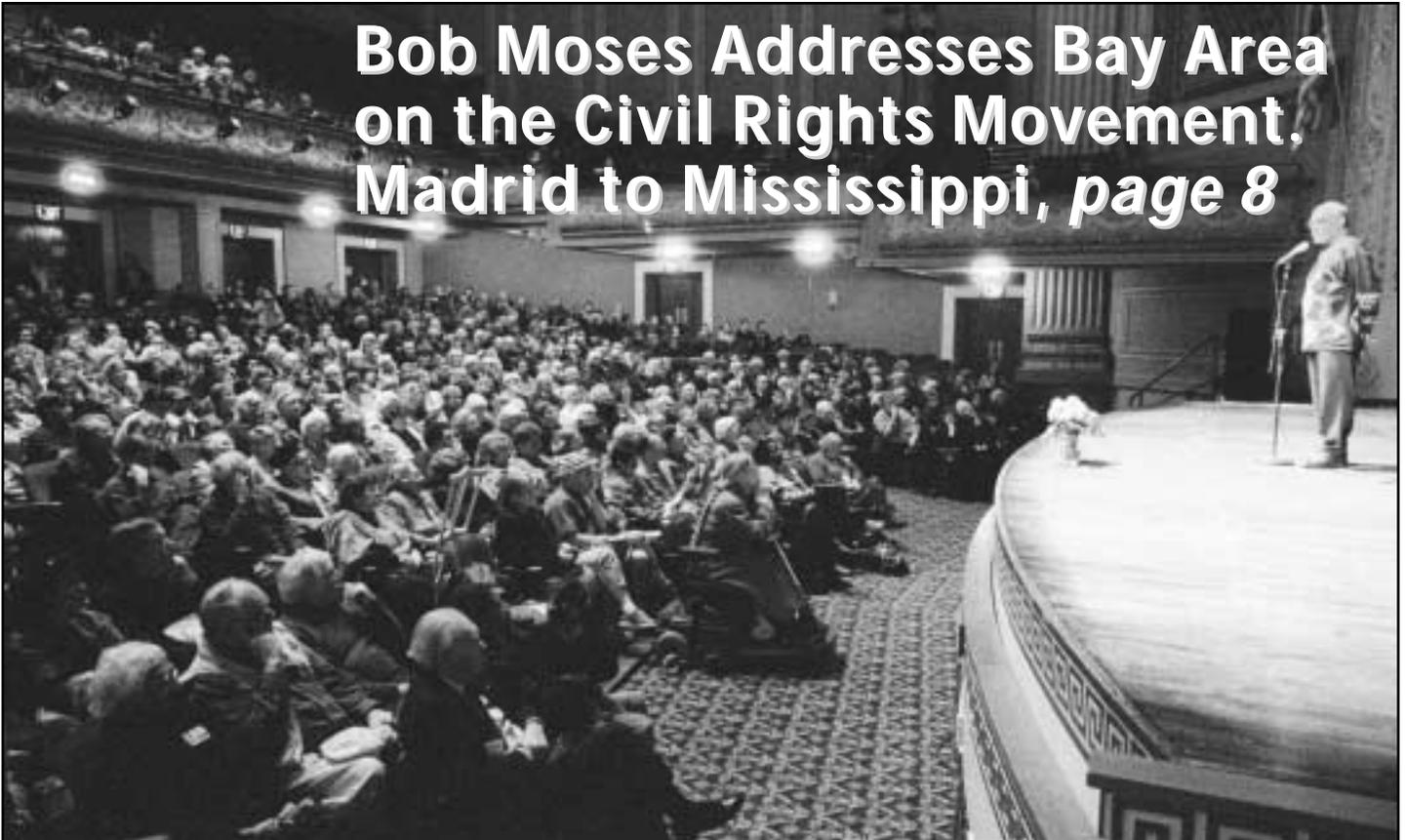


PHOTO BY RICHARD BERMACK

**Studs Terkel to Highlight  
New York Reunion April 29.  
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**The Battle of  
New Hampshire:  
Will there be a  
monument?  
*See page 3.***

PHOTO BY ALAN JAY ROM



***Passing the Torch*, new  
book featuring Seattle  
vets. *See page 13.***

PHOTO BY JOSE MORENO

# Letters

Dear Volunteer,

I am a 94 year old retired Coast Guard Captain. I am anxious to contact any ALBA veteran who knew a dear friend and companion of my youth who enlisted on March 2, 1937, in New York and was issued Passport #370880 and sailed with 100 other volunteers on the S/S Washington from New York on March 10, 1937.

His name was Malcolm McDowell Chisholm. We were shipmates in 1925 for 14 months on a sailing ship voyage from Victoria, B.C. Canada to Mauritius in the Indian Ocean. He was my mentor and I idolized him. He was such an outstanding person that anyone who met him would never forget him. He stood head and shoulders over any group of men. He was a talented artist and a graduate of the University of Alabama and was on the trip for the purpose of writing a journal of the voyage. Some years ago I came into possession of a journal he read to me every day. I have written a book of the voyage using his journal and my own memories, called *Voyage of the Forest Dream and other Sea Adventures*, where we both recount the voyage. This was a story that needed to be told after 70 years. I have information that he was killed in the battle of Brunete in July 1937.

Can you in any way assist me in locating someone who knew him, as he was an unforgettable person. Kindly publish my request. My fax 425-712-1880; E-mail [grenadines@earthlink.net](mailto:grenadines@earthlink.net)

Captain Niels P.Thomsen, U.S. Coast Guard (ret)  
19222 Olympic View Drive, Edmonds, Washington

Dear Volunteer,

Does anyone have any information regarding the following:

Michael Whittock, British volunteer from Bristol, British Battalion, 15th Brigade in Spain from October 1937, perhaps under an assumed name (he was 17).

A woman, Tompkins, from Chicago, volunteer in ALB.

Michael Whittock was my father; Tompkins, the aunt of my neighbor here in Southern California. Coincidentally we found that we had in common relatives who fought in Spain.

Charles Whittock  
[cwhittock@earthlink.net](mailto:cwhittock@earthlink.net)

Dear Volunteer,

The Spanish documentary film titled *Extranjeros de si mismos (Strangers to Themselves)* was shown in the International Film Festival in Berlin on February 8. The film about young people going to war who are believers in communism and fascism consists largely of a series of interviews with survivors of the Spanish Civil War and World War II.

Directors Jose Luis Lopez-Linares and Javier Rioyo include interviews with Italian ex-fascists travelling from

Bari to Guadalajara for an annual meeting of Spanish Civil War veterans or with survivors of Spain's Blue Division, who fought with Hitler's troops in the Soviet Union, and interviews with survivors of the International Brigades in Germany, France .... and, of course, the United States of America. There are some interviews with veterans of the ALB, for example, Milton Wolff.

As Javier Rioyo comments, "The men who waged war, the ones who left their countries, are the stars of this film. Wars and memories are not so full of impressive words as they are of beautiful sentences, of small stories and memories of daily life." For details, write to [ceroenc@redestb.es](mailto:ceroenc@redestb.es).

Saludos  
Magi Crusells

Dear Volunteer,

My full name is Mark Samuel Hurvitz. I was named (in part) after Sam Levinger who (I just learned last week) died at Belchite. My father (who died almost 15 years ago) was a student at Ohio State University where he met Rabbi Lee and Elma Ehrlich Levinger, the parents of Sam. My father wanted to sign up for the Brigade, but Rabbi Levinger imposed on him not to with the statement (and I paraphrase what my father always told me) "too many bright young men had already died in Spain." I want to learn more about Sam Levinger. I understand that he kept

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## The Volunteer

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# Plaque Stirs Political Fight in New Hampshire



Senator Burt Cohen leads the fight for the New Hampshire monument.

**By Joshua Chamberlain**  
**Photos by Alan Jay Rom**

It was supposed to be a simple, quiet ceremony celebrating the 12 known Abraham Lincoln Brigade volunteers from the state of New Hampshire at the State House this past February 12, the anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birthday. Eight months earlier, a Joint Historical Committee made up of both Democrats and Republicans had unanimously approved the installation of a commemorative plaque.

New Hampshire is in line to become the third state--after Washington and Wisconsin--to house a memorial to the volunteers of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade. New Hampshire State Senator Burt Cohen had obtained permission from the House Facilities Committee to purchase and install the plaque in the

State House Hall of Flags. Cohen, a member of the ALBA Board of Governors, had invited Peter Carroll, ALBA chair, as well as Lincoln veteran Lou Gordon, his wife, and the extended family of Lincoln veteran and New Hampshire resident Daniel Fitzgerald to attend the dedication ceremony.

The harmony in New Hampshire disappeared three days before the ceremony was to take place, when the state's conservative newspaper, the *Manchester Union Leader*, ran a front page story challenging the decision to honor Americans who "defied the State Department and traveled to Spain" in order to "fight alongside communists." The *Union Leader* also

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# New Hampshire

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published an editorial on the morning of the event that accused Senator Cohen of celebrating communism and questioned his patriotism. Subsequently, just hours before the ceremony was to take place, the event was cancelled by wary state officials—including some who had voted to install the plaque just a few months before. The plaque was taken down and a public hearing before a different government committee was called to decide its fate.

