

The life of Benjamin Linder



Who is Benjamin Linder?





“Anything you can do needs to be done, so pick up the tool of your choice and get started.”

Benjamin Linder

Benjamin Ernest “Ben” Linder was born on July 7, 1959. Born in California, graduated high school at Adams High School in Portland, Oregon in 1977. Attended college at the University of Washington.

College life

While in college, Linder enjoyed juggling and riding a unicycle. He then graduated in 1983, with a degree in mechanical engineering.



The Inspiration



What makes Linder, Linder?

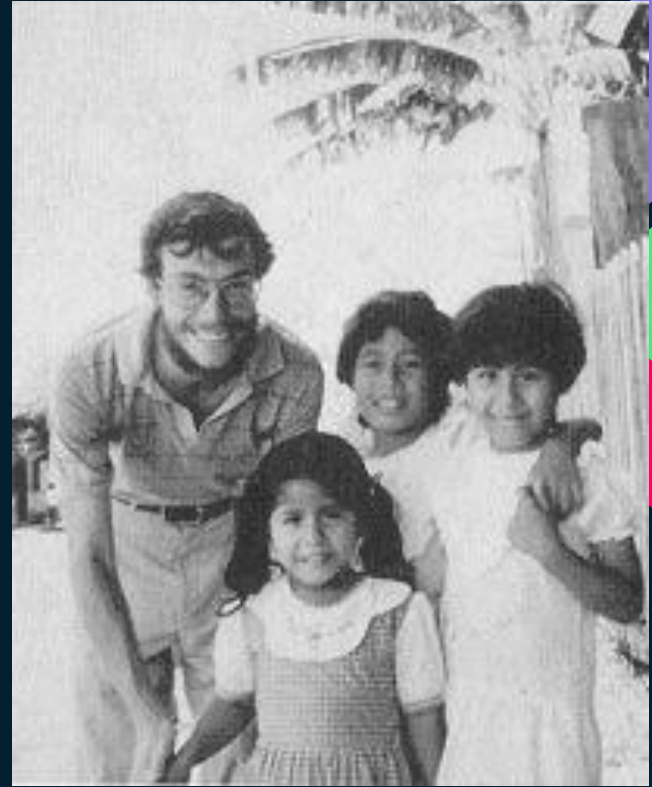
When he graduated, he left Oregon to moved to Managua, the capital of Nicaragua. He felt inspired by the 1979 Sandinista revolution, and wanted to support its efforts to improve the lives of the country's poorest people.

However, the Reagan administration saw the Sandinistas as a beachhead of Soviet Communism in the Western Hemi. In the beginning of 1981, the CIA secretly trained contra rebels. Their main task was to attack the improvements that had brought on the revolution.

His actions

In 1986, Ben moved from Managua to El Cua, a Nicaraguan war zone. This where he form a team to build a hydroelectric plant to bring electricity to the town.

While here, he participated in vaccination campaigns, using his talents as a clown, juggler and unicyclist to entertain the local children.





