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GUIDE

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Sec. 4.01.4 The Hour of  
the Furnaces

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# How the non-violent promote violence

By Brett Solovani  
(Second in a series)

A revolutionary film dedicated to the Communist guerrilla, Che Guevara, was shown at Hinton Center and again at Fresno State College over the weekend of August 13 and 15.

I attended the showing of this film. It was a documentary on Argentina entitled "The Hour of the Furnaces." It said that Cuba was the first free country in Latin America and called for unity in the war against the United States.

The Hinton Center, which was mainly built and supported with taxpayer's money, showed the film on August 13. It was shown at FSC on August 15.

The film was brought to Fresno by one of the managers of the Shanti Co-op Bookstore, which is

located a few blocks south of Fresno City College. He told me he hopes to use the funds received from the Fresno State College showing to bring the second part of the same film to Fresno. He says the second part is even more "controversial" than the film I saw.

The Shanti Bookstore sells radical literature on both violent and non-violent revolution. The manager said he believed in non-violence, but that he brought the film to Fresno in order to educate the people about violence. However, nothing was said either before or after the showing of the films about non-violence. The film itself advocated revolutionary violence and hatred.

Although much of the film dealt with poverty in Latin America, it

was decidedly anti-American. The United States was blamed for poverty in South America and was repeatedly labeled as a neo-colonial force. Even the Peace Corps was seen as part of American neo-colonialism.

The film also charged that all means of communication are controlled by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). The Communist Viet Cong were shown as a reaction against American imperialism. The film proposed that rebellion and organization for revolution was the answer to problems in Latin America.

The opening scenes of the movie showed demonstrations and violence and it was made plain that the United States was the cause of violence in Latin America. The

film proposed that a people without hate cannot triumph and that a long, cruel war is necessary. The film ends with a picture of Communist Che Guevara after he had been killed by the Bolivian Army. As the viewer sees Guevara's body lying there, the narrator calls for revolutionary violence.

The film, "The Hour of the Furnaces" is distributed by the Third World Cinema Group of Berkeley. Other films offered by them include interviews with guerrilla Regis Debray, Marxist Salvador Allende, and one of the Arab terrorist organizations, Al Fatch.

After the film was shown, the movie projector asked for donations to bring the second part of the film to Fresno. Most people in the audience gave him some money.