

March 1987

Volume 3, Number 2

The

MONTHLY PLANET

**Our Second
Anniversary
Issue!**



**It's Time To
Take Out The
Nuclear Garbage . . .**

(But Where's The Dump?)

Plus: Carl Sagan On Nuclear Testing

The MONTHLY PLANET
 c/o Nuclear Weapons Freeze
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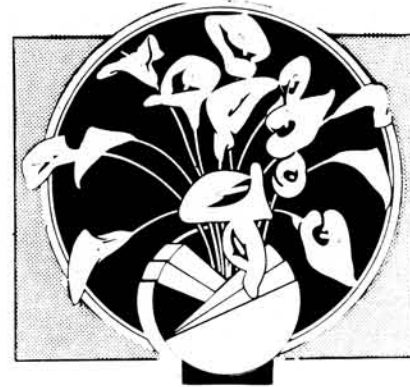
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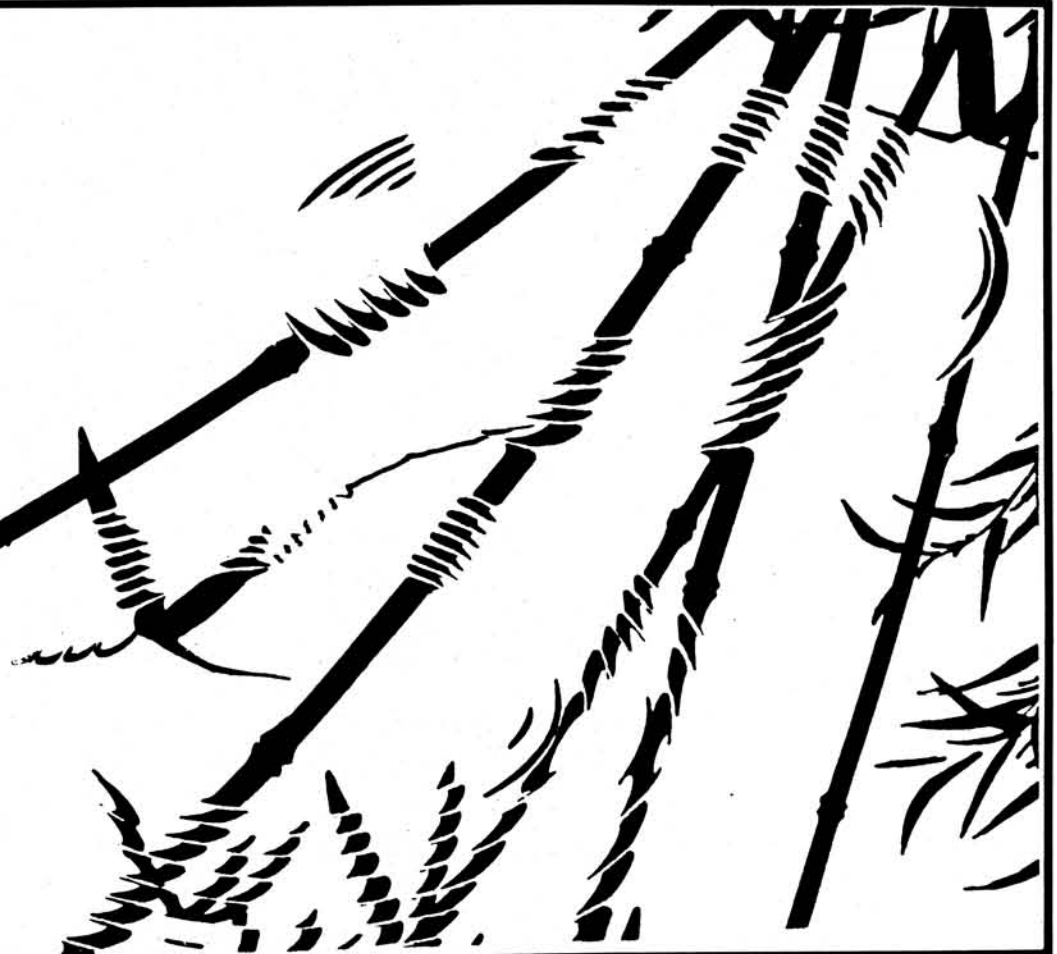
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THE FREEZE PROPOSAL

"To improve national and international security, the United States and the Soviet Union should stop the nuclear arms race. Specifically, they should adopt a mutual freeze on the testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons and of missiles and new aircraft designed primarily to deliver nuclear weapons. This is an essential, verifiable first step towards lessening the risk of nuclear war and reducing the nuclear arsenals."

The Call to Halt the Arms Race
Randall Forsberg, August 1980



On Thursday, February 5, local Freeze and Greenpeace activists released black balloons in downtown Santa Cruz while over 2000 people gathered at the Nevada Test Site to call for an end to nuclear testing. See the centerfold for a special photo-essay on the Nevada action.

The Monthly Planet

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The Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign

The Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign had its beginning in late 1979 when Randall Forsberg, director of the Institute for Defense and Disarmament Studies, drafted a paper—the Call to Halt the Nuclear Arms Race. National organizations and hundreds of regional and local groups and individuals endorsed the Freeze proposal and its goal of calling the U.S. and U.S.S.R. to stop the testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons and missiles and new aircraft designed primarily to deliver nuclear weapons.

Since 1981, when the national campaign began, support for the Freeze has broadened and deepened. In the fall of 1982, more than thirty percent of the American public had a chance to vote on the Freeze. Overall, sixty percent of those voting favored the Freeze. In 1983, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a Freeze resolution by almost a two-to-one victory.

In 1985 and '86, Freeze activists are focusing on the Comprehensive Test Ban as a first step to a comprehensive freeze on all testing, production, and deployment of nuclear weapons.

The Freeze Campaign is now active in all fifty states. It is broad-based and non-partisan. Through the Freeze, American citizens are demanding that the nuclear arms race be stopped and then reversed.

From The Grassroots



Letters to the Freeze must be typed, double spaced, and not more than two pages in length. We reserve the right to edit for brevity and clarity.

Let's Examine Our Birthing Attitudes

Dear Freeze,

As a culture, it is extremely important for us to look at our attitudes and practices of giving birth. This offers much insight into how we view ourselves, our children and our survival into the future.

A dominant theme in the modern world has been the challenge of introducing appropriate technologies to improve the quality of life without allowing scientific method and machines to overwhelm and even harm the very life processes they were intended to assist.

The biological design for the formation and delivery of a baby through its mother's body is universal. What's interesting is to look at how differently the event is handled from one culture or historical era to another.

Currently in the United States, 23 percent of all babies are born by Cesarean section. This and other technological advances have not prevented this country from dropping to 19th place worldwide in terms of infant morbidity



CHRISTOPHER PALERMO

and mortality.

Here in Santa Cruz County, we are fortunate to have a large number of excellent, physicians, midwives, nurses and birth care providers committed to the normalcy of birth. Historically, this county has pioneered the offering of a diversity of options for birth in both hospital and home settings. In addition, there is a high level of awareness among pregnant couples of

the value of natural childbirth, breastfeeding and family centered care.

Unfortunately, a number of national and statewide trends threaten the quality and availability of safe birth options in this county. These include: the drastic reduction of state and federal funding for medical care, the increased fear of legal intervention through malpractice suits, court-ordered Cesareans and other mandated standards of practice, and the continued harassment of direct-entry (lay) midwives who are waiting for their certification procedures to be legalized.

Therefore, it is imperative that consumers and providers of perinatal care remain vigilant to protect the availability, quality and diversity of birth options in this county.

Several upcoming events in Santa Cruz will be speaking to these issues. A seminar, "Trusting Ourselves: Women and Birth," a slide show "The Art of Birthing" and a film festival focussing on birth will all be offered during the month of March. Call 429-1835 for further information.

It is my hope that by affirming the perspective of birth as a normal, healthy process, we can all work together to guarantee affordable, appropriate and quality care for every incoming child.

Sincerely yours,

Debora Davis, R.N.
Santa Cruz

Is It Right To Prejudge Amerika?

Dear Freeze,

I just read 2 articles in *The Monthly Planet* about the upcoming TV miniseries, *Amerika*: one, outraged at the right-wing hysteria and the other asking us to write and ask for equal time for the other side of the view presented by the show.

I think it is legitimate to ask for equal time and would consider it very responsible if another channel (or better, the same channel) offered the time.

But as I read the articles, I was struck with the energy being put into a counter to a program that we haven't seen yet. And I question who indeed is hysteric.

I tend to believe in the integrity of *The Monthly Planet* and agree with its goals; its visions. This makes me want to believe that it's a good idea to prepare a defense.

But I feel cautious. I wonder about the wisdom of doing this. On several counts. Which isn't to say don't do it. Which is to say do it honestly and be fair. So often in our desire to undo the system's steamrolling progress it is tempting to package the issues, and difficult to allow "them" the Freedom to say what they want.

The first, strangest, scariest, and touchiest reason why I question the wisdom of prejudging this program is this: it means we question the ability for viewers to be able to shape rational, harmony (peace) oriented attitudes from this program or any propaganda*, regardless of its content or intent.

Integral with this is the issue of absolute honesty is a willingness to admit our humanness. I have observed from many right/left conflicts the name calling and the side-taking. It's often a struggle in the trenches to gain a little ground in the field of public opinion. An attempt to sway the News & Information Lemmings.

The danger is that without total honesty and a willingness to be patient and allow everyone involved their full play of freedom of expression, it becomes the typical percentage polls game. Whims, Fads, and Authority-Gods.

If the left. If the ecologists. If the peaceful. If the parents with visions for their children's world want to counter the promos for the system's steamroller, they, we, I must (im)prove our credibility.

It's slow but it's irreversible.

By all means, write to KNTV. Express your concerns. Admit what you do or don't know about the program. Admit what you only suspect. Admit your hopes that Americans can improve our lives and ultimately the planet by a forum that broadens our communication, our sharing.

When the Man says: those peaceniks; those clean water freaks; those liberals have only their own shortsighted interests in mind, it will hold no water if it has been shown we believe in exposure to fact and opinions and not in better propaganda*.

*Propaganda: Effort directed systematically toward the gaining of public support for an opinion or course of action.

Propaganda is propaganda. It doesn't matter who says it or which way it goes.

Roger Brown
Santa Cruz

Study The Alternatives

Dear Freeze,

I am writing to subscribe to *The Monthly Planet*. Enclosed is \$10 to cover the costs (student). Although you can see from the return address that I'm not from Santa Cruz, I happened to run across an issue of *The Monthly Planet* when I was at the February 5th action at the Nevada Test Site. It looks like an excellent publication for keeping up with progress on the movement to bring about an end to the arms race.

I am a member of a group of graduate students at Cal Tech in Pasadena known as the Space Weapons Study Group. We're a small (20 people) but active group created to oppose SDI in particular, and the arms race in general. In the past we've done things such as circulate petitions and pledges against SDI among the faculty and students, sponsor speakers, and sponsor a contest to come up with clever alternatives to SDI. We're currently putting together a book of contest entries. In any case, if you have any projects where you could use a contact at Cal Tech, please give me a call or write. Together we can end this nuclear madness.

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Congratulations

Dear Freeze,

Congratulations on a great *Monthly Planet*!!! I wrote six letters and feel much better. I hope you continue with the "what people can do" in your following issues.

