

Good evening and welcome to the Pete Seeger show, brought to you on the second Saturday of every month by Freedom Is A Constant Struggle. The Pete Seeger show features the lifework of the great folksinger, musicologist, and freedom fighter.

The memory of Ben Seeger

Tonight's edition of the Pete Seeger show is dedicated to Ben Linder, the young North American murdered by the Contras in Nicaragua. It is as Joe Hill said so many years ago -- don't mourn for me -- organize! Or as Pete Seeger said a few years ago:

INSERT SEEGER ON NICARAGUA

It is for us the living to carry on the heroic example of Ben Linder, of the thousands of Nicaraguans who have been murdered and assaulted by drug-dealing thugs whose puppet strings are pulled by the CIA and military-industrial junta now ruling the United States. It is for us the living.

As are Pete Seeger's songs -- for us the living. At the center of this great artist's performances and recordings is a zest, a love for life, a joy in living, a humor and optimism. That doesn't mean that he ignores the difficulties and losses, but shining through it all is a man who whistles as he tells us about the great Vietnamese leader, Ho Chi Minh:

HO CHI MINH SONG

Josh White

Seeger

And bringing that tradition of song used in the struggle up through the more recent civil rights movement...accompanying the many sitins and protests for desegregation of public facilities...beginning with the Montoigomerty Bus Boycott sparked by Rosa Parks...here's one of the many songs Pete Seeger recorded as his rousing, challenging voice proclaimed:

INSERT-- If You Miss Me At the Back of the Bus

That was Pete Seeger and you are listening to the Pete Seeger show, a new feature of Freedom is A Constant Struggle that will be heard on the second Saturday of every month. Tonight's show is bringing you just a tiny sampling an immense amount of recorded work. Future shows will include interviews and other documentary material, and we welcome your requests and suggestions. We're going to move now into one of Pete Seeger's most famous songs, and one he helped originate in its modern-day form. The music is an old Cuban melody, the words are a tarnslation of a poem by the great Cuban indpeendence leader, Jose Marti, and the man who put the words to the music was Pete Seeger:

INSERT GUANTANAMERA

The struggles of people all over the world, a strong sense of internationalism, is one of the things that has made Pete Seeger a citizen of the world, and an eloquent spokesperson on issues such as world peace, ecology, and atomic power:

INSERT TALKING ATOM BLUES

And always in the work of Pete Seeger is a love for humanity, a sense of the strands which unite us all:

You have been listening to the first edition of the Pete Seeger show, brought to you by Freedom Is A Constant Struggle. Tonights show was produced by Chuy Verela, Emiliano Echeverria, and Lincoln Bergman. We hope you enjoyed tonight's brief sojourn into the wonderful world of Pete Seeger's songs, and we close with his plea for all of us, his Rainbow Race. Thank you very much for listening and good night.

You Can't Keep
From Seeger