Fueled by the *Union Leader*, public criticism of the plaque has targeted the role of the Communist Party in the Spanish Civil War. In order to stoke public sentiment, the *Union Leader* equated communism, which in the United States in the 1930s was primarily a labor/progressive organization, with slavery. Along the same lines, in a throwback to McCarthyism, State Representative Russell Albert, a veteran of the Korean War, declared that Senator Cohen was responsible for



University of New Hampshire History Professor Douglas Wheeler testifies in favor of the monument.

celebrating communism and suggested that “Cohen and his plaque should be flown over Russia and dropped from 20,000 feet without a parachute.” In an interview with the *Sunday Citizen*, Senator Cohen expressed his surprise and disappointment that peo-



Lincoln vet Daniel Fitzgerald's son, daughter and grandson traveled to New Hampshire. Paul Fitzgerald (right) spoke to the gathering. Explaining why his father went to Spain and the need for a monument, he stated, “The simple truth remains clear today as... in 1937: to defend the Spanish Republic [was] to defend freedom for the rest of the world.”

ple should “take out the old red-baiting.” “It’s an easy target,” he added.

As Lincoln veterans and others familiar with the period will recall, the “red baiting” of the *Union Leader* and of some state officials is a throwback to similar tactics employed during the witch-hunts of the 1950s. Facing an investigation in 1953, the VALB office at the time issued the following statement: “That we should be singled out is a tribute to the effectiveness of the anti-Franco, anti-fascist activities we are conducting.” The same is true of Senator Cohen’s effectiveness.

The Spanish Civil War followed upon the heels of Hitler’s invasion of Austria and Mussolini’s assault on Ethiopia. The international community remained aloof from these conflicts, each of which generated little international outcry. This of course served the Fascists and Nazis just fine. However, many people in the United States and around the world saw the writing was on the wall. In a 1937 letter to the *Manchester Guardian* (the predecessor of the *Union Leader*), Matthew Mattison, a volunteer from Dover, New Hampshire, and a student at the University of New

Hampshire at the time, wrote that “[t]he world at large is too activated, too conscious and aroused by what had been taking place everywhere these last few years to allow the forces of destruction to trample unchallenged on all that it considers to be right and just.”

At the public hearing before the Joint Facilities Committee, plaque supporters held a slight majority over those against the plaque. Supporters argued that the motives of the Lincoln volunteers had been slanted in the media. “It is wrong to see the 1930s in a 1950s context,” Cohen told the committee. “We must judge by the reality of [the volunteers’] time.” Far from being political ideologues seeking to promote a communist state in Spain, the men from New Hampshire were idealists committed to defending the democratically elected Spanish government and its institutions. Homer Chase, a 20-year-old volunteer, admitted that the idea of leaving his farm in Washington, New Hampshire, for Spain was “a little bit romantic, a little bit realistic.”

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# Plaque Controversy Floods Senator's Mailbox

*Editor's Note: The storm over placing a plaque honoring 12 New Hampshire volunteers in the Spanish Civil War produced a flood of mail to Senator Burton Cohen and other members of the New Hampshire state legislature. We reprint here some of the correspondence.*

Dear Senator Cohen:

I am Director of New York University's King Juan Carlos I of Spain Center and Associate Professor of Spanish at the same university. I am a Dartmouth alumnus and a lover of the great state of New Hampshire. I also sit on the Executive Board of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade Archives. All of these reasons compel me to write to you to express my profound dismay over the removal from the State House of the plaque commemorating the New Hampshire veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade. I salute you for your leadership and courage in organizing the commemoration, and I urge you to fight for immediate reinstallation of the plaque.

The complexity of the ideological forces and economic interests at work in the West in the late 1930's is astounding; the way those forces and interests played themselves out on the territory called "Spain" between 1936 and 1939 should not be the stuff of sound bites and facile proclamations. But amid all the baffling complexity, stands the luminous example of a group of young American volunteers, from a wide range of ideological perspectives, who came to the defense of the legally elected government of Spain, not by writing checks or letters to the editor, not by making speeches or wearing buttons, but by putting their lives on the line, leaving behind loved ones to join the fight against Francisco Franco and his greatest allies, Hitler and Mussolini.

I offer you my wholehearted support in your endeavour to have these New Hampshire veterans properly honored. Please let me know if I can be of any assistance.

Sincerely yours,  
James D. Fernández  
Associate Professor, Dept. of  
Spanish and Portuguese  
Director, King Juan Carlos I of  
Spain Center  
New York University

Dear Senator Cohen,

I write as a historian (at the University of Illinois) who has written extensively on the Spanish Civil War. A number of mayors and governors have issued proclamations honoring the Abraham Lincoln Brigade in recent years, beginning with Chicago's Harold Washington, New York's Rudi Giuliani, and Florida's Lawton Chiles. There are monuments to these men in Seattle, Madison, and New York, and an ambitious monument is planned for San Francisco. I was delighted to learn that independent-minded New Hampshire is joining this growing group, but distressed to learn that the dedication has been delayed. I urge New Hampshire legislators to set aside the McCarthy era hatreds that have been fanned alive again by the *Union Leader*. Join with other Americans in honoring these men and women who were the first Americans to take up arms against Hitler and Mussolini.

Cary Nelson  
Professor, University of Illinois

Dear Senator Cohen:

As the daughter of a "Lincoln" vet and as a law professor teaching about civil liberties, I am deeply disturbed by what I understand to be "red-baiting" and the response to that red-baiting in response to your efforts to create a monument. The Lincolns, like my father Bill Susman, fought in Spain because they were hoping to forestall Hitler and Mussolini. Immediately after Pearl Harbor (which closely followed his recovery from war wounds suffered in Spain) my father, like so many of his fellow Abraham Lincoln Battalion veterans,

enlisted in the American army. He was in the infantry, dealing with field artillery, and putting his hard-earned skills to good use, training others—including officers—about mines and explosives to better fight Hitler.

He did not return from the war until January of 1946, having served in Europe and the Philippines; he came back with a Purple Heart.

Some of the Lincolns were communists, others were socialists, others were democrats. What they all had in common was the imperative to try to stop fascism in its tracks, preferably during its first military dress rehearsal for what they knew was a coming war. These people are heroes. As "premature anti-Fascists" they were models for the rest of America to follow—as it did when we entered World War II. The Lincolns deserve a monument, and your effort to create one is laudable.

Sue Susman  
New York, NY

Dear Senator Cohen,

The plaque honoring 12 New Hampshire vets that was briefly installed in the state capitol in Concord, NH last Monday and then removed minutes later after the *Manchester Union Leader* newspaper and a number of state legislators objected to it has been officially rejected by the Joint Facilities Committee of the state legislature and will not be restored.

At a hearing on Tuesday, the committee heard testimony concerning the plaque before an overflow crowd. The results of that hearing and the actions of the committee are reviewed in the *Union Leader's* characteristically biased coverage, which can be seen at: [http://theunionleader.com/articles\\_show.html?article=12423](http://theunionleader.com/articles_show.html?article=12423). We should all thank Senator Burt Cohen for his efforts to have the plaque erected and for his courage in the face of often mean-spirited criticism. Thanks should also go out to the many, many supporters who

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New York Lincoln Vet Lou Gordon

## New Hampshire

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Daniel Fitzgerald, an 18-year-old freshman at the University of New Hampshire when he decided to go to Spain in 1937, would later say that as a “firm democrat it was the decent thing to enlist with the Abe Lincolns.” Over 60 years after Fitzgerald crossed the Pyrenees, his son Paul testified to the committee that “more than the freedom of the Spanish people” motivated his father and others who volunteered to go to Spain. “The simple truth,” said the younger Fitzgerald, “remains clear today as... in 1937: to defend the Spanish Republic [was] to defend freedom for the rest of the world.”

In New Hampshire, time is on the side of the volunteers. Each day, reports on the radio, on television, and in the newspapers carry the latest developments to unfamiliar ears. As a result there is a large-scale public awareness campaign that is taking

place of its own momentum. This was Cohen’s goal all along: to raise awareness for those who fought with the Lincoln Brigades, and with it, widespread honor.

Senator Cohen, whose efforts brought the plaque—and thus the attention—to New Hampshire, is very positive about the public and media’s focus on a war and phenomenon that has historically been ignored by popular culture. National Public Radio included an interview with Lincoln veteran George Cullinen in its report on the debate over the plaque, and New Hampshire Public Television, in its coverage, used footage from Abe Osheroff’s new film, *Art in the Struggle for Freedom*, as well as from *The Good Fight*.

Senator Cohen argued that before this controversy began, “if you had asked 100 people in New Hampshire

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## New Hampshire Letters

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traveled to Concord on Tuesday to make the case for the plaque.