Thanks for all the work you are doing.

Sincerely,

Kristine Albrecht
Santa Cruz

P.S. Enclosed is a donation. Please put it to work.

can be studied. If I am lucky enough to find two of the opposite sex, then maybe a breeding program can be started to save the species from extinction. But perhaps this would not be such a good idea after all. Supposing they were to escape from the zoo and insidiously take over the Freeze office. After the novelty wore off, I'd have to stop volunteering my labor. I'd never willingly take meaningless, self-indulgent dictation from a creature capable of dreaming up a 20-syllable adverb.

Yes, I am poking fun, but I am also trying to make an important point. I can understand that someone who has done much for a good cause

product, prevent the stabilization and democratization of the Soviet Union, don't let the Middle East stabilize except under Western control. So let's not lose sight of our major objectives by going overboard for a bit of unconstitutional, illegal behavior. A good, honest man ought to have the opportunity to redeem himself. And even this will demand serious sacrifices: both Democrats and Republicans say, according to the *San Jose Mercury News*, that Mr. Reagan must "become more involved in the day-to-day running of his administration to counter the impression that he is out-of-touch and inattentive." Pretty punishing requirement, that. He must also "... tell the American People, for the first time, that he should not have authorized secret weapons shipments to Iran."

It's better if people don't get caught doing evil or illegal things, but if they do get caught, by mistake, then it's really all right if they say they meant well and accept responsibility, and we forgive them. Isn't that the sportsmanlike way, the American way?

Come to think of it though, this little consolation memo is starting to joggle some other ideas. I think: what if we had a two-party state or a multi-party state? Would the press have another story to tell? Would there be some other sounds coming from Washington? Hard to tell, but it's worth thinking about. It's still permitted.

If anyone would like to try with me, give me a call some evening, at 423-2605.

Best to you all,

Herb Foster
Santa Cruz

Government And Media Ignore Peace Events

Dear Freeze,

I want to respond to the letter in the January February issue of *The Monthly Planet* about the apparent disregard for peace events by both the government and the media.

The writer pointed out that he or she could find nothing in the mainstream news media about the worldwide peace vigil on December 31, 1986. After scrutinizing the appropriate issues of the *Santa Cruz Sentinel*, I did manage to find some mention of the event. An article titled "World prepares for 1987" on page A1 begins, "Millions of people around the globe will take note of the new year by pausing to contemplate peace ..." and later mentions it again, stating only, "Throughout the world an estimated 400 million people in 75 countries will pause for an hour on the last day of 1986 ... to get people all over the world thinking about the same thing." The lack of details on this event in which a mere 400,000,000 people participated only confirms the media's gross negligence in covering activities of the peace movement.

The governments' refusal to allow a satellite link which the writer cites should have been a major story in itself, yet I have heard nothing about that at all. I dream of the day when cases of censorship such as this reach the headlines. In the meantime, we'll just have to rely on newspapers such as this one to fill in these colossal gaps in the news coverage.

Sincerely,

Allan Reaves
Boulder Creek



CHRISTOPHER PALERMO

Searching For Grassroots Intellectuals

Dear Freeze,

I read Susan Strong's recent article (January/February *Monthly Planet*) entitled "No Laughing Matter" with great interest. The first sentence that piqued my curiosity contained the following: "... I have concluded that the whole peace movement is a tribe of grassroots intellectuals ..." I was puzzled by the term "grassroots intellectual," and read on hoping for an explanation. A few lines down I read the following: "Most Americans do not read. Furthermore, the great mass of the American people do not want to be serious ..." From this I developed the following theory. Since grassroots meant the great mass of the American people and since the American masses did not read, it stood to reason that perhaps a "grassroots intellectual" was an intellectual that did not read. To confirm this, I checked in *Double-Speak's Encyclopedia of Political Jargon* and read the following: 'Grassroots-intellectual: A recently extinct species of intellectual that could neither read nor write. They spoke an obscure dialect of pseudo-Harvardese and were never seen without an assistant to read and write all personal correspondence for them. The last remaining member of this species is believed to have choked to death in 1984 while dictating a 20-syllable adverb.'

This information filled me with excitement. I had never before seen a living member of an extinct species and Susan's article gave me every reason to believe that some grassroots-intellectuals could be spotted hanging out around the local Freeze office. I immediately called the freeze and volunteered my labor for three weeks running. By the end of three weeks I was bitterly disappointed. All I had observed at the Freeze office was a cross section of the American masses working to avert impending nuclear disaster. And Susan would be astounded to discover that although they were ordinary Americans, every one of them did read. This and many other things led me to the sad conclusion that there was not a grassroots-intellectual among them.

Though discouraged, I am continuing my search for the grassroots-intellectual. If I find one I will donate it to the nearest zoo so that it

might begin to suffer from delusions that they are members of a fictitious clique of elite and superior beings. I do not wish to deprive Susan of whatever comfort she derives from indulging in such a fantasy. I would not have bothered with this letter if she had not implied that most other Freeze workers share this elitist fantasy with her. This is insulting to other Freeze workers and, from what I have seen, simply not the truth.

An American that reads,

Eric Kleinspehn
Aptos

Learning From Our Mistakes?

Dear Freeze,

Well, so now at last we have a new Chief of Staff in the White House—who, as things are arranged, is the chief executive officer in the U.S. government—and it's about time. The country and the world is, after all, facing some pretty drastic problems—nuclear annihilation, environmental degradation and collapse, starvation, endemic warfare, massive unemployment and population displacement, and so on, so it's good to have the government back in business to address these issues, which is what it's about, isn't it? No? No, according to Howard Baker's first statement following his appointment as Chief of Staff. His objective: "... our dedication is to see that he [Reagan] looks good after eight years."

So, then, how are the parties responding to all this? Well, of course, there's the scattered opposition on both sides of the aisle, but balance prevails! We mustn't take things so seriously as to rock the boat. After all, the administration meant well, didn't it? It just made some mistakes. As columnist George Will explained it several weeks ago, the president's advisors made two serious errors: 1) they allowed him to undertake something in which there was too high a probability of getting caught, and, 2) they didn't pay enough attention to the principle of "deniability."

But they should learn from this, and, after all, we're all after the same thing, aren't we? Eradication of anything in Central America that's not under secure control, keep up arms sales since that's now our principal export

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The Planet Turns Two!

by Risa Krive

As *The Monthly Planet* enters its third year, we are witnessing the birth of something new to our nation since the current administration came to power—the search for truth in politics. We are engaged as a nation on a quest for truth, probing into the basement of the White House and reaching into the boardrooms of corporate America, looking for keys and clues to Iranscam and the contra diversion.

As the pieces of the puzzle are held up to the light for scrutiny and are put together by people of diverse professions and political viewpoints, we are encouraged to probe deeper into our national consciousness. It is here that we will find the seeds of Iranscam for, as Kahlil Gibran said, "the apple does not go bad without the silent knowledge of the whole tree." The man the majority of Americans elected to be our president, the man who became the most popular president ever in living history, has not significantly changed; it is



JORDAN WOLFSON

public perception of him that has changed. It is public awareness of the inner workings of this administration that lead many to feel that no one is steering our ship of state—and public awareness will determine our new leadership and the direction in which we as a nation and as a world power will move.

For the past two years, *The Monthly Planet* has been a vehicle for public awareness. It is a natural offspring of the political

climate in which it was created:

- The White House has given false information to the American public about national and foreign policy and has admitted doing so in order to "mislead and confuse the Soviets."

- We have a national security policy and a foreign policy that has led us to the possibility of annihilation.

- The earth is littered with the corpses of civilians killed in the names of so many

causes and we are all held hostage by the breakdown of communication.

- Our very language is betrayed as our involvement in Nicaragua is called "protecting democracy," our failure at Reykjavik is pronounced a "success," and our missile of death is called "The Peacekeeper."

In this Orwellian climate of slick illusion, the voice of the child who speaks the truth as s/he sees it, who says that the emperor has no clothes, who is willing to look anew at our problems and at solutions, becomes a voice for the many.

The Monthly Planet has endeavored to be such a voice, to shed light on the atmosphere of secrecy and mistrust in which violence is nourished, and to promote the possibilities and the blessings of peace. More people are listening every day to voices of reason rather than to assurances that military might is right. *The Monthly Planet* is one of the many lights of love that are born out of the darkness of nuclear madness, even as the miracle of life *always* asserts itself over the illusion of death. It is the voice in our own hearts that says so, that urges us to live accordingly.

There are two clear paths to choose from: that of fear, which leads to violence, and that of peace, which leads to peace. For peace is not simply a goal—it is an ongoing choice. Choosing peace in our personal encounters, in the way we relate to our family, friends, neighbors and associates, creates a pathway of progress. "Progressive" politics are likewise made of just such cooperative choices.

It is my birthday wish that *The Planet* grow and prosper in the coming year. One concrete and vital way for you to make this wish come true is to support the businesspeople who support *The Planet*. These people are your friends and neighbors. They have created businesses to serve the needs of the local community, and they serve it very well indeed when they choose to advertise in *The Monthly Planet*. They provide the funds to produce the paper. It is this simple. Your participation in the paper via your support of these businesses is vital. This is a situation where we all grow together—as you turn to *The Planet's* business supporters to provide for your needs, the local peace economy flourishes, *The Planet* moves forward in its orbit, and we all benefit from this growth.

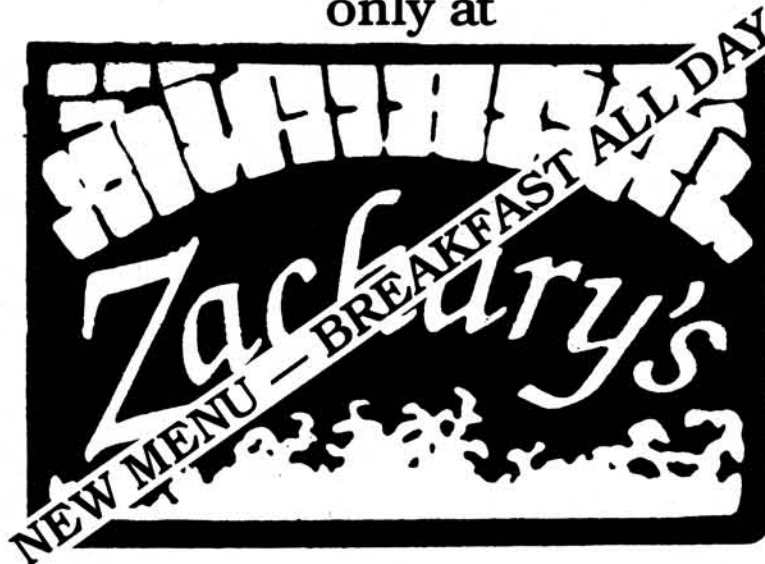
As *The Monthly Planet* continues to grow in popularity, may it grow in wisdom as well. May it grow in circulation and base of support like a healthy tree within our community, spreading flowers and fruit for the betterment of the population even as its roots grow deeper and stronger into the earth for nourishment and sustenance. May we *all* grow and prosper in peace. Let us celebrate this birthday together. May we outgrow the desire for and the reality of nuclear weapons and violence, as a child grows out of old clothes. May we shed our greed and our fears and grow into our full humanity. May *The Monthly Planet* someday report on the changes happening in a world at peace, a world free to prosper, a world of wisdom. May you and I be the bearers of peace and good news. Happy birthday, *Monthly Planet*.

