

# NICARAGUA

## ON 19TH JULY WAS LIBERATED!

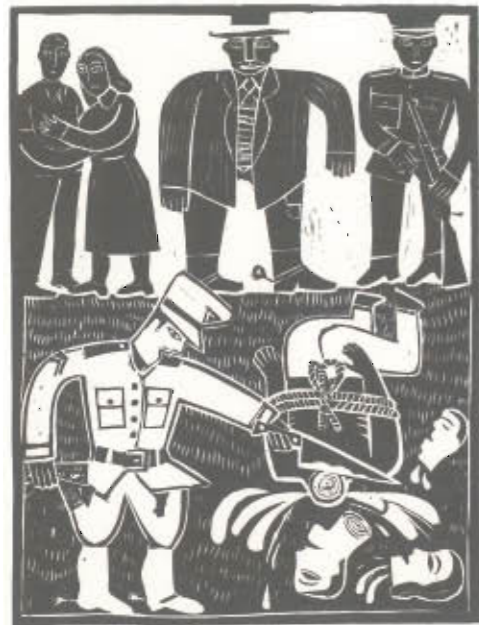
### AFTER 43 YEARS OF DICTATORSHIP

#### NICARAGUA

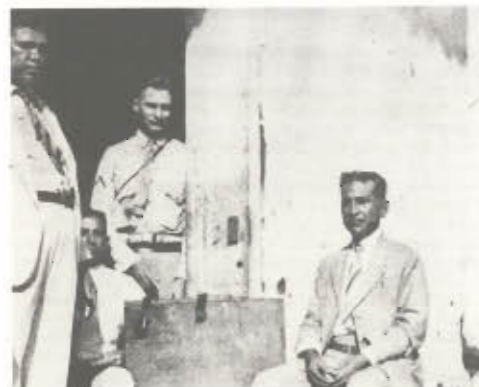


Nicaragua's history is one of domination: first as a Spanish colony, and later as part of the US's Central American backyard. In the 1850s, the 'filibuster' William Walker assumes control of the country.

In 1909, US response to the nationalist experiments of the Santos Zelaya government is to send in the marines, occupying the country almost continuously from 1909 to 1934.



The traditional parties – Liberal and Conservative – accept US controlled elections...



and the new US trained National Guard which replaces the Marines.



# OPPOSITION GROWS



The Nicaraguan people's rejection of foreign domination expresses itself through a nationalist movement led by AUGUSTO CESAR SANDINO, presenting the first popular alternative to the Nicaraguan oligarchy. 'WE PREFER TO DIE AS REBELS RATHER THAN TO LIVE AS SLAVES... THIS MOVEMENT OF OURS IS NATIONALIST AND ANTI-IMPERIALIST. WE SHALL KEEP THE FLAG OF LIBERTY FOR NICARAGUA AND THE WHOLE OF LATIN AMERICA'.



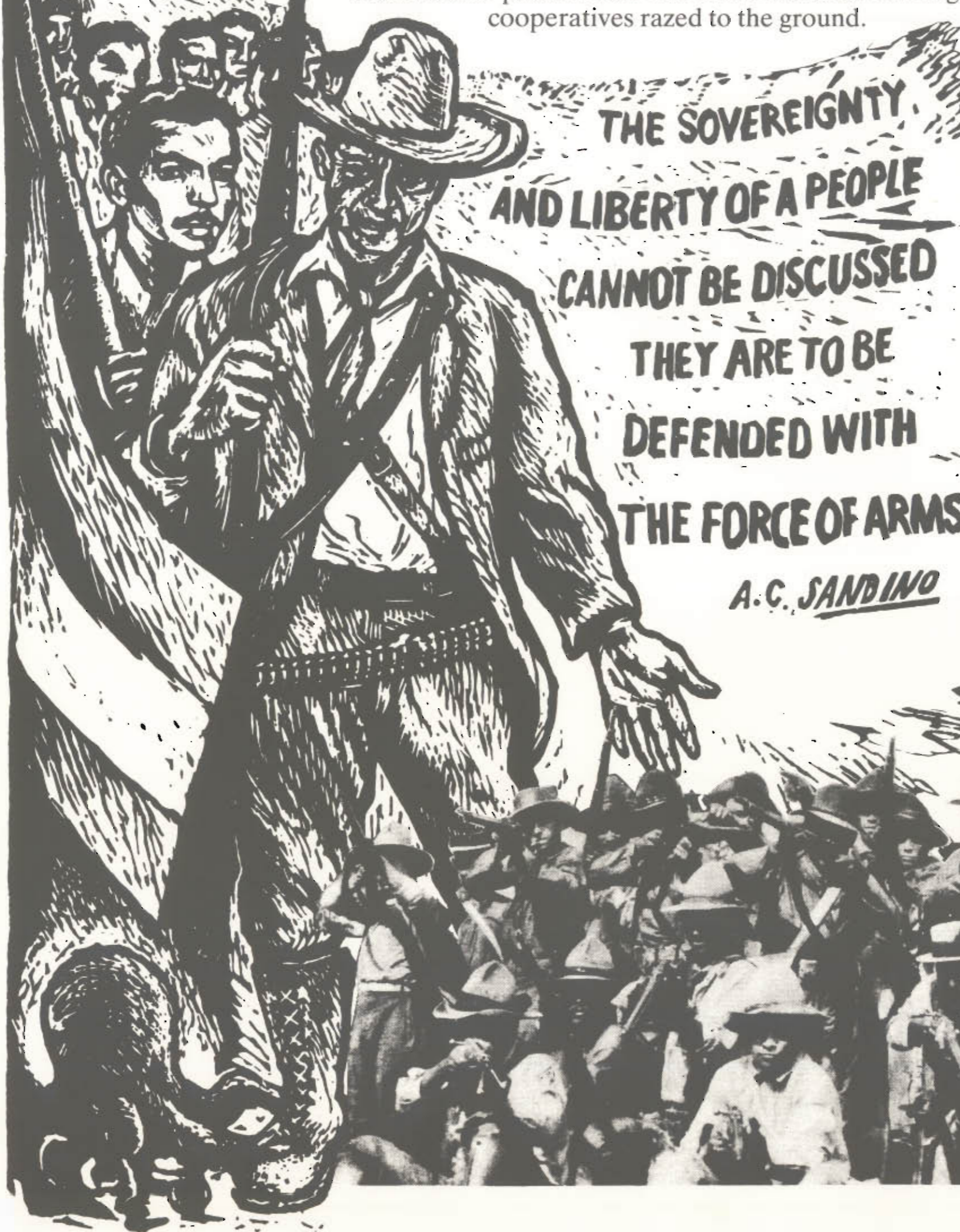
A.C. Sandino



Sandino's patriotic army succeeds against heavy American bombing in liberating large areas of Northern Nicaragua. 'ONLY THE WORKERS AND PEASANTS WILL GO ON TO THE END, ONLY THEIR ORGANISED STRENGTH WILL BRING ABOUT VICTORY!'

A.C. Sandino

Sandino is assassinated in 1934 by the National Guard. Hundreds of peasants are murdered and their farming cooperatives razed to the ground.



**Nicaragua**  
Slightly larger than England  
Population: 2.5 million  
Along the rich pacific coastal belt are the principal cities, industry and the majority of cultivated land.

The economy is based on: cotton, coffee, sugar and meat.



In 1936 'Tacho' Somoza, head of the National Guard takes Presidency with US backing founding a 43 year dynastic dictatorship, maintained by the brute force of the National Guard.



Tacho's sons take over after his assassination in 1956. Through control of the state and the economy, the family amasses a fortune of \$500 million dollars.