Sean O’Leary

February 23, 2001

Sent to the New Hampshire *Union Leader*, in reply to their inane editorial: You New Hampshire newspaper folks sure have a silly bee in your bonnet over that plaque honoring the Lincoln Brigaders. Yep, a lot of them sure were Communists. Yep, so were a hell of a lot of Russians, the same guys our GI’s hugged and celebrated with when, along with the rest of the free world, we wiped fascism off the face of Europe. Ms Connelly’s rantings over “priest and nun-killers” who “disobeyed their government” belies the essential truth that these Brigaders mainly went to Spain in order to try to stop fascism in its tracks. They went to defend a legally elected government that was being overthrown by Hitler’s good buddy,

Francisco Franco. Folks like Burt Cohen ought to be celebrated for their efforts to honor the 1500 or more brave young Americans who gave their lives trying to stop fascism in its tracks before it went on to slaughter tens of millions; before Democrats, Republicans, Independents, Anarchists, Socialists and Communists of every land eventually brought the killing machine to a crunching halt. Folks like Ms Berbadette Malone Connolly ought to get off their high horse and hunker down over their history books.

Dan Bessie

Calaveras County, California

Dear Senator Cohen,

Please inform Senator Cohen of my appreciation for his remarks at the plaque honoring the 12 veterans of the Lincoln Brigade who left their homes and family and had the courage and understanding to fight against fascism in 1937 and 1938 to

stop Hitler and Mussolini before they could start WWII. Those who opposed the installation of the plaque can take their place next to Secretary of State Cordell Hull, who illegally allowed Texas Oil Company to ship over 3,000,000 tons of gasoline and oil to Franco when Hitler and Mussolini had none to spare. Franco would have been unable to fly his planes or use his tanks or move his army around. They can take credit for WWII starting five months after the Spanish Republic fell and the consequent death of 50 million people. But they will not be able to diminish the bravery and sacrifice of the 12 who had the foresight and courage to go to the aid of the people of Spain when New Hampshire’s history is eventually truly written. Among the 12 it was my good fortune to know Homer Chase from one of the families first to settle in New Hampshire.

Carl Geiser, author of *Prisoners Of The Good Fight* ■

# News from Florida



Lincoln vet Ernie Amatniek, 88 years young, demonstrates in front of the Florida State Capitol in Tallahassee on December 6, 2000. The demonstration was led by AFL-CIO president John J. Sweeney and the Reverend Jesse Jackson to protest the disenfranchisement of voters in the Florida presidential election.



Lincoln vets join in Sarasota to celebrate Milt Felsen's 89th birthday. From left to right: George and Sonia Cullinen, Chuck and Bobby Hall, Bill and Helene Susman, Lois Bennett and the birthday boy.

## New Hampshire

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two weeks ago [about the Abraham Lincoln Brigade or the Spanish Civil War] no one would have a clue," but now almost half would know about the war and the role played by American volunteers. In addition he has received email and letters from all over the world, including Spain, England, Australia and Venezuela, in support of honoring the Lincoln Brigades.

The battle in New Hampshire will continue during the deliberations of a heavily partisan special sub-committee in which three conservative Republicans join Senator

Cohen. Although an uphill battle, Cohen recognizes the importance of the debate here in New Hampshire and hopes that the battle to have a plaque honoring the Lincoln volunteers will be the last one they have to face.

**Those interested in expressing their support directly to Senator Burton Cohen can e-mail him at [burtc@nh.ultranet.com](mailto:burtc@nh.ultranet.com)**

Josh Chamberlain, a freelance writer, wrote his senior thesis about the New Hampshire volunteers last year at the University of New Hampshire. ■



Senator Cohen with ALBA Chair Peter Carroll

# In Madrid and Mississippi: Bay Area Post Celebrates Activist Tradition

By Linda Lustig and David Smith

Photos by Richard Bermack

The Bay Area vets gathered in Oakland, California, to celebrate the activist tradition that extended from the battles of Madrid to the civil rights movement of Mississippi and the fight for social justice ever since. From the moment the doors opened, a jubilant crowd of nearly 900 joined old friends and new at the Calvin Simmons Theater to reminisce and pay tribute to the vets.

Seventeen Lincolns attended the affair, including the Bay Area's Clifton Amsbury, Delmar Berg, Mark Billings, Coleman Persily, Hilda Roberts, Bill Sennett, Dave Smith, Nate Thornton, Anthony Toney, Ted Veltfort, and Milt Wolff, as well as out-of-towners Martin Balter (New York), Vernon Bown (Wisconsin), Ben Lane and Ken Shaker (southern California), Marion Noble (Detroit), and Abe Osheroff (Seattle). Post commander David Smith led the group in paying respects for four local vets who died last year: Werner Brown, Al Gottlieb, Sam Mende, and Al Tanz. ALBA's chair, Peter Carroll, co-chaired the event.

After the traditional introductions, the post announced progress on the creation of a San Francisco monument to honor the men and women who served in the Spanish Civil War. Peter Glazer, author of last year's program "We Must Remember!" then spoke about the importance of memory and tradition in inspiring future generations to embrace the activist tradition. (See accompanying story, page 10.) "The example of solidarity, heroism and self sacrifice of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade," he said, "will stimulate a young generation in the construction of a society that will be more free and more just."

The program then focused on the issues related to the civil rights movement of the 1960s. Acknowledging the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first integrated





The Lincoln Vets take the stage.



Bay Area Post Commander David Smith and Vet Hilda Roberts read the VALB roll call while the audience applauds.



Freedom Rides through the South that began in February 1961, veteran Abe Osheroff described how his commitment to Spain in the 1930s stimulated his involvement in the crusade for social justice in the 1960s. His brief talk introduced the audience to one of the spiritual leaders of the Mississippi Freedom project, Robert Moses.

Placing the Freedom Rides in historical perspective, Moses presented

his personal story of commitment as he moved from an academic interest in the early civil rights movement to become an activist in Mississippi. As he became immersed in the movement, he became convinced that the most meaningful outcome in the South would be voter registration, as it could have a lasting impact on

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# Why Monuments?

By Peter Glazer

*Editor's note: Peter Glazer, recently elected to ALBA's Board of Governors and author of last year's reunion program "We Must Remember!" spoke about the importance of history and memory at the west coast reunion in Oakland on February 25, 2001. His remarks follow:*

For someone who has spent so many of these events behind the scenes, it is a true honor to be asked to speak to you here today.

December 15, 1938: "Crowds Roar Welcome to Lincoln Veterans" read the headline in the *Daily Worker*, when a large group, including Milt Wolff, returned from Spain to the New York docks. "149 Boys of 23 States Vow Unending Fight for Democracy," it went on. Then, accompanied by the huge crowd, according to the *Worker*, "they marched through the canyons of New York while their supporters showered them with home-made confetti, raised their fists, gave them a hearty welcome home."

They carried a wreath which read "To the volunteers who died for democracy." Their destination was the Eternal Light, the World War I memorial in Madison Square, where they

intended to lay the wreath. "Mounted policemen and 188 on foot did not intimidate the thousands who came from a score of unions," the *Daily Worker* stated, but the police did prevent them from laying the wreath on the monument, so they placed it outside the gates. According to the *Daily Worker*, "The refusal. . . evoked much indignation from the marchers and from onlookers." I can only imagine. The same forces in our culture that gave the order to those policemen are at work in New Hampshire today.

The inscription on that monument began: "To Our Heroes—Erected to commemorate the first homecoming of the victorious army and navy of the United States . . ." Reporter Joseph North interviewed one of the new veterans who had just come home: "There will be a time when the people of America will add a paragraph to that inscription," Captain Bradley said. "It will read something like this: "And to the brave men who died for democracy in Spain so that fascism should not come here.'" As we all know, Captain Bradley was on to something.

In 1969, Pete Hamill wrote a beautiful article for *The Village Voice* about

the 32<sup>nd</sup> anniversary commemoration in New York City, and his title was: "For some old soldiers, there are no monuments." He began his last paragraph, "There are, of course, no monuments to the Lincoln Brigade in the country which they so honored; no statues to them sprout on the corners of Brownsville; no chiseled wall lists their names." Well, not in 1969.

Five hundred volunteers from Sweden fought fascism in Spain, and 162 were killed. In 1978, a huge, striking monument was dedicated in Stockholm. Reporting on the dedication, *The Volunteer* wrote: "Perhaps the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade will also have such a monument someday—in New York, Chicago, or San Francisco—or wherever." That was just over 20 years ago, and someday has come, in Seattle, in Madison, soon in New Hampshire; "wherever" is now here, in the Bay area, and soon, we expect, in Tampa, New York, and Chicago.

Commemoration looks back. Memorial Day, Veterans Day, Columbus Day, high school and college reunions—always looking back. From the very beginning, from when the first volunteers shipped out until *today*—the most recent in a truly remarkable history of commemorative events held year after year, decade after decade—from the very beginning, the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, and now the Abraham Lincoln Brigade Archives, have also been looking forward. Your gatherings have been about putting your belief in the value of our activist history to work, now, and in the future. There has been a groundswell of commemorative activity for years now. Think of all the people who have been inspired by the poster exhibit, "Shouts from the Wall." Think of all the people who have seen the photographs and the films, and read the books, and heard the songs. Think of all the students who have met the vets and heard them speak over the years, and heard people like Bob Moses and Ariel Dorfman.