Risa Krive is the Advertising and Business Membership Director of the Santa Cruz County Nuclear Weapons Freeze.

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As We Enter Our Third Year...

by Terry Teitelbaum

A nuclear weapons freeze would amount to a change in social consciousness on the order of women's suffrage and the abolition of slavery. The first step to any change is awareness — awareness that a critical situation exists and that there is a need for change. The second step is action — action which takes the form of joining others or working alone to become more aware and to influence more people to become aware and in turn, take action.

The Monthly Planet, now two years old, has been an important vehicle for facilitating that process. There are so many interconnected issues and events which relate to the nuclear arms race. A problem so big could only have grown out of a complex series of events and causes — many premeditated, many more incidental.

The premier issue of *The Monthly Planet* focused on the United States' first-strike policy — a premeditated driving force for the arms race if there ever was one. This policy, which dates back to the end of World War II when our country was the only one to possess nuclear weapons, gets at the heart of so many more policies which were covered in subsequent issues of the *Planet*. The administration's boundless determination to develop Star Wars is an integral part of its first-strike policy. Its refusal to agree to a Comprehensive Test Ban stems from the fact that an end to testing would mean an end to Star Wars. And Star Wars effectively blocked any agreement at the Geneva summit so expectantly watched by a world anxious for a negotiated end to the nuclear arms race by the superpowers.

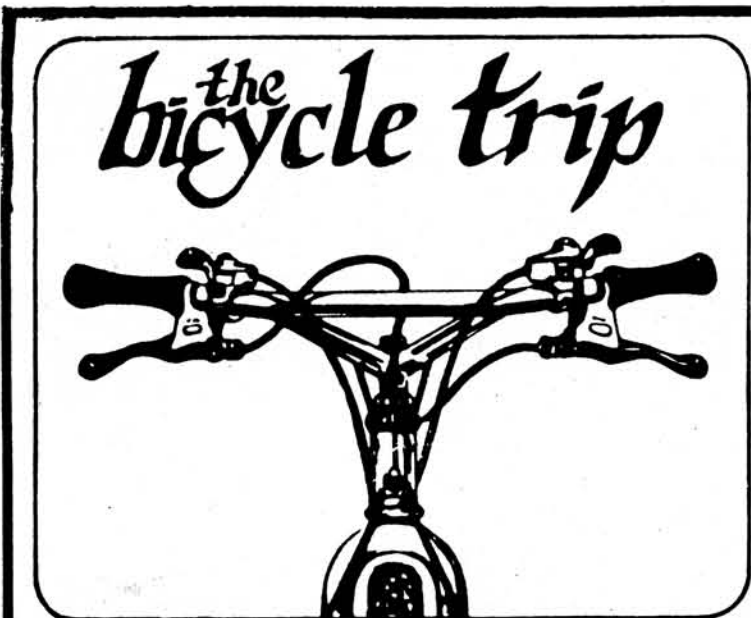
Some of the more incidental catalysts for the arms race have also been examined by *The Planet*. The bureaucratic weapons procurement process, rife with greed and corruption, fuels the nuclear spiral, heedless of long-term consequences. And our romantic intrigue with technology as the cure for all our ills has contributed to our acceptance for so long of nuclear weapons to insure our security.

In the last two years, the lifetime of *The Monthly Planet*, we have witnessed the worst nuclear accident in world history. We heard the Soviet Union make some of the most sweeping proposals in the history of arms control, backed up by an 18-month nuclear testing moratorium only to be rejected out of hand by an administration bent on continuing the arms race.



The movement to end nuclear testing, the first step to a nuclear weapons freeze and the larger movement for world peace, has grown and flourished in the last two years as well. The Nevada Test Site hosted ever increasing public demonstrations against nuclear testing — the largest ever occurring on February 5 of this year with more than 2000 people in attendance and 438 arrested for civil disobedience. And on December 31, 1986, the new year was welcomed by 2000 Santa Cruz citizens at the Civic Auditorium who had gathered simply to pray for world peace.

With a fair sprinkling of humor and a large dose of critical analysis, *The Monthly Planet* has covered these issues and events in order to provide an alternative to television and mainstream press. It has not been merely a mouthpiece for the Freeze organization, but rather a tool for those who have become aware, want to become more aware, and take action. It is only through the free flow of information and access to alternative ideas that a change in consciousness can occur. *The Monthly Planet* is proud to be part of that movement.*



the bicycle trip

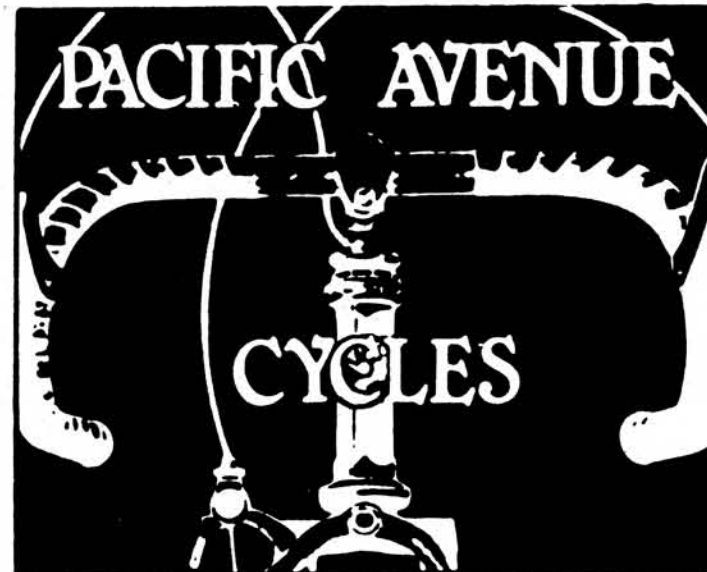
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Deep Base

Once the Pentagon begins a project it is often reluctant to completely scrap it, even when the idea has lost support in favor of another. An example is President Reagan's recent decision to deploy nuclear missiles, primarily the MX, on trains, an idea which won out over another, the "deep base."

According to the Air Force, research for deep missile basing will still proceed with low-level funding. The back-burner proposal is to build a vast underground missile complex, sunk 2,500 to 4,000 feet, a construction considerably deeper than the Air Force's North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) under Cheyenne Mountain in Colorado. The bases would have to survive a nuclear attack, be able to launch its retaliatory missiles, and, of course, be livable. It has been noted that NORAD probably could



JORDAN WOLFSON

not survive the blast of even one high-powered missile.

The deep bases with their hundreds of miles of tunnels have an estimated, conjectural cost of up to \$60 billion.

—RL

Hostages Released

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has just approved a rule change on evacuation planning in order to open completed nuclear power plants in Shoreham, Long Island, and in Seabrook, New Hampshire. After the accident at the Three Mile Island facility in Pennsylvania, the NRC began requiring that safety plans be drafted with local and state officials for evacuation of all areas within a 10-mile radius and to demonstrate that the plan will work. Licensing of the Shoreham and Seabrook facilities was successfully blocked by local

governments which refused to cooperate in the drafting and demonstration of the federally required safety plans.

According to nuclear regulators, these plants represent what they term "the hostage problem," whereby uncooperative officials can keep plants from opening.

The solution to this "hostage plant" problem envisioned by the NRC is to allow licensing with or without the approval of state and local officials. Essentially, the rule drops the requirement for participation in a safety drill, provided the utility gives copies of the plan to the affected governments.

Governor Cuomo of New York argued that this rule change is a "blatant political fix" to open the plants and boost the industry, which has been hampered by skyrocketing costs and increasing safety concerns. Representative Edward J. Markey (D-Mass.) charged the NRC of circumventing safety concerns to benefit the utilities, and that the rule change violates the 10th Amendment, delegating state powers to utilities during an evacuation. Markey has introduced legislation to give governors the power to veto licenses for facilities deemed unsafe, and plans to introduce further legislation requiring state and local involvement in evacuation planning.

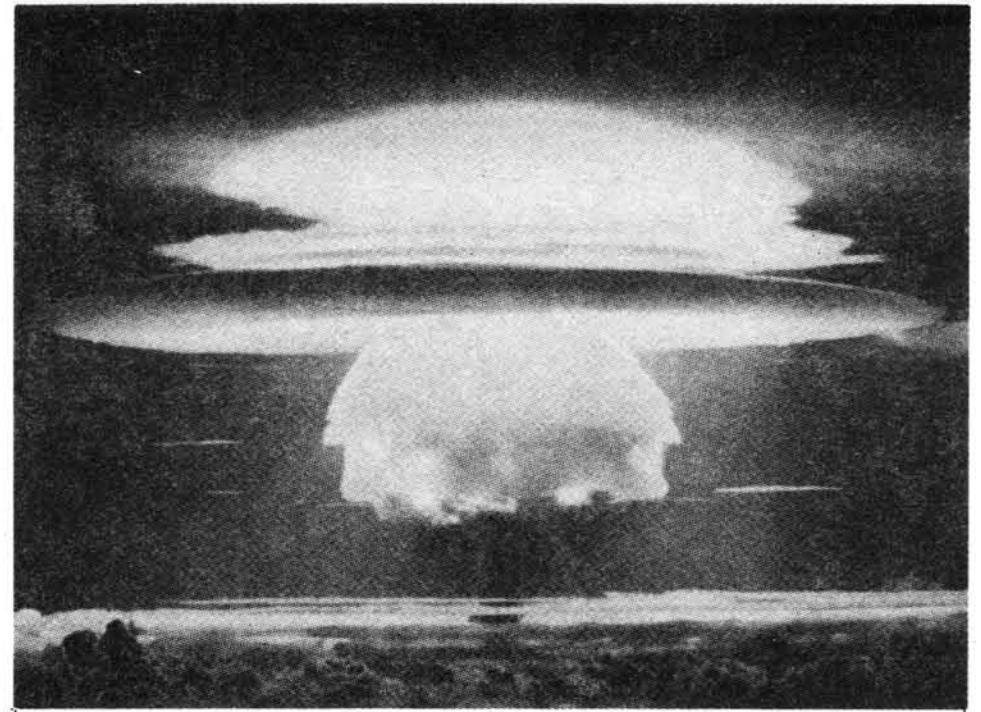
—DMT

Powerless Against Terrorism

Nuclear power plants are vulnerable to terrorist attack. And, contrary to Nuclear Regulatory Commission claims, little is being done about it.

The International Task Force on the Prevention of Nuclear Terrorism recently concluded that defenses against truck bombs and insider sabotage need improvement. Paul Leventhal, executive vice chair of the Task Force, says, "Nuclear power plants today are far too vulnerable to attack . . . much more needs to be done." The Task Force is composed of 22 members, including a former CIA director, retired military officials, a former weapons laboratory head, and four top executives, active and retired in the nuclear industry. "They [the Nuclear Regulatory Commission] are inclined to deny there's a problem to avoid controversy," argues Leventhal, who pointed out that controversy could lead to licensing hearings.

The NRC maintains that steps are being taken to alleviate the threat. "We're not



Hot Flashes

by Ronald A. Lampi and David Michael Troutman

sitting around on our duffs," claims Robert Burnett, director of safeguards for the NRC. The problem of dealing with truck bombs is "under active consideration." Daniel Hirsch, director of the Stevenson Program on Nuclear Policy at UC Santa Cruz and contributor to the Task Force, disputes this claim, however.

