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## 150 rally in protest of contra funding

By DYLAN JONES  
Staff Writer

About 150 faculty and students rallied Wednesday on the steps of Corey Union to end aid to the Nicaraguan contras.

The Reagan Administration recently asked congress to continue aid to the contras.

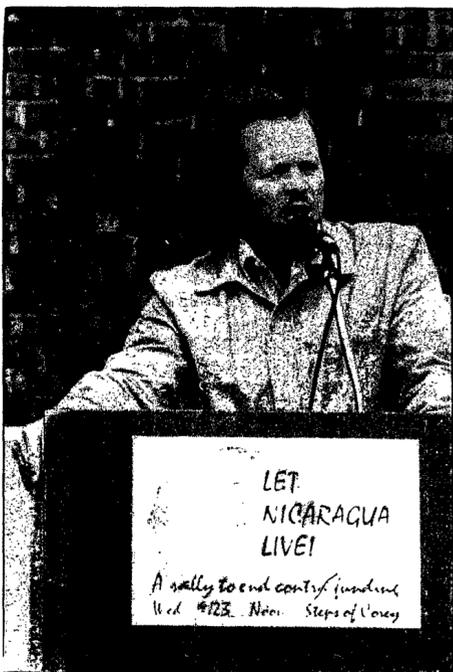
Students' decisions about the funding of the contras undoubtedly is based on the information they are exposed to, said Jay Schneiderman of the Cortland Peace Council.

"It is important to realize that in every covert war, money is allocated for the spread of disinformation," he said.

David Craven, a State University College at Cortland professor who has visited Nicaragua twice, said the major argument the Reagan Administration uses in support of its Nicaraguan policy is that the Nicaraguans' plan on expanding their revolution to neighboring countries.

According to Craven, the Reagan Administration frequently cites a speech by Thomas Borges, Nicaragua's Minister of the Interior, which says that they support the various struggles in Latin America but do not intend to expand their revolution.

Craven questioned how the Reagan Administration could draw such a conclusion and how they could base a foreign policy on it.



SUCC Professor David Craven speaks at Wednesday's rally to end contra funding, held on the steps of Corey Union.



Peter Morenus/The Press

Even on the SUCC campus, said Bill Griffen, education professor, we see posters promulgating the "Big Lie".

Craven agreed, saying "the sources often cited by the College Republicans are The Heritage's Foundation and the permanent human rights commission."

He said the first is a right wing conservative think tank and the other is founded

by the Reagan Administration.

Rally speaker Kathryn Russell, philosophy professor, said in 1980 UNESCO part of the United Nations and one of the few reliable sources of information on Nicaragua gave the Sandinistas a prize for raising the literacy rate from 53 percent to 88 percent.

She also cited drops in malaria, polio, measles and

infant mortality.

Some members of the College Republicans attended the rally. Kevin Berry and Clark Tiger attended the rally, sporting signs saying - "Democracy Si Communism No."

When asked if the contras could overthrow the Sandinistas without military assistance, Berry said, "If you look at history, the contras started as a group of 300

and now number in the 18,000's and with what the Sandinistas are doing it's inevitable."

Tiger said, "If there weren't people willing to fight for freedom the guns we send wouldn't be any good."

The rally was sponsored by the Cortland Peace Council and the Democratic Socialists of America.

## Controversy surrounds Supreme Court nominee

By CURTIS J. SITOMER  
Christian Science Monitor

Washington — Judge Robert Bork is down, but by no means out. President Reagan's highly controversial nominee to the United States Supreme Court came down from the witness stand of the Senate Judiciary Committee Saturday after five days of sometimes grueling interrogation.

Many long-time observers say the questioning has been more probing than for almost any previous aspirant to the high court.

Some of Judge Bork's supporters — including Republican Senators Orrin Hatch of Utah and Alan Simpson of Wyoming — suggested that some of their colleagues' remarks turned the hearings into more of an inquisition than a fact-finding mission.

Senator Simpson insisted that Bork was the target of liberals and other opponents of the White House's social and economic philosophy even as early as last fall, after the confirmations of William Rehnquist as chief justice and Antonin Scalia as an associate justice.

"When Powell [Associate Justice Lewis Powell, whom

Bork would replace if confirmed] quit . . . they got ready for the struggle. It was a warning to the President. And when Bork was nominated, the package was detonated," Simpson said.

The nominee's critics — notable among them Democratic Senators Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts and Howard Metzenbaum of Ohio — saw it very differently. From the start, Senator Kennedy opposed the appointment, charging that Bork would set civil rights in the courts back a half century and that this nomination is a way for the White House to achieve its long fought for reactionary social agenda.

Amid this partisanship, a clearer profile of Robert Bork emerged from the hearings. Not one but two Borks seemed to surface.

The first: an outspoken, if not rebellious, legal scholar and intellectual who has been anxious to challenge generally accepted judicial doctrine, even precedential rulings of the Supreme Court.

The second: a right-of-center — but not outside an acceptable ideological spectrum — jurist and staunch defender of the Constitution who would follow court precedent when it challenges

his own beliefs.

The first Robert Bork, opponents fear, might apply his philosophy as a member of the Supreme Court to try to reverse long standing decisions on anti-trust, abortion, affirmative action, and rights of the accused.

The second, on the other hand, might vote to curtail what he considers sweeping judicial mandates in these areas, but he would heed precedent and not upset "settled law."

At this point, the latter Bork would seem to stand in much better chance of Senate confirmation than the former.

The portly, graying, bearded high court nominee tried hard to convey the second image before the 14-member Judiciary Committee. He stressed that he would support individual and civil rights and follow precedent in his decisions.

Judge Bork said he would be "disgraced in history" if he did something as a justice other than what he said he would do during the hearings. The witness sometimes reacted vehemently to what he considered a hostile question, particularly by Senator Kennedy, his most vocal opponent. But he never lost his

temper and seldom his composure.

Now Bork defenders and detractors will appear before the committee for the next several days.

The committee's recommendations to the full Senate will not likely come before the Supreme Court starts its fall term Oct. 5. Meanwhile, the Senate panel seems as

divided as it was before last week's testimony, with five Republicans for, five Democrats against, and four senators (three Democrats and one Republican) undecided.

Key questions still linger. Among them: How far will the nominee go in embracing the judicial concept of Stare decedente?  
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### Quote of the week:

"Any man who is not a socialist before he's 40 has no heart; any man who is a socialist after he's 40 has no head"

— Winston Churchill