So why look back at all? At the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemoration in Florence, Italy in 1976, with Franco

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## Bay Area

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Corine Thornton speaks about her participation in and the support of VALB for the School of the Americas Watch to end the U. S. Government's program of training counter insurgency military groups in interrogation and torture techniques.

future generations. He helped organize the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) and led the 1964 Freedom Summer voter registration drive. During his talk, Moses asked that the Freedom Riders and the SNCC workers in the audience rise for a proper acknowledgement--which moved the audience to its feet. Indeed, for many Freedom Riders, this meeting was the first of many reunions that would continue during this year.

Early in his career, Moses became a mathematics teacher. He interrupted his career first to participate in the civil rights movement and then to avoid the military draft during the Vietnam War. He moved to Tanzania, where he taught for several years. He later returned to Harvard to complete his graduate degree and soon became

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# San Francisco Supervisors Declare July 25 Milton Wolff and Lincoln Brigade Day

The newly elected San Francisco Board of Supervisors approved a resolution in February declaring July 25, the anniversary of the recrossing of the Ebro River in Spain in 1938, as "Commander Milton Wolff and Abraham Lincoln Brigade Day." The measure, sponsored by reform Supervisor Matt Gonzalez, reinforces the city's support of the veterans. Prior to the November elections, the supervisors voted to approve the construction of a monument to the Lincoln Brigade at the new Harry Bridges Plaza on the waterfront Embarcadero.

Resolution declaring July 25, 2001, as Commander Milton Wolff and Abraham Lincoln Brigade Day in the City and County of San Francisco:

WHEREAS, American volunteers, most without military training of any kind, traveled to Spain between 1936 -1938 to defend the democratically elected Spanish Republic against fascism; and,

WHEREAS, These volunteers formed the Abraham Lincoln battalion, George Washington battalion, and the MacKenzie-Papineau battalion (with Canadian volunteers), often collectively referred to, and popularly known as, the Abraham Lincoln Brigade; and,

WHEREAS, The Abraham Lincoln Brigade distinguished itself in battle against superior forces at Jarama, Pingarron Hill, Brunete, Villanueva de la Canada, Romanillos Heights, Mosquito Crest, Quinto, Belchite, Fuentes de Ebro, Monte Peligrossa, Teruel, Caspe, Gandesa, Fatarella, Hill 666, and elsewhere; and,

WHEREAS, Milton Wolff, veteran of every action the battalion participated in beginning with Brunete, having begun his service in a machine-gun company of the George Washington battalion, was made the final Commander of the Lincoln battalion at age twenty-two in March of 1938 (succeeding James Harris, Robert Merriman, Van den Berghe, Martin Hourihan, Oliver Law, Mirko Markovicz, Hans Amlie, Leonard Lamb, and Philip Detro); and,

WHEREAS, On July 25, 1938, under the leadership of Commander Wolff, the Lincoln Brigade crossed the Ebro River, without air support or artillery, diverting fascist troops from the Republican held city of Valencia; and,

WHEREAS, The Lincoln Brigade served the Spanish Republic and cause of freedom with honor until the International Brigades were withdrawn from the front lines in October of 1938; and,

WHEREAS, Abraham Lincoln Brigade veterans of the Spanish Civil War have continued their efforts against fascism through the organization known as the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade (VALB); now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That July 25, 2001 be declared Commander Milton Wolff and Abraham Lincoln Brigade Day in San Francisco in commemoration of the day in 1938 when Commander Wolff and the Lincoln Brigade crossed the Ebro River and began the successful Ebro Offensive in Spain.

# Why Monuments

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only 11 months dead and Spain still struggling, vet and author Alvah Bessie reported in *The Volunteer* on a speech by Luigi Longo, Commissar-General of the International Brigade. Here's what Alvah Bessie wrote of Longo's thoughts on commemoration, as true now as it was in 1976:

'This gathering,' Longo said, 'must be a precise political act and at the same time, an impulse toward struggle. A political act because we intend to express our renewed solidarity with the Spanish people, who are beginning today to gather the fruit of a long, tenacious resistance.' . . . And it was an impulse to struggle, he went on, because the example of solidarity, heroism and self-sacrifice of the International Brigades will stimulate the young generation in their construction of a new society that will be more free and more just.

Longo was speaking of Spain, but he might as well have been speaking of any number of countries in the world, including our own. Longo captured what has been unique about these gatherings, what was unique about going to Spain in the first place – what these men and women symbolize—the impulse toward struggle.

What can this new memorial here accomplish? What should it accomplish? Ultimately, that will be the decision of this post, but I want to offer some ideas, some things to think about.

For one, it should be a place where anyone who has ever been related to, or known, or known of a volunteer can go to honor their actions, whether that volunteer lost their life fighting fascism in Spain, or is still very much alive and continuing the struggle. We all will one day want to visit this memorial-to-be, perhaps to remember, perhaps for inspiration. Memorials are built for a reason—they satisfy a need, they resolve inequities. We have to be sure, though, that once this monument is built, it doesn't

release all that tension, get us off the hook; relieve us of our responsibility to this history and its implications. We can make this memorial a site for gatherings, readings, protests, ceremonies. It can, it should, serve a purpose, become a kind of stage.

But there is something else to think about. In a way, I'm not too worried about the people in this room. Being here means you already have a pretty good idea how the world works. Being here means you have a pretty good idea of why a plaque was taken down in New Hampshire, of what that means, of why it is dangerous, and important. The children of this post, of these volunteers, and the children of their comrades and contemporaries, their grandchildren—they know what happened in Spain, or they're certainly going to.

But I'm thinking about the people who aren't here. Twenty years from now, 50, 100—I want to imagine a tourist strolling through Harry Bridges Square and noticing a beautiful, striking stone or plaque, and walking up to it, and reading some inscription, or seeing an image, and I want that person to start asking questions. "What's this about? What happened in Spain in the 1930s? Who were these volunteers? Why did they go? What were they doing there? What were they trying to protect? What do I owe them?" Wouldn't it be terrific if this monument could provoke questions like that from people who wouldn't think to come into this room?

So this stone will very much be for you, for us, but it also won't be for us. In a certain way, it should be for everyone else. This stone can be a seed. Perhaps it can be what these commemoration events have been, so successfully for so long – not only a tribute to a history that must be protected, and a memorial to a group of remarkable people who put their beliefs before their safety, but perhaps this monument can also provide some context for the future, a reference point, a fulcrum, perhaps it can offer an "impulse toward struggle"—so that,

to paraphrase Luigi Longo, "the example of solidarity, heroism and self-sacrifice of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade will stimulate a young generation in their construction of a society that will be more free and more just." It can be a stage, a seed, and a spark.

Or perhaps, by then, it won't be quite so necessary. Perhaps, by then, one of your granddaughters will be a senator, or a mayor, or a shop steward, or a congressperson, or a teacher, or a president, with like-minded comrades across the country, and she will ask to take her oath of office standing in Harry Bridges Square, in front of a beautiful monument, a monument which might say something like this: "To the brave volunteers who gave of themselves so that fascism would not come here, and to inspire the struggles we should be fighting for *them* now."

Thank you. ■

## Bay Area Event

Continued from page 11

involved in his daughter's mathematics education. During the 1980s, he started The Algebra Project for inner city youth because of his belief that today's society demands knowledge of mathematics. "We are growing a new crop of designated serfs—young people who don't have access to...the math literacy that computers require." Instead, he said, we need to provide "a floor under all our children so they can all truly be citizens of this country." Moses' new book on the subject, *Radical Equations: Math Literacy and Civil Rights*, sold briskly at the reunion.

The civil rights talk segued into a stunning cabaret performance, "Pasiones—Songs of the Spanish Civil War," by a Chicago trio of entertainers: Jamie O'Reilly, Katrina O'Reilly, and Michael Smith. They stirred the audience with "Quinto Regimiento," "Viva La Quince Brigada," "Asturias," and many others. The audience proceeded to buy out all their CDs!