After the bombings in Lebanon in 1983, NRC staff recommended rules stipulating facilities protect themselves against such a possibility, and also contracted with Sandia National Laboratory to examine the potential damages resulting from truck bombings. Then, on April 26, 1984, the NRC put the rule changes on hold until research on the potential effects of truck bombs was completed. But according to Hirsch's investigations, the NRC had already been given the results of the Sandia study two weeks earlier. Hirsch, who obtained NRC documents under the Freedom of Information Act, found that the Sandia study indicated "unacceptable damage to vital reactor systems" could occur from a terrorist attack. The research showed the problem was serious, and the solution would be more expensive than the NRC had thought. "They just stopped and hoped the problem would go away," Hirsch said.

—DMT

"Progress" Went Too Far

The House Armed Services Committee has given the Reagan administration a failing grade on its performance at the Iceland summit last October. The committee's Defense Policy Panel recently issued its report on the summit, stating that President Reagan was "ill-prepared" for his meeting with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, and that four months after their meeting there was still an "astonishing degree of confusion surrounding what actually happened."

The administration's attempt to claim

success at the summit is in sharp contrast to what the report by the Democrat-controlled panel had found. Some of the points made in it were: the summit's date was far premature given the lack of preparation for it; U.S. allies were not seriously




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consulted beforehand; the Pentagon was given no time to study the various possible proposals, besides the fact that it and the Secretary of Defense were excluded from the summit's proceedings; contradictions and disputes among administration officials gave the impression of a White House in disarray; and the wide-sweeping proposals that were made came as a surprise in a summit that was supposed to have had a more limited scope. The panel rebuked Reagan for almost blundering into an arms control agreement without any understanding of its actual implications.

The report ended by stating, "The more obvious conclusion is that the process moved too fast — 'progress' went too far, overshot its mark and yielded the United States nothing but the appearance of confusion and frustration."

—RL



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Bombs 'R' Us

Could commercial nuclear reactors be converted to military use? The Energy Department is studying the feasibility of doing just that with a mothballed commercial reactor at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation. The No. 1 reactor at Hanford, owned by the Washington Public Power Supply System, is being considered as a possible tritium- and plutonium-producing plant, both essential ingredients of the hydrogen bomb.

Senator Daniel J. Evans (R-WA) has come out in favor of the "excellent" feasibility study the Energy Department has presented in a private congressional briefing. Though acknowledging many unanswered questions surrounding such a proposal, he sees it as a possible solution to the problems that are beginning to develop at the nation's aging military reactors. The No. 1 reactor could possibly replace the Energy Department's N Reactor at Hanford, currently shut down, which has produced about a third of the military's plutonium.

Representative Ron Wyden (D-OR), however, has come out against the whole notion by introducing legislation which would prevent any attempt to convert commercial power reactors to military use. He notes that the Energy Department is only presenting a study at this time, but has also said in the strongest terms, "They're setting the stage for turning a civilian reactor into a bomb factory."

— RL

Top Secret Public Information

The Senate Armed Services Committee has discovered how far the government can go in classifying information it deems would compromise "national security." At a public congressional hearing last year, senior administration officials were questioned by members of the committee; the Pentagon then asked to look over the transcript for possible classified information that might have gotten out. The result: the official published record of what had been an open public hearing — many reporters were present — now showed numerous deletions.

But the subject of the hearing? Soviet nuclear testing. Specifically, whether the Soviet Union had been violating two



ELLEN HODGES

treaties that limit the size of underground blasts. Though the Reagan administration has taken the position that the Soviets had most likely been cheating, others, including scientific experts at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, have questioned it. Last year, the CIA further weakened the administration's position when it decided to change its estimating procedures for nuclear tests and concluded that previous estimates of Soviet tests were too high. The news media circulated the story and drew the attention of the Armed Services Committee, resulting in the hearing. When the official record of it was made public, not only were the responses of administration officials full of deletions, but even the questions put to them by members of the committee were marked by deletions. In addition, the hearing had now been wrongly classified as a "closed session."

Many on the congressional committee have seriously questioned the need for the deletions on national security grounds. Senator Carl Levin (D-MI), when learning of the censored record, said, "I'm deeply disturbed by the deleting of portions of my questions, which were based on statements in a newspaper article." There is the suspicion among some that the administration wanted to suppress not only any impression of discord in its position by conflicting testimony, but also any information that might indicate that the Soviet Union had, in fact, been in compliance with the nuclear testing treaties.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee has had a similar experience with the same issue. In a public hearing, Admiral William J. Crowe Jr., chairperson of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, was questioned about the CIA's new estimating procedures; later,

in the published record of it, some of his responses were found to have been altered, allowing for a different interpretation.

— RL

Peaceful Military Use

The United States and its allies agreed to resume negotiations on the development and use of a large space station. Discussions with representatives from Canada, Japan, and the 11-nation European Space Agency were stopped last December after the Pentagon demanded that the station be available for military purposes. Dr. James C. Fletcher, Administrator of NASA, reported that the Japanese in particular are "especially concerned . . . because they want to steer clear of anything having to do with military activity." The European Space Agency is bound by its charter to participate only in nonmilitary programs.

The Europeans and Japanese are concerned that the Americans might not embrace a "genuine partnership" and might exercise a veto power over project management. The United States reopened negotiations, yet claimed that "there is no change in its approach to international participation." President Reagan invited the allies in 1984 to share in construction and use of the space station; the allies have tentatively pledged nearly \$4 billion to help with the project.

While the civilian and scientific use of the space station was emphasized, American negotiators claimed that they saw no conflict between the "peaceful purposes" of the project and its use by the military for "nonaggressive" activities.

— DMT

The Pentagon's Black Hole

"The Pentagon keeps these programs of almost unbelievable size secret from Congress, from the General Accounting Office, from its own auditing agencies. And every time they have kept secrets from us, the facts, when they come out, have been surrounded by a bodyguard of lies." What Representative John D. Dingell (D-MI) was referring to here were the Pentagon's "black budget" programs. And they have more than tripled in the last six years — precisely since the time Reagan took office. Secret programs now total \$35 billion a year, 11 percent of the Pentagon's current spending request, and are said to be growing faster than any other budgetary category of the federal government.

The black budget outstrips federal spending for transportation, agriculture, education, and the environment; it is fast closing in on the federal budget for the entire nation's health care. Under Reagan, one item of the black budget alone, research and development, has grown by 1,357 percent. Included in the black budget's classified programs are secret weapons, covert military units and activities, intelligence operations, and such bizarre research as teaching dolphins the art of sabotage. Also in the top secret category are the Pentagon's plans for winning a prolonged World War III and preparations for World War IV!

Some observers have been wondering if such an increase in secrecy may not be undermining the political process of our democracy.

— RL

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ABM: An Endangered Treaty

by Joe Palermo

Last November, the Reagan administration abandoned the SALT II treaty by deploying a bomber that placed the U.S. arsenal over the treaty's numerical limits on strategic nuclear weapons. Now, the administration has again set its sights on redefining the tenets of the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) treaty, the cornerstone of arms control.

The Pentagon has advised the President to adopt a "broader" interpretation of the ABM treaty to allow for accelerated testing and development of Star Wars. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger recently told a House subcommittee that the Pentagon is "close to being able to recommend deployment decisions" for some components of the antimissile system. The talk of a possible deployment of Star Wars components has given the debate over the ABM treaty's interpretation a new timeliness.

The traditional view of the treaty, which was upheld by both sides until the Reagan administration began its re-evaluation in late 1985, strictly limits testing and development of mobile, futuristic ABM systems and components. The new administration position, however, claims the treaty has a loophole that would allow for extensive testing and development of some new types of Star Wars systems.

The new U.S. interpretation is premised on the notion that the treaty only applies to the types of technology in existence when it was signed, and not to today's

systems which are based on different "physical principles." Proponents of this view claim that the word "currently" in Article II of the treaty refers only to the types of systems that were "current" in 1972.

The Soviets have not only held to the traditional interpretation of the treaty, but have been seeking to strengthen its limits on the testing and development of space-based weaponry. They believe that changes

with the traditional view. Although a formal decision on the matter is pending while the State Department evaluates the international climate of opinion on the change, the arms control team representing the United States in Geneva is circumscribed by the new position.

The administration's new interpretation is disputed by all but one of the principal American negotiators of the ABM treaty, and has been privately criticized by some

If the administration wishes to begin early deployment of Star Wars it will have to scrap the treaty.

in technology do not invalidate a treaty intended to last for an "indefinite duration," and view the word "currently" in Article II as applying to whatever technology is "currently" available. Indeed, given the rapid pace of technological change, under the Reagan criteria, the treaty would have been outdated six months after it was signed.

On February 21, Reagan issued a National Security Decision Directive instructing American arms negotiators in Geneva to follow the new interpretation of the treaty, and not to negotiate limits on defensive systems that were consistent

government officials.

A recent report prepared by former high-ranking officials of the Ford and Carter administrations, published by the Aspen Institute for Humanistic Studies, questions the current leadership's double standard regarding the treaty. According to the report, the Reagan administration is seeking "to hold the Soviets strictly accountable for their own compliance behavior," while it is taking actions "to drain the ABM treaty of meaning and to probe gray areas in order to gain maximum advantage" for moving ahead with Star Wars.



JORDAN WOLFSON

In a recent speech at an international peace gathering, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev said of the new Reagan administration position, "whatever the pretexts for this [new interpretation], the aim is clearly to bust the treaty." The U.S. administration has publicly indicated that early deployment of some Star Wars components might take place before Reagan leaves office in January 1989.

However, neither the traditional nor the broad interpretation of the treaty would allow for actual deployment of a space-based anti-ballistic missile system. Article V of the treaty states that each party will not "develop, test or deploy ABM systems or components which are sea-based, air-based, space-based or mobile land-based." If the administration wishes to begin early deployment of Star Wars it will have to scrap the treaty.

The governments of Britain, West Germany, Canada, and Japan have voiced disapproval at any U.S. attempt to eviscerate the treaty. And some congressional leaders are moving towards blocking the formal adoption of the new interpretation. Senator Sam Nunn (D-Ga.), who chairs the Senate Arms Services Committee and is a past supporter of Star Wars, recently told Reagan in a letter that an abrupt change in the U.S. definition of the treaty "would provoke a constitutional confrontation of profound dimensions" between Congress and the White House.

Unlike the unratified SALT II treaty which Reagan scrapped with relative ease, the Senate ratified the ABM treaty in August 1972, making it the law of the land. For a president to change the meaning of such a treaty at whim strikes to the core of the balance of constitutional powers between the chief executive and the Congress.

Joe Palermo is a staff writer of The Monthly Planet

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Peacesat: Alternative To Star Wars

by Susan C. Strong

Arthur C. Clarke, author of 2001, had the original idea for geosynchronous communications satellites. When he first proposed it, many people thought it was crazy. Today we all take satellite transmission for granted. As a means of building awareness of our global community it has demonstrated unsurpassed power.

Now, with a major treaty protecting space from "weaponization" under severe attack and a strong administration push for early deployment of Star Wars components, our global condition has become critical. It also seems clear that the American public does not really grasp what is at stake or how irrevocable current decisions may be.

