



Our Global Obligation

Presented By: Student Advocates for Social Justice

**“We are workers, not master builders: ministers, not messiahs.
We are prophets of a future not our own.”**

Archbishop Oscar Romero

Local News

- **S.A.S.J. meets every Wednesday at 4:00 in the chapel. Please come and join us.**

CLEVELAND — Homeless people cannot be denied the right to vote because the grate they sleep on doesn't have an address, a federal magistrate has ruled.

Edmund Sargus, a U.S. District Court judge for southern Ohio, on Monday ordered Ohio Secretary of State Jennifer Brunner not to reject provisional ballots that fail to list a building address on a provisional voting envelope.

Sargus also ordered Brunner not to reject provisional ballots because of poll worker error, "including failing to sign a provisional envelope."

The Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless had asked the court for a preliminary injunction dealing with issues affecting the homeless.

Cleveland attorney Subodh Chandra, who represents the coalition, told the court that a Cuyahoga County Board of Elections training and compliance officer said in an

Oct. 21 deposition that his board did not plan to count ballots for homeless people who could not list a home address.

For more please visit http://blog.cleveland.com/metro/2008/10/court_says_homeless_must_be_al.html



Glenn, a 55-year-old homeless woman, registered to vote in a program at the Salvation Army that seeks to register homeless voters.

http://www.cleveland.com/realestatenews/index.ssf/2008/07/us_reports_drop_in_homeless_po.html

National News

FORT BENNING, Georgia — Colombian Army commander Mario Montoya resigned today, in the wake of a scandal over army killings of civilians that a United Nations official on Saturday called "systematic and widespread." A protégé of the United States, Montoya received training at the notorious U.S. Army School of the Americas (SOA) and has also taught other soldiers as an instructor at the SOA.

The dismissal is a positive action, which we applaud. Officers responsible for killing civilians must face consequences, or the killing will continue.

Human rights organizations have documented more than 500 reported extrajudicial killings by the army since the beginning of last year. This week, Amnesty International issued a scathing report on worsening conditions in Colombia, including massive displacement of internal refugees, increased extrajudicial killings, and attacks on human rights defenders.

Defense Minister Juan Manuel Santos admitted that the army still harbors "holdouts who are demanding bodies for results."

For more please visit http://soaw.org/newswire_detail.php?id=1466

Student Advocates for Social Justice

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A Note from the Leadership Team,

The leadership team of S.A.S.J. is excited to publish Our Global Obligation, an ongoing weekly bulletin that will inform and educate the St. Martin's community about social justice issues. So, be on the lookout for upcoming issues, and feel free to email the leadership team with any questions or comments.

God Bless!



Reebok logo

International News

BEKASI, Indonesia — Walk through Tong Yang Indonesia (TYI) shoe factory, an 8,500-worker complex of hot, dingy buildings outside Jakarta, and company president Jung Moo Young will show you all the improvements he has made in the past two years. He did so at the behest of his biggest customer, Reebok International Ltd., to allay protests by Western activists who accuse the U.S. shoemaker of using sweatshops.

Last year, Jung bought new machinery to apply a water-based solvent to glue on shoe soles instead of toluene, which may be hazardous to workers who breathe it in all day. He installed a new ventilation system after Reebok auditors found the old one inadequate. TYI bought new chairs with backs so that its young seamstresses have some support while seated at their machines--and back braces for 500 workers who do heavy lifting. In all, TYI, which has \$100 million in annual sales, spent \$2 million of its own money to satisfy Reebok. But to Jung's surprise, it was a sound investment. "We should make it all back after three years," he says. "The workers are more productive, and the new machinery is more efficient."

For more visit http://www.businessweek.com/2000/00_45/b3706008.htm

Beacon of Light

Prayer for Justice

1984 - Unknown

You came to set men free Lord.
Yet men are still bound by oppression.
To proclaim your justice Lord.
But still injustice is rife in your world.
You came in love but men preferred hatred.
You came in peace but men preferred war.

How shall we show the world your care
Lord?

The Lord says:

Where man is oppressed - proclaim my
freedom.
Where injustice rules - let my justice be
known.
Where there is violence - I give you my
peace.

Where there is hatred - I give you my love.

Lord show that you care through us your peo-
ple that we might be:

For freedom and against oppression
For justice and against injustice
For love and against hatred
For love and against violence
That we may follow the example of Jesus our
Master. Amen