It was time to leave in good spirits, looking forward to another year of activism and next year's event. ■

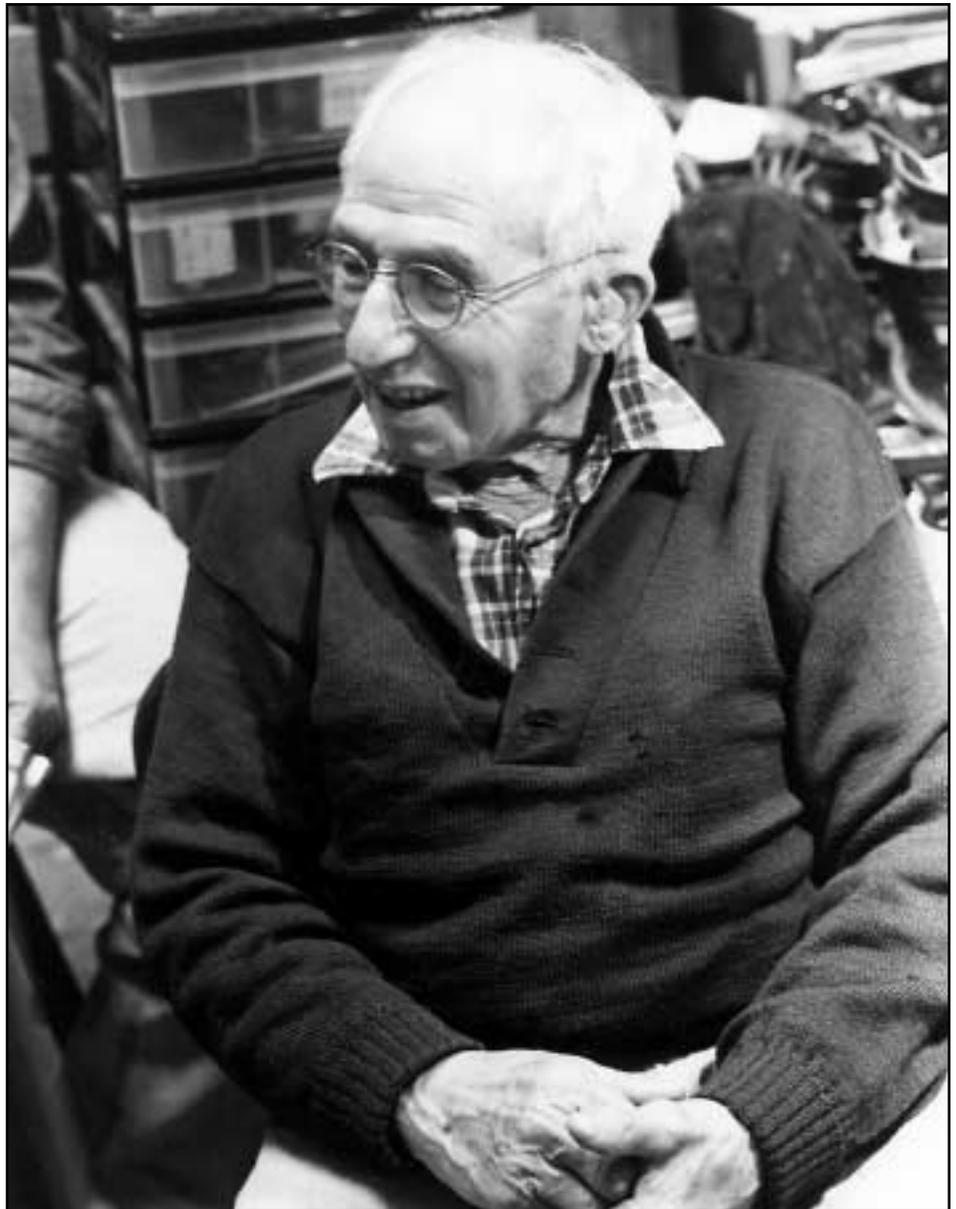
# Passing the Torch: New Book Features Washington Vets

ALBA is pleased to announce the publication of a new book: *Passing the Torch: The Abraham Lincoln Brigade and its Legacy of Hope / Otra cara de America: Los brigadistas y su legado de esperanza (Cadiz, Spain: University of Cadiz Press/Provincial Government of Cadiz, 2001)*, a bilingual photo essay by ALBA Board member Tony Geist and award-winning photojournalist Jose Moreno. Available in the U.S. through the ALBA website ([www.alba-valb.org](http://www.alba-valb.org)) or the University of Illinois Press, it features seven Seattle-area vets, as well as a visual record of political protest in the Northwest, right up to the WTO. The following extract from the book focuses on Seattle veteran Elias "Dutch" Schultz

**Text by Anthony Geist**

**Photos by Jose Moreno**

Gnarled hands carefully select a chisel from the hundred or so scattered on his worktable. He picks up a mallet and delicately chases in a fold in the Rabbi's robe. Now 90, Dutch works wood every day in his crowded



studio. Knuckles replaced, he works through the pain to create his figures of working men and women.

"I never wanted to do anything else," he explains in his strong New York accent. The son of Viennese Jewish immigrants, Dutch enrolled in the art track at a vocational school for boys in Harlem. A decorated veteran of World War II, he worked as assistant to Jacques Lipschitz, who encouraged him to study in Europe.

Ignoring the Veteran Administration's advice to become a plumber or electrician, Dutch took his GI Bill and served his apprenticeship in wood sculpting in Switzerland, Italy and England.

Dutch's models are the German Gothic masters, and indeed there is something Medieval about him. He looks as though he stepped out of a carved panel in a cathedral. His

Continued on page 21



Former inmates of  
the Argelès camp

# 100,000 Lights for 100,000 Refugees

**By Brigitte Thomas**  
**Translated by Robert P. Ingalls**

**A**rgelès (France), February 24-25, 2001, over 60 years after the exodus of refugees from the fallen Spanish Republic, the French association FREEE (Sons and Daughters of Spanish Republicans and Children of the Exodus), joined by survivors of the camps at Argelès and Saint Cyprien, organized two magnificent days to honor the memory of all their departed parents and friends who suffered, torn apart by the defeat of the Spanish Republic and humiliated by the reception they got in France.

During the ceremony at the cemetery of the Argelès camp, moving speeches were delivered under the fluttering flag of the Spanish Republic in the presence of a large crowd that included some 100 Spaniards who came from Alicante, Madrid, Santander, and Seville. In a heartfelt tribute, Maria Sanchez-Monroy I Martinez immortalized the antifascist women and men, whom we know only as "the people," and whose names are lost to history in spite of the fact that they made history. Mr. Carrere, the mayor of Argelès, asked forgiveness for the treatment given to Spanish refugees and spoke of the necessity of recognizing publicly that France had not reacted

with dignity at that historical moment.

This day of remembrance served as the occasion for the signing of an official agreement of cooperation between French and Spanish associations for the purpose of coordinating their memorial activities. The signatories included: FREEE; AGE (Association for the creation of the archive of the Spanish Civil War, the International Brigades, the children of the war, the resistance and the exile); the Miguel Hernandez Association; the Karl Einstein Association; Friends of the Former Internees at the Camp of Vernet d'Ariège; the Seguy Foundation; the Centro Español; the Cercle Catalan; and the Antonio Machado Foundation. Other groups have requested to join in this cooperative effort.

During the afternoon, a tribute honored three people who, by their commitment and sacrifice, saved numerous Spanish, Jewish, and Gypsy children at the Riversaltes and Argelès camps. Those honored were Friedel Bonny-Reitel and Elizabeth Engelbenz, nurses of the Swiss Red Cross Children's Aid, and Albert Vidal from Mazamet, who transformed his own home into a hospital.

As a symbolic act, the beach at Argelès was illuminated near the monument built in memory of the thousands of refugees interned there.

Over 500 people gathered for a candlelight vigil. After this moving ceremony, everyone came together and shared tapas, music, and songs.

On Sunday February 25 at Collioure, in accordance with an annual tradition, there was a celebration in honor of the great Spanish poet, Antonio Machado, who died there a few days after his arrival in France in February 1939. During the morning there was a lecture about the work of the poet at El Instituto Calderón of Madrid, where he taught French, and then there was the presentation of a bilingual publication, entitled "Collioure 1939: The Last Days of Antonio Machado." The grave of Machado remains a destination for pilgrims, who daily leave numerous messages, inspired by admiration and affection, that are collected by the Foundation Machado. Under a bright sun, with a freezing wind blowing like it must have in February 1939 in Roussillon, the flag of the Spanish Republic flew majestically over the grave of the great poet, friend of the people and icon of the Spanish Republic in defeat and exile. Contact FREEE at [www.freee.com](http://www.freee.com) . ♣

Brigitte Thomas is affiliated with the Association of the Former Internees at Vernet d'Ariège.

# Remembering the Armed Resistance to Franco



By Dolores Cabra  
Translated by Gina Segovia

The history of the armed resistance against the Franco dictatorship in Spain has not only been hidden for 40 years by the fascist regime, but unfortunately has also been suppressed by the opposition forces themselves after the 1950s. Although the door to democracy has been opened, the code of silence that was in effect at the close of the Franco era still prevents citizens from learning about the difficult and heroic struggle of those who were undoubtedly the last soldiers of the army of the Republic.

Until now, studies about the guerrillas have been extremely rare, but some have appeared recently with testimonials of the few surviving protagonists, now reduced to about 50. According to most scholars, the number of casualties caused by Franco's forces in their fight with the guerrillas is approximately 5,000. The vast majority were not armed activists but served as intermediaries, supporters or simply peasants who sheltered or fed resistance fighters.

To isolate the guerrillas, Franco forced the depopulation at gunpoint of enormous regions of the country and allowed the torture and killing of thousands of people without constraints. Even now, after more than 40 years, fear prevents many older people from talking about these events, a testimonial to the accuracy of these facts.