What the people need is a graphic symbol of the choice, something as clear and immediate as the photographs of earth seen from space. It may be that the solution lies in another global idea Clarke supports — an international satellite monitoring agency, or ISMA. Nicknamed Peacesat, it would verify compliance with treaties and make any and all military activities instantly public. Other functions would include weather monitoring, mapping, search and rescue, resource and pollution observation, and disaster watch. The difference between this system and what we currently have is that all nations would be involved and have access to the information, and all satellites could be state-of-the-art machines. Space would be preserved as a locus of global information gathering and communication, including military reconnaissance and verification. ISMA is the clear and dramatic alternative of choice to Star Wars.

Speaking of ISMA, Clarke made this comment: "May I remind my Russian and American friends that it is wise to cooper-



DIANE RIGOLI

In addition, according to recent reports, the push to produce "ultimate global connectivity" by military means is already being pursued vigorously by our government, through the eight-satellite Milstar system and the Nuclear Detection System, which is designed to function without ground commands for six months. Challenger, anyone?

The Freeze has been criticized for being too much into hardware alone — halting production lines, reducing stocks, thinking about steel and atoms when what we need is political will. But in this country political will revolves around objects and concrete realities. Moreover, our people need a larger vision toward which they can move and, the people being who they are, that probably has to include machines. ISMA seems to be not only what we all need, but also what the peace movement needs.

But is ISMA just another visionary idea which is too extreme for any practical effect on international relations? In an

create hypocrisy, which is a powerful agent of social change, for when actual policy is perceived to be too different from the professed statement a fulcrum for change toward the profession is provided."

A fulcrum operates in three dimensional space. And here we come to the real creation of the peace movement, through the Freeze: space. The space I am speaking of is room in the public mind for a new idea. The Freeze made a single word stand for a whole new concept in modern polit-

ics — the idea that the general public has the right to make judgements about the "fruits" of our expert scientific work — to say it is good, or it is not. Calling for eyes in the sky instead of bombs implies the kind of cooperative global world we have a right to demand of our scientists and our governments. We need to lead the public into this new space starting now.

Susan C. Strong chairs the Northern California Freeze Campaign.

All experts agree that if space becomes "weaponized" we can kiss any kind of arms control goodbye.

ate with the inevitable; and wiser still to exploit the inevitable." We in the peace movement should now be calling for this weapon-free space canopy, devoted solely to protecting the peace by gathering information. This is the most serious choice in arms control today, and is almost never phrased this simply. All experts agree that if space becomes "weaponized" we can kiss any kind of arms control goodbye.

It is a well-known fact that one source of the Star Wars public relations campaign is the Heritage Foundation, which explicitly intended to coopt the Freeze as an idea. Yet the public's ardent hope for weapon-free skies still exists as a living dream, in part because of the very way Star Wars has been marketed. If the cold warriors could coopt us, the potential still exists for us to coopt them right back. To get the public's ear, they had to lie; we do not,

anthology of selections on the general subject of global security recently published by the Ark Foundation, *Securing Our Planet*, editors Comstock and Carlson have characterized both the Freeze and the Soviet Test Moratorium as too radical to qualify for the first step of a truly effective "G.R.I.T." process (graduated reciprocity in tension reduction). Yet contemporary events suggest that these proposals may have fulfilled the need to set a larger context and to signal intent in a fairly obvious fashion, in order to reduce the power of the "enemy" stereotype in the international arena. Even if, as Comstock and Carlson imply, the Soviets were not sincere, i.e., were offering us something they knew we would refuse, there is always what Kenneth Boulding describes as the creative power of "hypocrisy": "The main function of a statement or manifesto is to

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Congressional Support For Nuclear Test Ban Grows

Central America

Push will come to shove again this year as the 100th Congress comes to grip with the questions surrounding aid to the Nicaraguan contras. President Reagan has not yet submitted his request to Congress to release the final \$40 million installment of funds for the contras, which was authorized last year. Once the president requests the funding, Congress has 15 days to respond, or else the money will go through automatically. Currently there are two major vehicles through which aid to the contras might be stopped in Congress.

In the Senate, the Dodd-Weiker bill passed the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on a vote of 11-9. The bill includes five major provisions: deletion of the final \$40 million; allocation of funds for relocation of contra forces; monies to support the Contadora process; no U.S. foreign aid to countries that supply economic assistance to the contras; and \$300 million in assistance to police forces of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Costa Rica. In addition, the bill contains a nebulous line calling for "support for

civilian democratic forces within Nicaragua."

An amendment was attached and later dropped that would have excluded the \$300 million from any government that infringed on civil liberties. Committee member Senator Evans stated he would not vote for Dodd-Weiker if it had this amendment attached, and so it was dropped in order to avoid a 10-10 deadlock and save the bill. A similar bill has been

torium on underground nuclear weapons testing. However, the Soviets have announced that they are ready to resume the moratorium any time the U.S. is ready to join in.

Both houses of Congress have reintroduced legislation to ban all underground nuclear tests greater than one kiloton. The House version is H.R.12 and is sponsored by Reps. Schroeder and Gephardt. It currently has 148 co-sponsors. A com-

panion piece, S.472, has been offered in the Senate by Senators Cranston and Wirth. In the unlikely event that a mandatory testing bill would clear both the House and the Senate, it would still face a presidential veto. Even though there probably aren't enough votes to override the veto, it is clear that congressional support for a halt to testing is steadily increasing.

In a related matter, the Threshold Test Ban Treaty of 1974 and the Peaceful Nuclear Explosions Treaty of 1976 have cleared the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and will come up for a vote on the Senate floor soon. An amendment will be offered by Republican Senators Kassenbaum and Evans that would require the United States and the Soviet Union to work out a verification agreement before the Senate ratifies the two treaties. The treaties limit underground explosions to 150 kilotons. So far, the terms of the treaties have been adhered to by both countries.

Without the Kassenbaum amendment, it is unlikely that the treaties will garner the two-thirds majority needed for ratification. However, liberal Democrats may not support the treaties either if the Kassenbaum amendment is attached. The requirement for a signed verification agreement will delay ratification for many years, effectively gutting the treaties.

President Reagan promised in December 1986 to submit the treaties to the Senate in exchange for House Democrats dropping virtually all the arms control provisions they had just passed. Reagan supports ratification only if a verification agreement is worked out first.

ACTION: We know you did it last year, but we need you to do it again. Contact your representatives (Leon Panetta, 16th district; Ernest Konnyu, 12th district) and tell them to support H.R. 12. Contact Senators Cranston and Wilson and tell them to support S.472. It is important that we remind our congressmembers that we are watching their votes on

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offered in the House. It is identical to the Dodd-Weiker bill, except it does not contain the reference of support for "civilian democratic forces" within Nicaragua. If the bill passes, it is still subject to a presidential veto. At this time, there are still not enough votes in the House and Senate to provide the necessary two-thirds vote to override the veto.

A much more likely vehicle for blocking contra aid in the House is being offered in the form of a Comprehensive Moratorium. The moratorium would suspend the final \$40 million until a full accounting is given of three sources of funds: funds diverted to the contras as a result of arms sales to Iran; third-country contributions to the contras; and the unaccounted-for portions of the \$27 million in "humanitarian" aid approved in 1985. The Comprehensive Moratorium is legislatively structured in such a way that it is not subject to a presidential veto. A companion piece is being drafted in the Senate.

In a related matter, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee is working on other aspects of the Foreign Aid bill. A Senate floor vote is expected on or around March 18. Foreign aid deals with all U.S. expenditures of economic and military aid to other countries, including contra aid. Under the Reagan administration, economic aid to Third World countries has been more and more strongly tied to military aid—and in some instances is barely distinguishable.

ACTION: Contact your senators and representatives immediately. Tell them to vote NO AID to the contras. Tell them also to vote against any economic aid to Central America that is tied to military programs, since these programs only serve to fuel the war throughout Central America.

Nuclear Testing

The explosion of a 20-kiloton weapon in central Asia brought an end to the Soviet Union's 18-month unilateral mora-

torium on underground nuclear weapons testing. However, the Soviets have announced that they are ready to resume the moratorium any time the U.S. is ready to join in.

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Senator Alan Cranston
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Senator Pete Wilson
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Congressmember Leon Panetta
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-2861/local: 429-1976
(Sixteenth Congressional District)

Congressmember Ernest Konnyu
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-5411/local 257-7051
(Twelfth Congressional District)



Hotlines

To keep you abreast of late-breaking events on peace and arms control issues, the following organizations run regularly-updated taped messages:

American Peace Test Hotline
(up-to-date information on all testing activities at the Nevada Test Site)
702-363-7780

Nuclear Arms Control Hotline
(Council for a Liveable World)
202-543-0006

S.O.S.—Save Outer Space Alert
202-462-0777

Central America Legislative Hotline
202-543-0664

Witness for Peace Hotline
(religious activists in Nicaragua)
202-332-9230



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nuclear testing and we will raise the issue with them again and again until nuclear weapons testing is ended.

Contact Senators Cranston and Wilson and tell them to vote no on the Kassenbaum/Evans amendment to the Threshold Test Ban Treaty and the Peaceful Nuclear Explosions Treaty.

SALT II

Binding legislation requiring the U.S. to remain within the numerical limits of the SALT II treaty has been introduced in both houses of Congress. In the Senate, the legislation is called S.415 and is sponsored by Senators Bumpers, Leahy, Chafee and Heinz. In the House, an identical bill, H.R. 347, was introduced by Rep. Dicks.

Republican Senator Jesse Helms may

offer an amendment which would tie a vote on the SALT II treaty to the ratification vote on the Threshold Test Ban Treaty and the Peaceful Nuclear Explosions Treaty. If his amendment were to pass, then the Senate would have to vote on all three as a package deal. This is purely a procedural move on Helms' part designed to put the Senate on record against SALT II. In fact, a majority of Senators support SALT II and would almost assuredly pass binding legislation as long as it wasn't tied to any other bill. Considering this, it is unlikely that Helms' motion will pass.

ACTION: Contact Representatives Panetta and Konnyu and tell them to support H.R.347. Contact Senators Cranston and Wilson and tell them to support S.415. Tell your senators to oppose the Helms amendment to tie SALT II to the Threshold Test Ban Treaty or the Peaceful Nuclear Explosions Treaty.

Trident II (D-5)

The administration has requested \$3.5 billion for fiscal year 1988 to fund construction of 66 D-5 warheads. This is the second most expensive program request after the Star Wars program. In addition, the Pentagon is requesting \$1.4 billion for construction of one Trident submarine, the 15th of a series.

Rep. Ted Weiss will offer, as he does each year, his amendment to delete all funds for the D-5 program and transfer them to the now defunct C-4 missile program. The D-5 is a highly accurate weapon, capable of destroying Soviet missiles in their silos. This capability makes it suitable for a pre-emptive first strike. The C-4, the predecessor to the D-5, is less accurate and cannot destroy hardened missile silos. The C-4 is clearly a retaliatory weapon and therefore less destabilizing in the event of international crisis.

Another amendment will be offered (although a sponsor has not yet been found) that would forbid the retrofitting of eight Trident submarines with D-5 missiles. The subs currently carry C-4 missiles. Stopping the retrofitting of these missiles would cut the D-5 program by 40 percent.