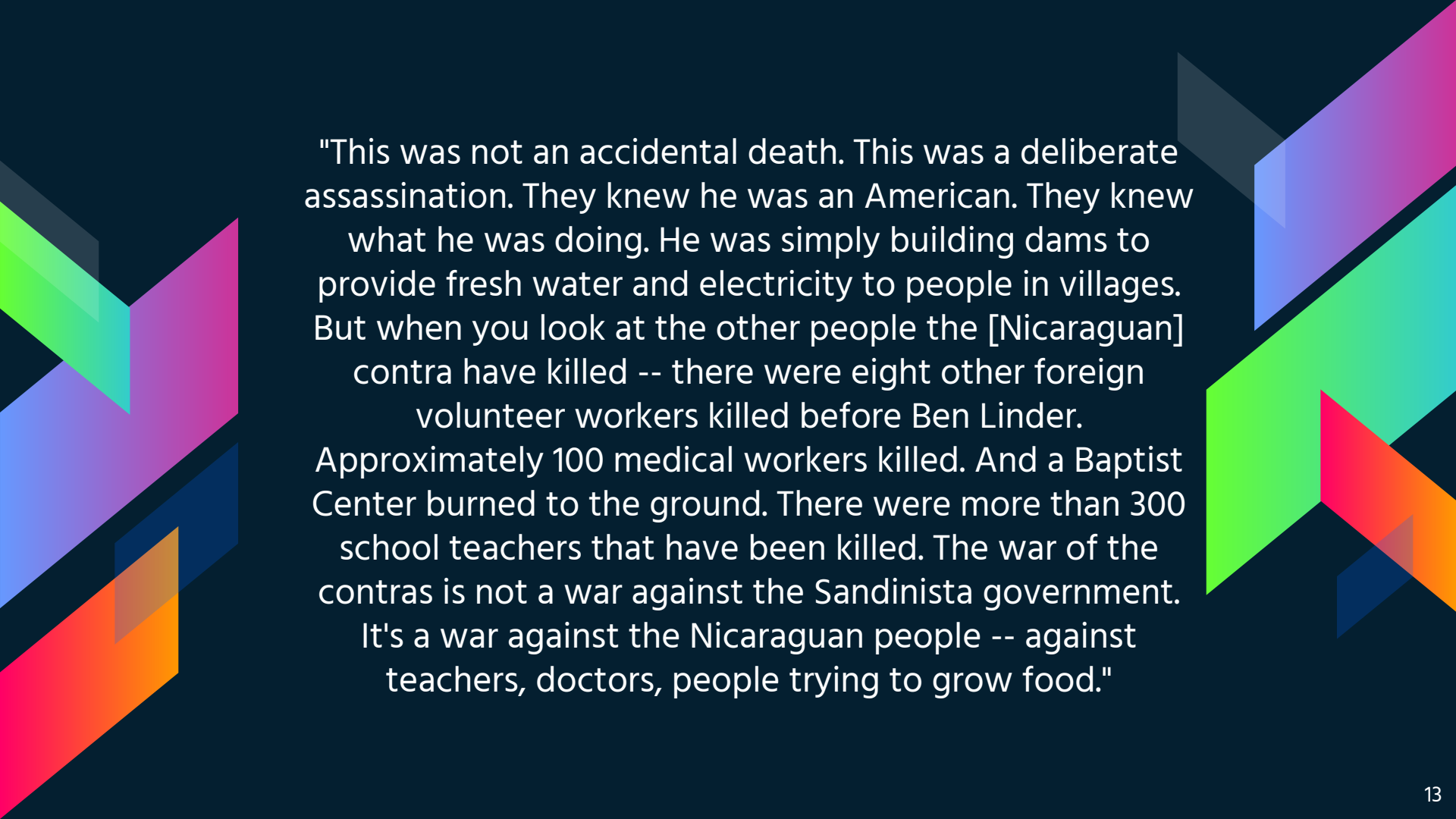
The death of Benjamin Linder

On April 28, 1987, Linder and 2 Nicaraguans were gun down by contra soldiers as they were looking into another site for a new plant. Linder was the only American civilian to be killed by the contras at the age of 27.

The Effect



The death of Benjamin Linder took the world by storm. Not only was he international news, he was praised by any and everyone for his work. In America, citizens began to rebel against the contra groups, really asking why they were needed. Although death took Linder too early, he still lives on today through the donations to his organization, ATDER-BL.



"This was not an accidental death. This was a deliberate assassination. They knew he was an American. They knew what he was doing. He was simply building dams to provide fresh water and electricity to people in villages. But when you look at the other people the [Nicaraguan] contra have killed -- there were eight other foreign volunteer workers killed before Ben Linder. Approximately 100 medical workers killed. And a Baptist Center burned to the ground. There were more than 300 school teachers that have been killed. The war of the contras is not a war against the Sandinista government. It's a war against the Nicaraguan people -- against teachers, doctors, people trying to grow food."

Awards

Postmortem, Ben linder was awarded the Carl Barus Award of Outstanding Service in the Public Interest by the IEEE Society on Social Implications of Technology.

Is Ben Linder a leader?

Yes! Ben Linder is definitely a leader.



Was Cronon right?

- › Yes, Linder fulfill majority of the traits cronon states.
- › 1. They listen and hear
- › 2. The read and understand
- › 3. They can talk to anyone
- › 5. Can solve a wide variety of puzzles and problem
- › 8. They understand how to get things done in the world
- › 9. They nurture and empower the people around them



THANKS!

Any questions?

Feel free to always hit me up if you have any questions or just wanna talk/chill.

Credits

- › https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ben_Linder
- › Photographs by Google images
- › IEEE Spectrum for the technology insider, issue 05.15
- › Cronon
- › https://liberationtheology.org/library/ben_linder_remembrance.htm