

Yet despite the solemn overtones of Wednesday's unveiling, former Napp employees said they look forward to April 21, a date that brings them together, that reminds them how lucky they are to be alive.

"I hope we get together as long as we physically can," said Alphious Giles, a former Napp employee who was in Washington the day of the explosion. "Even if we can't, it's nice to know the mural will be there to remind people. That's the most important thing of all."

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*Eva
Cockcroft
Memorial*

2. Viva Eva

Message to the Eva Cockcroft Memorial Meeting
Social & Public Art Resource Center, Los Angeles

Comrades & Friends:

I was working as a third-shift machinist at the General Electric plant in Lynn, Massachusetts, and going to art school during the day, when I first stumbled upon Eva Cockcroft. Someone had given me a copy of "Abstract Expressionism: Weapon of the Cold War." As a worker who was trying to become an artist, Eva's article was a revelation. It helped create a political context which gave meaning to my own life as an activist in the anti-war and socialist movements.

Later, I had the privilege of working on a number of projects with Eva. In 1985, when I initiated the Pathfinder Mural Project, she was an early and consistent advocate for the effort. It was a time when the Nicaraguan, Grenadian and South African revolutions were giving great hope to working people throughout the world. Artists came from many movements and many countries to help paint the mural in Manhattan. These were movements that Eva totally identified with. She viewed her life and her work as inseparable from the struggle of the oppressed.

Despite the subsequent mutilation, censorship and eventual destruction of the mural, it began as a hopeful vision. You can remove paint from a wall, but it is much more difficult to remove solidarity from the human heart. Eva maintained the optimism of that time to the end of her life.

I am proud to have become a fellow mural painter, and particularly proud to share space at the Library for Social Studies and Research, here in Los Angeles, where we both have murals. It is no accident that they are in South Central L.A., in the heart of a community despised by the moneyed classes of Los Angeles. This is where Eva was quite at home. It is far from the concerns of the official art world, which fawns over those who have nothing to say, and rewards those who flatter the worlds butchers.

Our world, the world of workers, is much richer for having artists like Eva Cockroft, who see beyond the lies, and who use their art to reveal the truth of this rotten system of human exploitation.

There is no sadness in my heart for Eva, who lived a wonderful and meaningful life. I only mourn for the artists who are drawn to the celebrity and monetary rewards that substitute for true meaning in art. They have led wasted lives.

As we meet tonight, there is much to do. We must not allow them to murder our brother Mumia. We must stop the rain of bombs upon our brothers and sisters in Yugoslavia. We must force the end of the murderous blockades of Cuba and Iraq.

So let's get at it! Grab your paint and brushes! There are walls to paint!

Regards, solidarity, and Viva Eva!

Mike Alewitz
Artistic Director
Labor Art & Mural Project

3. Clinton to Bomb England

NEWS FLASH

White House -- President Clinton announced today an all out bombing offensive against England will begin in two weeks, unless a peace accord is ratified by England and its break-away province of Northern Ireland.

"Using the fine logic we crafted in the Kosovo intervention, we have decided to add, incrementally, to the list of peace initiatives around the world," he said in a prepared statement. A background briefing indicated that on a weekly schedule, the Clinton administration would intervene in the following areas:

Week one -- Bombing of England to free Northern Ireland
Week two -- Bombing of Ankara, Baghdad and Teheran to free the Kurds.
Week three -- Bombing of several random African countries to stop the Hutus from killing Tutsis.
Week four -- Bombing of both Istanbul and Athens to solve the Cyprus problem
Week five -- Bombing of Madrid to free Catalonia.
Week six -- Bombing of Ottawa to free the Québécois.
Week seven -- Bombing of Jakarta to free the East Timor.
Week eight -- Bombing of New Delhi to free the Tamil peoples of Sri Lanka
Week nine -- Bombing of Paris to free Corsica
Week ten -- Bombing of Washington to free several Native American Nations.

"This schedule will do until we can come up with others," said Madeleine Albright, Secretary of State.

She did not respond when asked when the bombing of Beijing in order to free