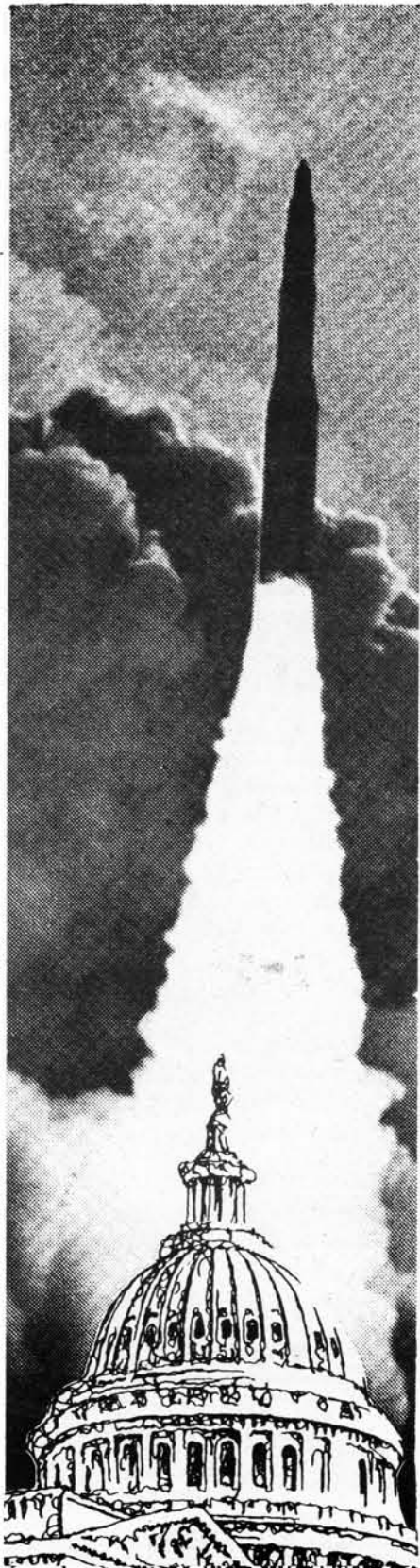
ACTION: Contact your representatives in the House. Tell them to support the Weiss amendment, and to support any effort to block the retrofitting of Trident submarines with D-5 missiles.

Food Irradiation

A bill offered in the House, H.R.956 (formerly H.R.4762) by Rep. Bosco, would halt the FDA approvals of irradiated fruits, vegetables and pork; would require labeling of all irradiated foods; and would forbid export of any irradiated foods that are illegal in the United States. A similar measure, S.461, has been introduced in the Senate by Senator George Mitchell.

ACTION: Contact your representatives and senators and tell them to support these pieces of legislation. In particular, thank Rep. Panetta for co-sponsoring H.R.956 and ask him to encourage his colleagues on this issue.

Shelly D'Amour is the Legislative Editor of The Monthly Planet.



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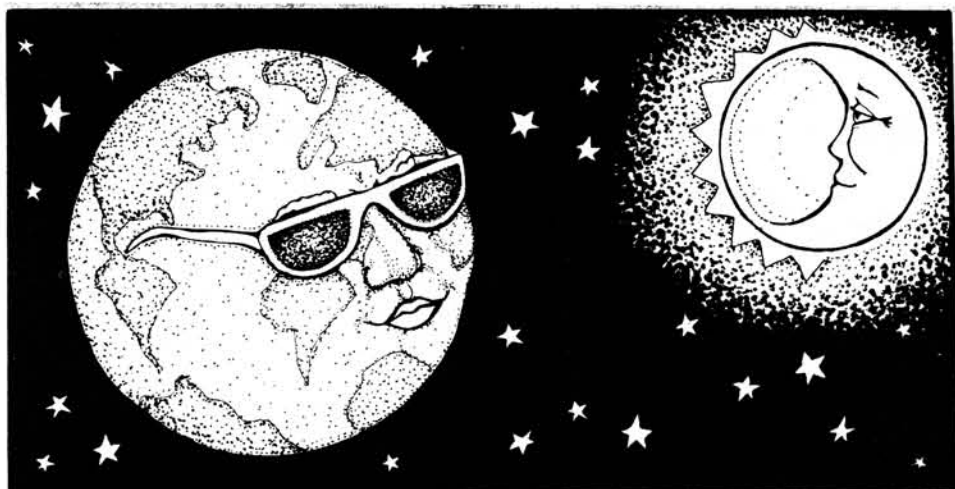
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DIANE RIGOLI

Planet Watch by Igal Dahari

Soviet Union The End Of An Era

The Soviet Union will announce in advance its first nuclear test in more than 1½ years, ending its unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions. But the Soviet Union also announced that it is ready to participate in a bilateral test ban with the United States at any time. The Soviet test occurred on February 26, and was announced one hour in advance. In the past, the Soviets only confirmed tests after they occurred, and then only after Western governments made them public. The Soviets began their unilateral moratorium in August 1985. They called for the United States to join them, but the offer was spurned by the Reagan administration.

Meanwhile, members of the Natural Resources Defense Council, who have been monitoring the dormant Soviet test site, were asked by the government to turn off their instruments and leave before the

test was conducted. They had been maintaining a monitoring station at Karkaralinsk, 200 miles from the test site. The Council signed a monitoring agreement with the Soviet Academy of Science in June 1986, shortly before the station was set up. The agreement also called for a team of Soviet scientists to set up a similar station in the United States, but that part of the plan was hampered by the Reagan administration.

New Zealand Breaking Away

In a move to further increase its military independence from the United States, New Zealand recently unveiled a new defense plan the government says stresses self-reliance. The plan, described by Prime Minister David Lange as "the most fundamental change in defense policy since World War II," calls for closer cooperation with Australia and the defense of small

South Pacific nations. A "white paper" outlining the plan said New Zealand's defense policy has been catering to other countries' interests for too long.

The paper also said that the ANZUS defense treaty between New Zealand, Australia and the United States will still be in effect despite the new plan. The United

Israel Heavy Inspection

Israel may soon have to face a site inspection from Norway, its source of "heavy water." Under the terms of a 1959 agreement between the two countries, Israel promised to use the Norwegian heavy water for nonmilitary purposes. (Heavy water, or deuterium oxide, can be used for both helping power commercial nuclear plants and for the manufacture of nuclear weapons.) But long held opinions combined with recent reports that Israel has developed a small nuclear weapons force have prompted Norway to announce it will soon ask for an official inspection of all Israeli facilities using heavy water. The agreement requires Israel to allow such inspections, the last of which took place in the early 1960s.



JORDAN WOLFSON

States suspended its military cooperation with New Zealand last year because of that country's Nuclear Free Zone policy. Under the policy, ships which may be carrying nuclear weapons, including U.S. ships, cannot dock at New Zealand's ports.

Luxembourg No Tanks

Nearly 40 out of some 400 U.S. tanks were found damaged at a military depot in Luxembourg recently. No one in the government or the U.S. command there doubts that the damage to the M-60 tanks' optical firing and driving lenses was caused by sabotage, but in public the country's officials are blaming the problem on sloppy maintenance workers. In private, they say things like, "Until now we haven't

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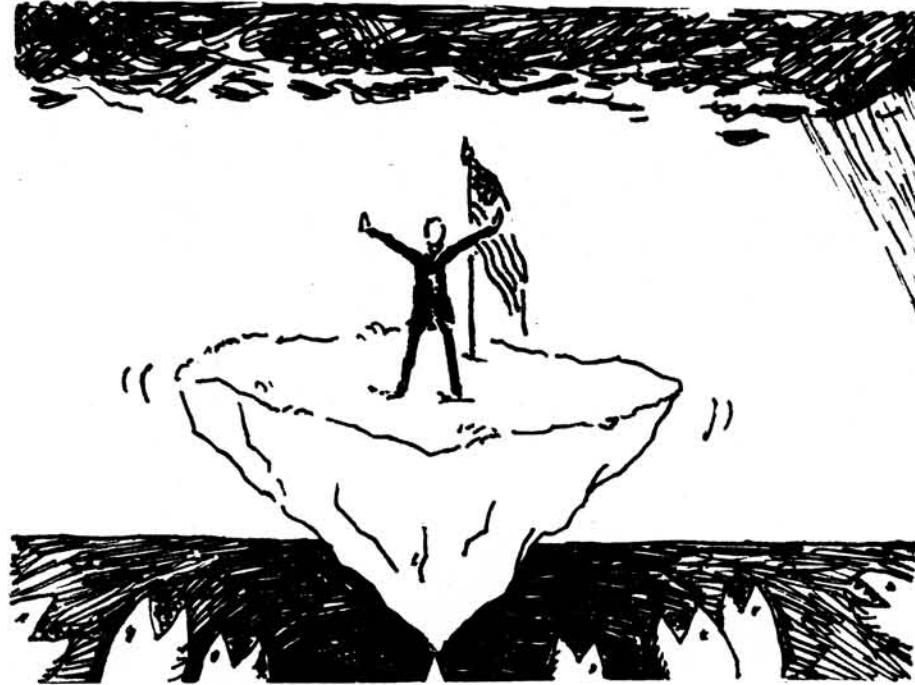
had anti-American acts in Luxembourg." Luxembourg supplies the workers who maintain the tanks.

The possible unhappiness of some citizens with the presence of NATO may stem from the appearance that their country, which is slightly smaller than Rhode Island, is becoming one large military base. Luxembourg holds two U.S. military depots, and will soon house a NATO supply center and a U.S. military hospital. In addition, the United States has proposed building another military depot in the country.

West Germany Broad Is Out

The conservative government of Chancellor Helmut Kohl recently made it clear to two visiting U.S. officials that it wants a strict interpretation of the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) treaty. The U.S. officials, State Department advisor on arms control Paul Nitze and Assistant Secretary of Defense Richard Perle, met with West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher on February 26. Genscher reportedly told Nitze and Perle that West Germany was adamantly opposed to the Reagan administration's plan for a "broad" interpretation of the ABM treaty, a move designed to allow for the early deployment of a Star Wars system.

Nitze and Perle, who were on a visit to several key NATO members, reassured the Germans that there are no plans for an



JORDAN WOLFSON

early deployment of Star Wars, but Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger has been speaking recently of deployment by the early 1990s. This has caused most NATO leaders to become alarmed, and prompted Kohl to issue a statement to the West German press in which he stated that Star Wars "research must be done within the framework of the ABM treaty and that not only must the Western allies be consulted at every step, but the effort must converge in a mutual solution with the Soviet Union."

Libya Khadafi's Revenge

In its annual report on the spread of nuclear weapons, the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace described a plan by Libya to obtain the capability for producing nuclear weapons. The plan involved former CIA agent Edwin Wilson — who is now in prison on charges of smuggling weapons to Libya — and other international arms dealers. The plan, dubbed the "Mickey Project," never went much be-

yond a few 1981 meetings between Libyan officials and Wilson and two associates. The report, made public on February 25, was written by Leonard Spector. It also included parts on India, Iran and Pakistan.

The report said that India was reprocessing plutonium — possibly for nuclear weapons — from a reactor not under international safeguards. It named Pakistan as being close to building its first nuclear weapon, and asserted that before its 1979 collapse, the Shah of Iran's regime was conducting nuclear weapons research "in parallel" with its nuclear power program.