Armed only with hunting rifles, pistols and knives, Loyalist forces began the organized struggle in the summer of 1936 when they fled to the woods en masse in order to escape the generals' coup d'état. Near the end of World War II, the guerrillas were organized into better-equipped units and counseled by those who, during two previous wars, had fought not only in Spain but also in the French underground and along the eastern front with the Soviets. They were also counseled by survivors of the legendary 14<sup>th</sup> army corps, which was composed of international troops who, during the war, fought behind the front lines with the help of peasants who had escaped into the woods.

Recently, the great Starinov, at 101 years of age, and Paulina Mansurova

passed away in Moscow. Still living is Elisabeta Parshena, the last survivor of that heroic combat unit, whom we recently had the great honor of receiving again in Spain in last winter's Remembrance Caravan. She still attends the reunions of the Committee of Veterans of the Spanish Civil War along with its vice president, Adelina Kondratieva, Paulina's sister.

The resistance struggle was so ferocious that the guerrilla fighters found themselves forced into a situation of isolation on the outer fringes of society, which caused them to act even more violently and harshly. Executions, blowing up trains, attacks on the barracks of the Spanish gendarmes, were the nucleus of their armed activity. Their principal political activity was occupying towns in which they distributed propaganda and held meetings.

Little by little they became aware that they could not count on the support of democratic powers. By the



early 1960s this heroic epoch of the resistance to the fascist regime came to an end.

Today, so many years later, when an old guerrilla fighter asks for a personal government record, an ignominious professional label appears in his file: "bandit." When we demand that the records of the Spanish gendarmerie be made public and accessible, as required by the cur-

Continued on page 21

# Book Reviews



## The Lincoln Brigade: A Picture History

By William Loren Katz and Marc Crawford, Apex Press, Second Edition, \$18.95/paperback

### By Moe Fishman

We have desperately needed to have *The Lincoln Brigade* in print since the first edition sold out five years ago. Young people who come to interview us seeking information see this book as a brilliantly compact reference work. Journalists, playwrights, and TV scriptwriters with little time to study the subject find it a well-organized and highly useful source.

This coffee-table-size volume with its dramatic pictures—including photographs by Sam Walters that have never been published before—can really help people see, feel and understand our 75 years of history in Spain and afterward.

Katz and Crawford, in their 96 pages and using almost as many photos—and because the publisher has used high quality paper the new edition has clearer, sharper pictures than before—takes our story from the Fascist coup in Spain in July 1936 through the internationalization of the conflict by Hitler and Mussolini, to the formation of the International Brigades, to why Americans volunteered and who went, how we got to Spain, how and where we fought, and then our homecoming from Spain.

This new edition includes a sequel and a dozen new photos that particularly focus on our participation in World War II, in the struggle against McCarthyism and for civil liberties, our fight for civil rights and to free Nelson Mandela, and our campaigns to get the U.S. out of Viet Nam, stop interventions in Central America and the Caribbean, and right up to 2000

when we marched to stop the U.S. Navy from using Vieques, Puerto Rico, as a bombing site.

This edition also details our glorious reunions in Spain in 1986, 1988, and finally in 1996, when a unanimous Cortes granted all living brigaders Spanish citizenship and we returned to a tumultuous welcome.

In addition, our good friend N.Y.U. Professor Robin D.G. Kelley has written an inspired preface to this edition, which he ends by urging everyone “to read and circulate this book” and “make it a part of our common knowledge.”

We agree this book is a “must read,” especially because it gives young people a chance to learn and appreciate our exciting history.

You can order copies now for \$18.95 + \$3 shipping from: VALB, Room 227, 799 Broadway, New York, New York 10003. Tel: (212) 674-5552.

## Alvah Bessie's Family Nest Rare Birds: An American Family

By Dan Bessie, University of Kentucky Press, \$25

### By Peter Carroll

The Lincoln battalion's Alvah Bessie, one-time editor of the brigade newspaper in Spain, *Volunteer for Liberty* (predecessor of this publication), was a superb raconteur, versed in both metaphor and meticulous detail to captivate a good listener's ear. As a novelist (*Dwell in the Wilderness*, *Bread and a Stone*, *The un-Americans*, and *The Symbol*), screenwriter (*Northern Pursuit*, *Objective Burma!*), and author of memoir (*Men in Battle*, *Inquisition in Eden*,

and *Spain Again*), Alvah drew heavily on autobiographical material to expound about issues of human nature and social justice.

His oldest son, Dan, born in 1932 in Vermont, as Alvah struggled with his earliest short stories, has inherited some of the old man's passion for words and their family-based contexts. In this charming memoir of the Bessie nest (as well as his mother's Burnett clan), the son offers a light, sensitive glimpse of an ordinary family composed of extraordinary individuals.

With a careful, ironic style that is reminiscent of his father's voice, he traces Alvah's triumphs and tragedies: his early years as a failed actor and successful story writer; his struggles during the Depression and the decision to enlist in the Spanish Civil War; his frustration in the movie industry, culminating in his conviction and jail sentence as one of the Hollywood 10; and his efforts to win literary recognition in his later years. Alvah himself wrote of these subjects repeatedly, compulsively, and his son largely accepts his father's version of those events.

Besides his father, Dan Bessie also depicts other members of the tribe who attained some measure of achievement in their day. He begins with the founding father, Adolphe Bessie, who, like the grandfather of Hemingway's Robert Jordan, fought for the Union in the Civil War. And then he carries the story through other “rare birds,” like Uncle Harry Burnett, who created the innovative Turnabout puppet theater in Los Angeles, and Uncle Leo Burnett, Chicago's advertising mogul, who invented the Marlboro Man. Their sister, Mary Burnett, the first of Alvah's three wives, left her legacy in unpublished diaries. Her son uses them well to evoke a warm halo effect.

“My father was nostalgic for his own life,” writes Dan. As a second-generation raconteur, the author's prose is equally wistful. I can hear the old man, described here as the “cur-

# Book Reviews



mudgeon on the left,” grouching about his son’s sentimentality, his craving for common ground amidst family dysfunction and calamity. Unlike Alvah’s autobiographical writing, Dan’s lacks the edge of immediacy and outrage. But, of course, we live in tamer times, and maybe the author has learned a lesson from the past.

## Lincoln Vet as Anthropologist *Conversaciones con John Murra*

Edited by Victoria Castro, Carlos Aldunate, and Jorge Hidalgo. Lima: Instituto de Estudios Peruanos and Institute of Andean Research, 2000

### By Ward Stavig

John Murra, once a soldier in the Lincoln Brigade, has been one of the leading anthropologists/ethnohistorians researching and writing about the people of the Andes for many years. His study of the “vertical integration” of Andean productive or ecological zones by native peoples had a major impact on the field. His many articles include such seminal pieces as “Rite and Crop in the Inca State,” in which he pointed to class and structural divisions within the precontact Andean world. His editing of the *Visita de la provincia de León de Huánuco en 1562* drew further attention to the importance of studying ordinary people (and the sources available to aid this process) while also showing that it was possible to study the late Inca period with early colonial documents.

It was undoubtedly because Murra’s work has had such an influence that Aldunate, Castro, and Hidalgo decided to interview Murra and put *Conversaciones* together. In my own case, I was informed that it was Murra who had read and approved my project, for

which I received a Fulbright that launched my career as an Andeanist.

*Conversaciones* is a frank exploration of Murra’s life and the people and events that have shaped him. The early years of his life were spent in Rumania, where his father made him study languages, a parental imposition that was to serve Murra well. While he has maintained contact with a sister in Rumania and he followed a musically talented brother to the U.S., he admits that escaping the family was a powerful motivating force. Divorced a couple of times and with little influence on his life by his mother, he seemed to have problematic relationships with the opposite gender early in his life. After getting a degree in a rather unremarkable undergraduate career at the University of Chicago, he readily abandoned his wife to fight in the Spanish Civil War.

It was in this struggle, he maintains, that he was educated, not at the University of Chicago. His early training in languages enabled him to become a translator for officers, making him privy to plans, debates, and propaganda that many others did not see. This experience left him disillusioned with communism and the political reality of the war, in which he came to see his and his compañeros’ efforts not so much serving the army of the Spanish Republic as serving the army of Stalin. However, his enthusiasm for the Republican cause and those of other peoples was only sharpened, while whatever dreams he may have had about those controlling the struggle in Spain hardened.

Murra was also haunted by his service in Spain. United States citizenship and a passport were denied him for a number of years by Cold War policies. When he finally obtained his citizenship, the judge stated that he was doing it because the U.S. Supreme Court ordered him, “but I do not believe this man deserves to be a *norteamericano*.” These difficulties had their positive and ironic sides. Instead of doing fieldwork

as he had planned, he was forced to work on the Incas using the extensive materials available to him in the United States. Later the post-Sputnik educational counteroffensive provided the funds for long periods of research in Huánuco, Peru, that led to some of his most significant work.

