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Rally coverage revealed bias

Your coverage of the Sept. 5 rally in Concord — to protest the brutal train assault on Brian Willson and American intervention in Central America — was a classic example of class bias masquerading as “objective journalism.”

“Crowd tears up tracks/Rally for

veteran ends in violence” screamed the Page One headlines. How come we never see screaming headlines decrying the U.S.-sponsored violence in Nicaragua, El Salvador or Guatemala? Why is it that we never see “12,000 civilians murdered by U.S.-backed Contras!/Children unspared as Contras use deliberate terrorism”?

No, the Mercury News saves its expressions of moral outrage for occasions when it is really warranted, when unspeakable acts of “violence” are committed against some railroad tracks. Your priorities are truly warped to focus attention on this act of retribution rather than the train it was intended to stop; a train transporting instruments of death to America’s surrogate armies terrorizing Central Americans fighting for self-determination.

S.J. MERCURY

— Richard Whitney
Campbell