Spain Stalled Negotiations

Negotiations between Madrid and Washington over the latter's military presence in Spain broke down at the start of February, and will not resume until the end of this month. Spain wants to substantially reduce the number of U.S. troops on its soil, now at 12,500. Spain also wants the United States to effectively withdraw from the Torrejon de Ardoz air base, 15 miles from Madrid. The United States, in trade, wants Spain to increase its military role in NATO, something Madrid has refused to do.

Even though last March voters approved Spain's participation in NATO, polls show that a majority of Spaniards want U.S. bases in their country to be closed down. Their resentment stems from the fact that the bases were first established in 1953, under Fascist dictator Francisco Franco.



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Peace Test!

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Nevada
Test Site

Dr. Carl Sagan speaking at the rally before committing civil disobedience.

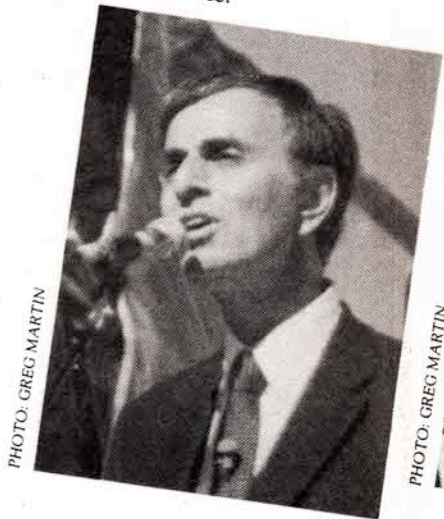


PHOTO: GREG MARTIN

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Tom Hall and Liz McLoughlin show their "hole" view of Star Wars.

On Thursday, February 5, over 2000 peace activists gathered at the Nevada Test Site (NTS) to demand an end to nuclear testing in the largest demonstration in the history of the NTS.

Santa Cruz' Representative Leon Panetta was one of the six-member congressional delegation to address the crowd. Dr. Carl Sagan, actors Martin Sheen, Kris Kristofferson and Robert Blake, former intelligence analyst Daniel Ellsberg, and

doctors from the American Public Health Association were among the 438 arrested for committing nonviolent civil disobedience.

The action, called in response to the February 3rd U.S. nuclear test which broke the 18-month Soviet moratorium, was organized by the American Peace Test and the American Public Health Association.

— John Govsky



PHOTO: PAT KITSON

Four young protesters express their views during the rally.



PHOTO: PAT KITSON

A line of Greenpeace marchers are confronted by police before being arrested for civil disobedience.

Test!

Nevada Test Site

Dr. Carl Sagan speaking at the rally before committing civil disobedience.

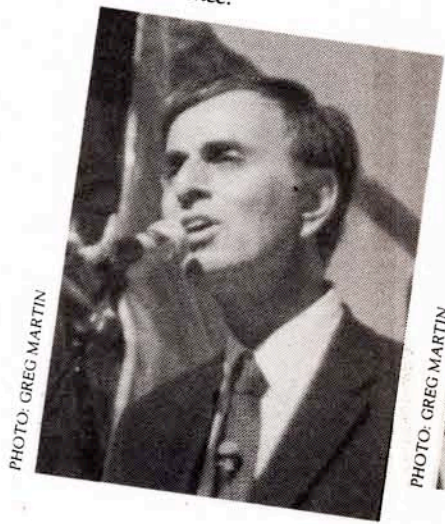


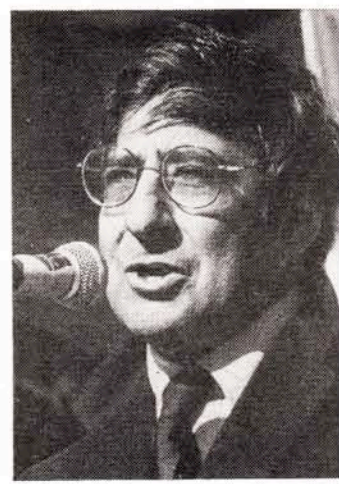
PHOTO: GREG MARTIN

Tim MacDonald of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference addresses the rally.



PHOTO: GREG MARTIN

Rep. Leon Panetta



Representatives Leon Panetta and other members of a congressional delegation.



PHOTO: PAT KITSON



Tom Hall and Liz McLoughlin show their "hole" view of Star Wars.

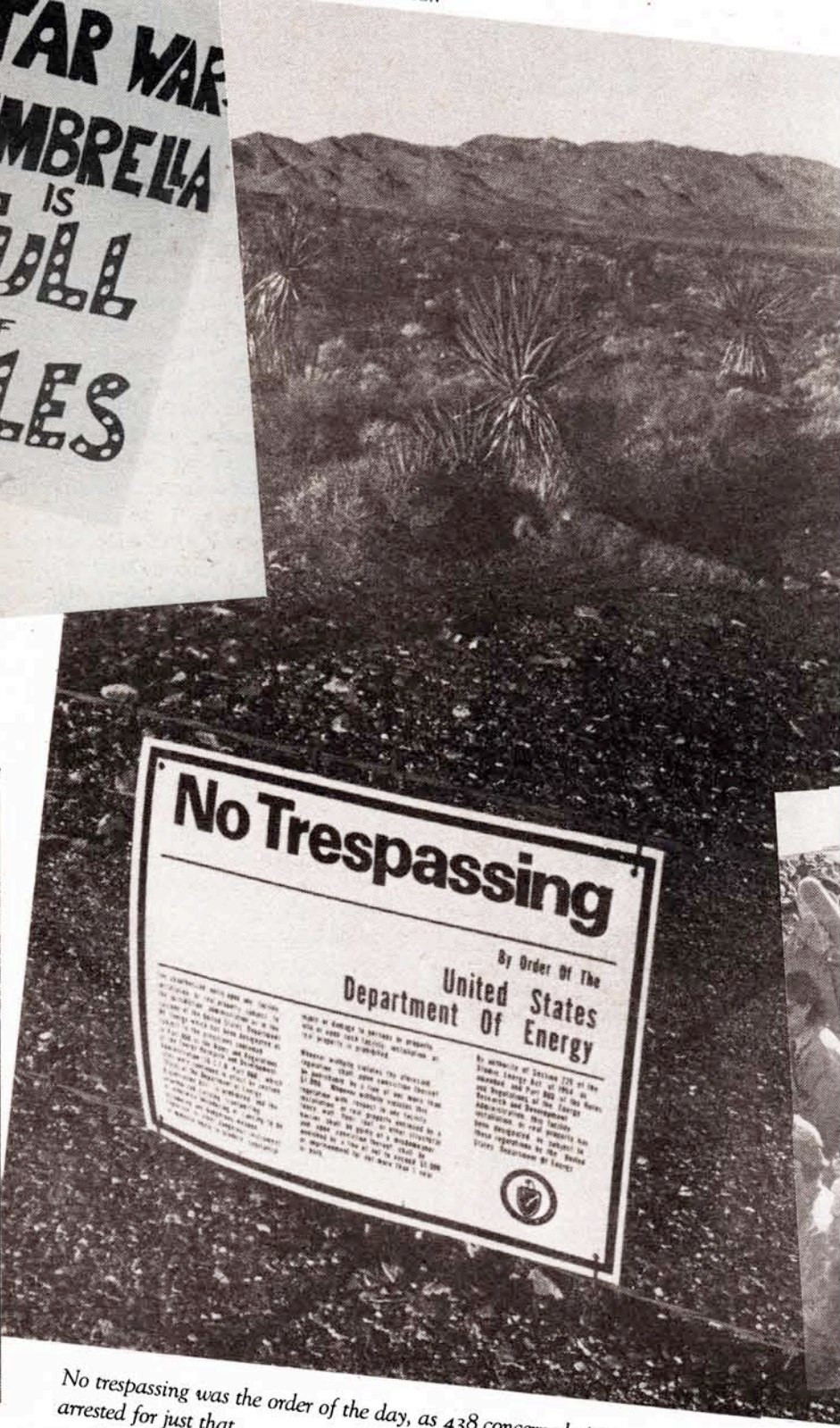
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PHOTO: PAT KITSON



A line of Greenpeace marchers are confronted by police before being arrested for civil disobedience.



No trespassing was the order of the day, as 438 concerned citizens were arrested for just that.

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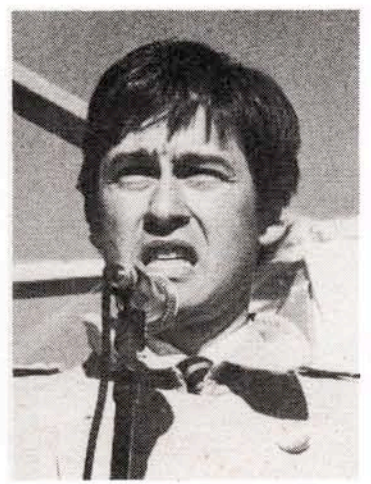
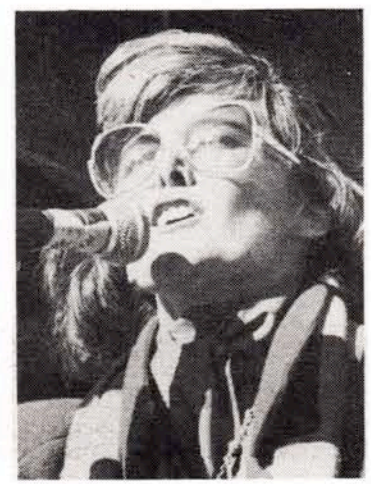
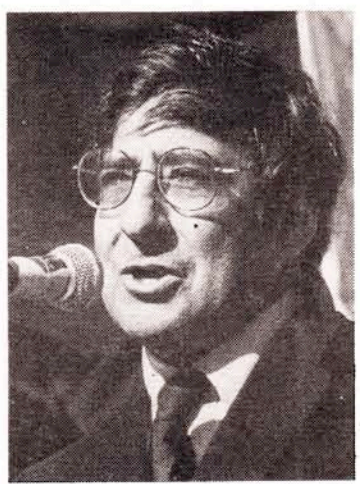
Rep. Leon Panetta

Rep. Pat Schroeder

Rep. Tom Downey



PHOTO: GREG MARTIN



Representatives Leon Panetta (D-CA), Tom Downey (D-NY) and Pat Schroeder (D-CO) were members of a congressional delegation who spoke before the rally. PHOTO: PAT KITSON