For those interested in the politics of academia, the book, by anthropologists about an anthropologist, reads like a *Who’s Who* of the profession as ideas, influences, personal friendships, and intellectual pettiness are revealed with unusual openness, if not great depth. Through it all Murra maintains a strong sense of self. As with his experience in Spain, he learned from people and life what he could without getting caught up

## *Comrades in German*

Harry Fisher’s fine memoir, *Comrades*, is now available in German, published by Pahl-Rugenstein Verlag Nachf. GmbH with support from VVN-BdA (German Antifascist Organization). Very few accounts of the U.S. volunteers in Spain have been published in Germany. *Comrades*, featuring an updated preface by Harry Fisher, a modified foreword by Pete Seeger, and as many as 39 fine photographs, will be introduced on a book tour of major German cities. —Ulrich Kolbe

in militancy. Of his own life he states, “I cannot be put in a box. I am not Rumanian, nor Northamerican, nor Peruvian. I am an interstitial person . . . I do not see only one solution to a problem; I believe there are various solutions.” ■

Ward Stavig teaches Andean history at the University of South Florida and is the author of *The World of Tupac Amaru: Conflict, Community, and Identity in Colonial Peru* (1999) and *Amor y Violencia Sexual: Valores Indigenas en la Sociedad Colonial* (1996).

# ALBA's New Planned Giving Program

## Tax Advantages for Gift Annuities

ALBA will have a special information table at the annual reunion meeting in New York on April 29 to answer questions about the new planned giving program. This program provides an extraordinary way to **make a gift, increase income and slice the donor's tax bill – all in one transaction!** Be sure to pick up a folder describing the benefits planned giving allows.

The charitable gift annuity program was created for our many friends who have expressed a desire to make a significant gift, while still retaining income from the principal during their lifetime. A charitable gift annuity gives the donor additional retirement income, while affording the satisfaction of supporting ALBA's continuing educational programs and its traditions of fighting for social justice and against fascism.

## HOW DOES A CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY WORK?

A charitable gift annuity is a simple contract between you and the Abraham Lincoln Brigade Archives (ALBA). Under this arrangement, you make a gift of cash or marketable securities, worth a minimum of \$5000, to ALBA. In return, ALBA will pay you (or up to two individuals) an annuity beginning on the date you specify, on or after your sixtieth (60<sup>th</sup>) birthday.

## WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF A CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY?

A charitable gift annuity has four distinct advantages:

**Income for Life** at attractive payout rates.

**Tax Deduction Savings** – A large part of what you give is a deductible charitable gift.

**Tax-Free Income** – A large part of your annual payments is tax-free return of principal.

**Capital Gains Tax Savings** – When you contribute securities for a gift annuity, you minimize any taxes on your "paper profit." So gifts of securities save twice!

## PAYMENTS

You choose how frequently payments will be made – quarterly, semi-annually or annually. You can also choose a one-life or two-life (two

people dividing the income) annuity. Cash gifts allow maximum tax-free income; gifts of securities allow you to minimize capital gains taxes.

## DEFERRING PAYMENTS

If you are under 60 years of age, you can still set up an annuity and defer the payments until any date after your 60th birthday. This gives you an immediate tax-deduction for your gift while still guaranteeing you income payments in the future. Because you are deferring payments, your annuity payments will be larger than if you had waited to set up the annuity until your 60th birthday.

For more information on a customized proposal for your Charitable Gift Annuity, please contact:

Jay Greenfield  
539 Oakhurst Road  
Mamaroneck, NY 10543  
Ph. (914) 698-6283

## Benefits of a Charitable Gift Annuity for \$10,000

Age	Annuity Rate	Guaranteed Annual Income	Tax-Free* Income	Taxable* Income	Charitable Deduction
90	12.0%	\$1,200	\$918	\$282	\$5,870
85	10.5%	\$1,050	\$733	\$317	\$5,308
80	9.2%	\$920	\$571	\$349	\$4,858
75	8.2%	\$820	\$461	\$359	\$4,474
70	7.5%	\$750	\$379	\$371	\$4,128
65	7.0%	\$700	\$318	\$382	\$3,803
60	6.6%	\$660	\$272	\$388	\$3,556

\*The tax-free income and taxable income are presented for the first year of the annuity payments and are based on a \$10,000 gift of cash. These calculations are for illustration purposes only and should not be considered legal, accounting or other professional advice. Your actual benefits may vary depending on the timing and funding of the gift.



# Join ALBA in a Cause that Will Never Die

Over two decades ago four veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade— Bill Susman, Leonard Lamb, Oscar Hunter and Morris Brier — created a new organization, the Abraham Lincoln Brigade Archives (ALBA), bringing in a group of scholars interested in the Spanish Civil War and the International Brigades.

From the outset, one of ALBA's main tasks was to help manage and expand the Spanish Civil War archive housed at Brandeis University in Waltham, Massachusetts. Explicit in this undertaking were the educational goals of preserving, disseminating and transmitting to future generations the history and lessons of the Spanish Civil War and of the International Brigades.

To carry out these goals ALBA, in collaboration with VALB, publishes *The Volunteer*. ALBA also collaborates on the production of books, films and videos, maintains a website at [www.alba-valb.org](http://www.alba-valb.org), helps send exhibitions of photographs, documents and artwork throughout the United States and Canada, and organizes conferences and seminars on the Spanish Civil War and on the role of the International Brigades in that conflict and afterward. ALBA has established the George Watt Memorial prizes for the best college and graduate school essays on these subjects and has designed a widely-used Spanish Civil War high school and college curriculum.

In the coming months and years ALBA will greatly expand its activity. To do so effectively ALBA must have your support. Please fill out the coupon below, enclose a \$25 (or larger) check made out to ALBA, and send it to us. It will insure that those of you

who are not veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, or family members of a veteran, will continue to receive *The Volunteer* and will enjoy other benefits of associate status.

Fill out this coupon and send it to the address indicated below.

- Yes, I wish to become an ALBA Associate, and I enclose a check for \$25 made out to ALBA. Please send me *The Volunteer*.
- I would also like to receive a list of books, pamphlets and videos available at discount.
- I would like to have ALBA's poster exhibit, *Shouts from the Wall*, in my locality. Please send information.
- I would like to have ALBA's photo exhibit, *The Aura of the Cause*, in my locality. Please send information.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

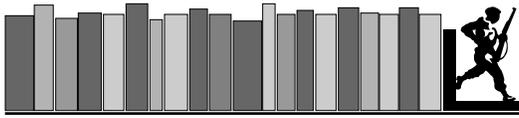
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I enclose an additional donation of \_\_\_\_\_. I wish  do not wish  to have this donation acknowledged in *The Volunteer*.

**Please mail to: ALBA, 799 Broadway, Room 227, New York, NY 10003**

web site:  
[www.alba-valb.org](http://www.alba-valb.org)



# ALBA EXPANDS BOOKSTORE

## Buy Spanish Civil War books on the WEB.

Starting April 1, ALBA will offer an expanded list of over 30 books, videotapes and posters on the Spanish Civil War and the antifascist struggles of the 1920s and 1930s.

To order, visit the ALBA bookstore at  
[www.alba-valb.org](http://www.alba-valb.org)

## ALBA'S TRAVELING EXHIBITIONS SHOUTS FROM THE WALL      THE AURA OF THE CAUSE

### Riverside, CA

March 15, 2001 -  
April 30, 2001  
**Sweeney Art Gallery**  
University of California  
Riverside CA 92521  
For information contact  
Katherine Warren  
909-787-3755

### New York, NY

September 15, 2001 -  
November 25, 2001  
**Puffin Room**  
435 Broome St.  
NY, NY 10013

ALBA's photographic exhibit, *The Aura of the Cause*, has been shown at the Puffin Room in New York City, the University of California-San Diego, the Salvador Dali Museum in St. Petersburg, FL, the Fonda Del Sol Visual Center in Washington, DC, and the University of Illinois. This exhibit, curated by Professor Cary Nelson of the University of Illinois, consists of hundreds of photographs of the Lincoln Brigaders, other international volunteers and their Spanish comrades, in training and at rest, among the Spanish villages and in battle. For further information about *The Aura of the Cause* exhibit, and its companion exhibit, *Shouts From The Wall*, posters from the Spanish Civil War, contact ALBA's executive secretary, Diane Fraher, 212-598-0968. Both exhibits are available for museum and art gallery showings.

**For up to the minute  
information on ALBA-VALB  
exhibits and events go to  
[WWW.ALBA-VALB.ORG](http://WWW.ALBA-VALB.ORG).**

### BRING THESE EXHIBITS TO YOUR LOCALITY

Contact Diane Fraher, ALBA executive secretary: 212-598-0968; Fax: 212-529-4603

# Passing the Torch

Continued from page 13



Dutch Schultz works on a sculpture. "That's why you do these things," he says, "because you hope they will change the world."

strong features and quiet presence bespeak an unusual blend of sensitivity and toughness. In Spain he was a scout with the Lincolns, and during



"Mac" is Schultz's sculpture of an Oregon logger who was killed in Spain.

the Second World War he volunteered as a ski-trooper. His speech reflects both his working-class origins and the years he spent as a longshoreman on the New York waterfront, where at times he packed a gun in the struggle to wrest the union from the Mafia's grip.

Asked why he became a sculptor, Dutch replies with a grin, "We were slaves in the pyramids." So the same ethical commitment has driven both his art and his politics all his life. Both are instruments in the struggle against oppression and ultimately are inseparable for him. He carves expressive figures, with large hands shaped by work. "If you like people, you do the working hands. If you don't, you do something else. You make flowers," he laughs, "you make flowers."

Ethics and aesthetics, the pursuit of beauty and justice, come together in Dutch's commitment to his craft: "That's why you do these things, because you hope they will change the world." ❏



## Armed Resistance

Continued from page 15

rent laws, we are simply denied access to them, without justification. When we try to get Parliament to recognize the guerrillas as fighters for liberty and democracy, the subject is tabled indefinitely. At this point, seven members of Parliament from autonomous communities have approved a proposition, which is still being debated, requiring the government to bestow moral, social, and political recognition of those old guerrilla fighters. Parliament will vote on the proposition in the near future, including a motion presented in Catalonia that gives the surviving guerrillas collective deference as heroes of freedom. If passed, it would represent the views of 70 percent of the population, who have already demonstrated their support. However, on February 27, the Defense subcommittee of the Chamber of Deputies voted the proposal down due to the opposition of the majority Popular party.

Homage to the last soldiers of the Republic is long overdue. When the soldiers returned to Spain in 1996, the people went to great lengths to thank them enthusiastically. Of course, the orthodox right cannot accept the people's enthusiasm for those heroes who, when all seemed lost, decided to continue fighting until the end. Yet the fighting continued so that the great hope that had been born in the people during the Republic would never be lost. ❏

Dolores Cabra is Secretary of the War and Exile Archives Association in Madrid.

# Added to Memory's Roster

## Dr. William Pike

William W. Pike, a psychoanalyst and veteran of the Spanish Civil War, died on April 26, 2000, just a few weeks after his 96<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Dr. Pike was born in New York City, and his fighting spirit was apparent from an early age. He worked his way through City College of New York and the Rush Medical School of the University of Chicago. At that time of his life, he did not consider himself politically informed. But like many others, he viewed the conflict in Spain as a humanitarian cause, and he volunteered his services.

His contributions in Spain were chronicled in several books about the war. From *The Book of the XVth International Brigade*: "Soldiers soon discovered that this Doctor—small in stature though he was—had to be obeyed; he could enforce discipline, and he knew how to deal with men who tried to evade carrying out his orders."

From Peter Carroll's, *Odyssey of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade*: "A small, intense man, he had launched a private practice in the depths of the Depression, but soon found he could not earn a living. He located a more secure position as a psychiatrist in a New York State hospital. The experience would prove extremely valuable in Spain....Even before embarking for Spain, Pike helped interview other volunteers to screen the medically or psychologically unfit. As he observed the recruits, the doctor began to apply the psychiatric insights he had gained in his work." Later Carroll states, "Soon after reaching the Jarama front in February 1937, Pike discovered that a group of about a dozen brigadiers, most of them British but some who were Americans, were suffering from severe shell shock....The physician determined to bring them back to the land of the living by rebuilding their self esteem....He began by assigning these men to specific tasks in safe areas. To get from the front lines to the medical base, stretcher bearers had to



William Pike with his wife Edith

climb over hills and rough terrain, an hour long journey that imperiled the lives of the wounded. Pike instructed the shell shocked soldiers to construct a roadway, protected from enemy fire, that would reduce the trip to twenty minutes. Within days the opening of Pike's Turnpike, as the men dubbed the road, testified to the value of work therapy."

Upon his return from overseas, Dr. Pike accepted a position with the Public Health Service in New Mexico and practiced as a country physician in the village of Alcalde, where he met the woman who would become his wife. William and Edith were married in Denver in 1940 and shared their lives together for 58 years until her death in 1999.

During World War II, Dr. Pike served in the Army Air Corps, in both the United States and Europe. Upon his return to the States, he decided to specialize in psychiatry. He received his analytic training at the New York Psychoanalytic Institute in the early 1950's and had his private practice in NYC for the next 20 years.

He is survived by his daughter Peri, son Steven, daughter-in-law Paula, grandchildren Seth and Alden, and step-grandchildren Greta and Andrew. 🐾

—Steve Pike

**Flash:** As we were about to go to press, we were informed that **Debra E. Bernhardt**, head of the Wagner Labor Archives and of NYU's Tamiment Library, has passed away. Debra's commitment to the preservation of the record of working peoples and their struggles made her one of the main supporters of the move of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade Archives to NYU. The editors of the VOLUNTEER extend their sympathy to her family.



# Contributions



■ **From the Estate of Al Tanz, \$5,000** ■ Netta Berman in memory of Morris Stamm, \$10 ■ Tony Caruso in memory of Key Martin, \$25 ■ Leon Cowan, \$25 ■ Kenneth M. Davis, \$25 ■ Judy & Jay Greenfield in honor of Moe Fishman, \$100 ■ Dr. Louis Kroll in memory of Dr. Zachary M. Stadt, \$75 ■ Matti A. Mattson in memory of John "Doc" Simon, \$20 ■ Helen Nelson in memory of Edie Newman, \$25 ■ Stephen H. Newman in memory of Edie Newman, widow of vet Sol Newman, \$100 ■ Alfred R. Rios in memory of Alfredo y Lmzdirina Menendez Rios, \$75 ■ Lenore & Eleanore Rody in memory of John Rody, \$100 ■ Armando G. Rosa in memory of those who gave their lives for a cause they believed in, \$20 ■ David Sullivan, \$25 ■ Howard & Judith Van Kleef in memory of Morris Stamm, \$25 ■ Gerard Zahler in memory of Morris Stamm, \$200 ■ Kenneth M. Davis in memory of Morris Stamm, \$3 ■

## Letters

Continued from page 2

a journal and that some of his letters were published in the local Columbus, Ohio newspaper (the name of which I do not know). Can anyone here point me to sources?

Thank you.  
 Rabbi Mark Hurvitz  
 <<http://www.davka.org>>

Dear Volunteer,

I am seeking information about my wife's father, Erie Jackson Stone. Her Mother, an English nurse, Norah Morris, met Erie in Spain whilst he was serving there. She is now dead and told my wife very little about her father, who she never saw. They married in Murcia in 1937. He was, we believe, killed around October 1938. The wedding application said he was born in Illinois in August 1902, and that he was a Mining Engineer. We believe that he was living in Oakland California when he volunteered. We also believe he drove Ambulances in Spain. My wife's mother said he died when the ambulance he was driving was hit and its load of ammunition exploded. She was originally at a Hospital in Almeria as a volunteer with a group of other English nurses. We would be very grateful for any

information or sources that we can contact.

Thanks  
 John Kelly  
[101607.3367@compuserve.com](mailto:101607.3367@compuserve.com)

Dear Volunteer,

I would welcome hearing from anyone who knew, or knew of, my half brother, Dewitt Webster Parker. He was killed in the Belchite fighting.

Thanks.  
 G. Vaughan Parker  
 921 Mission Ridge Rd  
 Santa Barbara, CA 93103  
[N6xgo@sbarc.org](mailto:N6xgo@sbarc.org)

Dear comrades,

I'm Ferran Pedret, I'm 21 years old and I'm a militant of the Barcelona's Socialist Youth (JSC-Barcelona). I didn't know how to contact with you, so I sended this e-mail because i want say to the volunteers of the Lincoln Brigade that the catalan workers will never forget your help in our struggle against the fascism. We will keep the memory of all the american people who fought in the Spanish Civil War, so it's a part of our history. When my organization went to the demonstration to celebrate the arrival of the

veterans of the International Brigades, in Barcelona, a few years ago, I had only two words in my mind, and a lot of tears in my eyes: THANK YOU.

We shall overcome!  
 Visca la República! Visca el socialisme!  
 Visca la llibertat! VIVA LA BRIGADA LINCOLN !!!

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## Studs Terkel to Highlight N.Y. Reunion Plus *Pasiones—Songs of the Spanish Civil War*

PHOTO RICHARD BERMAK



Spirited performance by Pasiones brings down the house at Bay Area Reunion! See them in New York.

Veteran radio broadcaster Studs Terkel, oral historian par excellence (*Hard Times, Working, The Good War*) and narrator of a documentary film about the Lincoln Brigade, *The Good Fight*, will highlight VALB's annual gathering in New York at noon on Sunday, April 29, at the Borough of Manhattan Community College. The yearly spring reunion also features publisher of *The Nation*, Victor Navasky, and a trio of singers from Chicago performing "Pasiones—Songs of the Spanish Civil War."

**Meet the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade! Join Us!**

**Sunday April 29<sup>TH</sup>**

*For ticket information, telephone (212) 674-5552.*

### **The Volunteer**

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