PHOTO: PAT KITSON

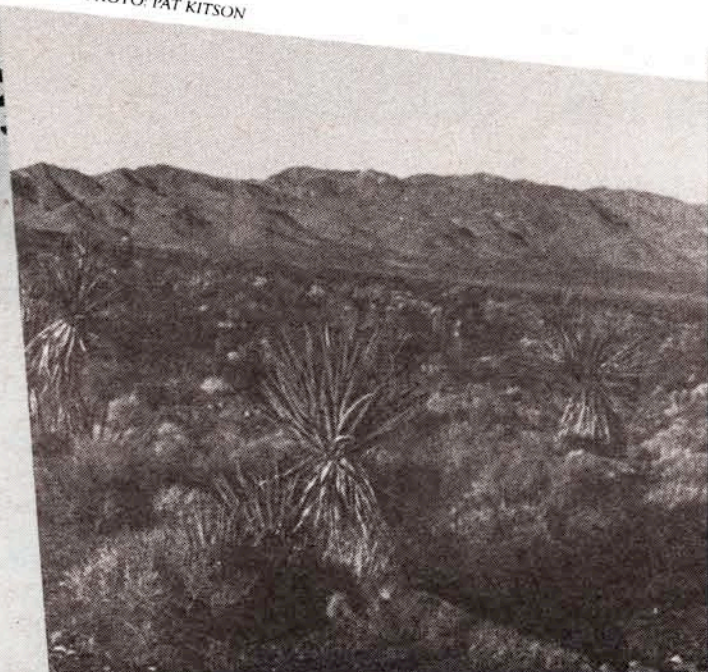
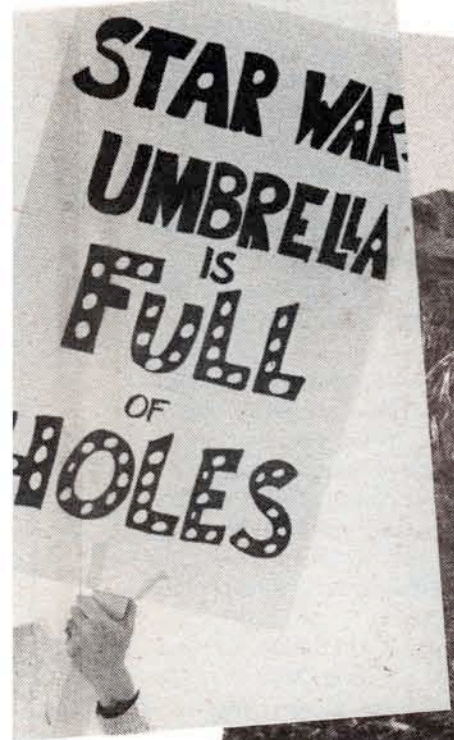


PHOTO: GREG MARTIN

Ex-Jefferson Airplane member Marty Balin and the K.B.C. Band give the protesters reason to dance after the civil disobedience.

star Wars.

PHOTO: PAT KITSON

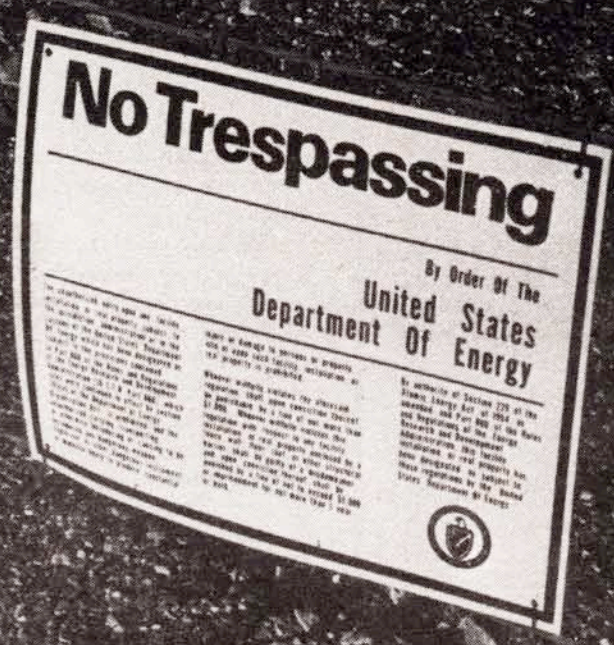


PHOTO: PAT KITSON

No trespassing was the order of the day, as 438 concerned citizens were arrested for just that.

Over 2000 citizens journeyed to the Nevada desert to call for a Comprehensive Test Ban.

Carl Sagan On Nuclear Testing: "Are We Pushing Our Luck?"

On Wednesday, February 4, Dr. Carl Sagan addressed a large crowd of activists in Las Vegas on the eve of the largest demonstration in the history of the nearby Nevada Test Site. On the following morning over 2000 people gathered at the test site to call for an end to nuclear testing. Dr. Sagan was one of the 438 Americans arrested for committing civil disobedience.

This speech, taped by Benny Thompson and transcribed by Celia Quinn, has been shortened here for reasons of space.

Coming to Las Vegas for this particular issue [nuclear testing] naturally makes me wonder about the connection between the two. There is a connection, and it's only four words long, and it goes: Don't press your luck. Let me say what I mean. Last year was the year of Challenger, just a year ago, and Chernobyl. Spectacular failures of high technology systems, respectively in the United States and in the Soviet Union. Systems in which enormous amounts of national prestige had been invested. Systems which were, compared to military systems, comparatively open, subject to the kinds of checks and balances of a technical engineering sort that we dearly hope is the case for the armaments of the nuclear arms race.

A year before the Chernobyl disaster a Soviet ministry official, a high official, stated, by coincidence, with particular attention to the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, that the average time you'd have to wait for a catastrophic failure at Chernobyl was 100,000 years. One year later, KABOOM! The year before the tragic Challenger space shuttle explosion, NASA and contract officials estimated that at the then-current rate of shuttle launches the average time you would have to wait for a disaster on launch of a shuttle was over 10,000 years. Less than one year later, KABOOM! Now, if ever there were systems in which these two nations would have made enormous efforts for there not



to be such spectacular failures, these are such systems, and yet they failed.

There is a lesson in this. High technology is not perfect. Mistakes get made. Somewhere in the technological-human interface errors eventually happen. This is also the century of Hitler and Stalin — reminders that madmen can achieve high office, or maybe that people in high office can go mad; it doesn't much matter.

So it's natural to think: "Are we pushing our luck?" with these obscenely vast nuclear arsenals of almost 60,000 weapons of mass destruction on the planet. The planet is rigged with the instruments of human destruction, and the triggers are not just in the White House and in the Kremlin, but at every danger spot around the world. These arsenals are assembled for the professed purpose of not being used. Their only purpose, we are told, is to prevent the other side from using theirs, and therefore we need more, in order to be sure that they won't use theirs. But then

they look at us and say, well we need more, to make sure the Americans don't use theirs, and this is a situation that leads to what is called an exponential.

So as a result, every day the United States and the Soviet Union build several more nuclear weapons — every single day. They retire some, but they build more. And they do it fundamentally because no one is in control. No one has the courage to say enough is enough. No one has the courage to say, "We have a better chance of getting elected if we say we have too many nuclear weapons, than if we say we do not have enough nuclear weapons."

Stopping can be done safely, reliably; it can pull the rug out from the continuing escalation of the arms race. It's not by itself enough, of course, because something must be done about those nearly 60,000 nuclear weapons that are already in the world. But we have official pronouncements by General Secretary Gorbachev and President Reagan that their goal is

massive reduction in nuclear weapons and, at least if we could believe what they had to say, this would be a very heartening policy on both sides.

There is not a single arms control treaty, since the first nuclear weapon in 1945 that has been supported by Mr. Ronald Reagan. Not one. He is not a supporter, for example, of The Limited Test Ban treaty, because of which there are no more nuclear weapons exploded in the air, or on the surface of the earth, or in the oceans. He is not a supporter of the Nuclear Nonproliferation treaty, or at least the part of it which requires something of the United States (there are parts of it which require lots of other nations). The preamble to the Limited Test Ban treaty says, that it is the official policy of the United States to move towards a Comprehensive Test Ban treaty, towards a massive reduction in these nuclear arsenals. The Limited Test Ban treaty was signed in 1963. The Nuclear Nonproliferation treaty was signed in 1972, and since that time over 10,000 nuclear weapons have been added to the world's nuclear arsenals.

When the scientist George Kistiakowsky was sworn in as President Dwight Eisenhower's science advisor in the late 1950s he was amazed to hear from the president that his principle objective was a Comprehensive Test Ban treaty. And every president from Dwight Eisenhower to Jimmy Carter has been in favor of such a treaty. There is only one president in recent memory who has not been for such a treaty, and that is the current incumbent in the White House.

In view of Article 6 of the Constitution, which says that all foreign treaties are the law of the land, it's a very interesting question to ask, "Who is it who is law abiding?"

For 200 years America and Americans have prided themselves on being law abiding, on being highly principled, on setting law above men. But today we see, on a dozen fronts, the United States fleeing from the judgment of the world, and parenthetically from the World Court. And on this issue of nuclear testing, we have seen a succession of smoke screens evaporate.

We have seen the administration say that the only reason the Soviets stopped testing was because they made a flurry of tests, and they had fulfilled their agenda of tests. You look at the actual statistics released by this government and you find that the Soviet Union, between January and August 1985, when they stopped testing, tested exactly the average number of tests. There was no flurry.

And we hear that nuclear testing is essential to maintain the safety of the existing nuclear arsenals. Who is it who is against "safe" nuclear weapons? It's a slightly peculiar idea — a safe nuclear weapon — but what is intended is that it doesn't go off except when you want it to. Who could be against that? But the actual situation as clearly underscored by many of the people who invented the first nuclear weapons is that you can maintain the existing arsenals quite safely without performing nuclear tests. There are other

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tests you have to perform, but they do not necessarily involve the explosion of nuclear weapons.

Then we heard that the Soviets will cheat in all sorts of exotic ways. They will wait for a natural earthquake, they will decouple, they will test on the far side of the sun. By the way, a most remarkable idea: that the Soviets will send two spacecraft — it would have to be two, because if it were only one, the data wouldn't come back — to the far side of the sun, blow up the nuclear weapon in one of them, while the other monitors it and radios back the information. And the United States wouldn't know. It takes a year or two to get there! And this is an administration which, when it has its Star Wars' hat on, says that if the Soviets launch a massive attack on the United States of 10,000 warheads and 100,000 decoys, the United States will readily be able to track every one of those warheads and shoot them all down. Except two spacecraft to the far side of the sun is beyond our ability to monitor, and so we can't have a Comprehensive Test Ban treaty.

These are arguments to make children stop asking awkward questions. These are not serious arguments. These are arguments for people who do not look closely at what is being said. These are arguments intended for an American people that is lulled, that is foolish, that has no wish to understand on its own, that doesn't have an ounce of sceptical sense in it. But that does not describe the American people. The American people are of a very different sort than the White House imagines. It may have taken us quite awhile to figure it out, but Abraham Lincoln said it very clearly, and you know the business about some of the people all the time, and all of the people some of the time, but you can't fool everybody forever. That's paraphrased. And what is clearly happening in this country is that people are awakening to the fact that the White House, on this issue and on many other issues, is out of control.

It is our safety and well-being that is at stake here. This is not some arcane, ideological issue. This is an issue that is a gut issue if ever there were one. This is an issue of life and death. The government of the United States and the government of the Soviet Union have, for the past 42 or so years, been accumulating an arsenal of devastation never before seen on the face of the earth, so that human beings have today, absolutely unprecedentedly, the capability to destroy the entire global

civilization, and perhaps even the human species. There is no higher stake. It's impossible to imagine a situation which is more serious, a situation which more demands very close skeptical scrutiny by all of us, because we're the ones who are at risk.

This administration proposes a Star Wars system which will cost, by estimates of former secretaries of defense of both political persuasions, between one and two, not billion, but trillion dollars. A trillion dollars is a thousand billion dollars. How much is a trillion dollars? One trillion dollars is the entire national budget. Every-

Stopping can be done safely, reliably; it can pull the rug out from the continuing escalation of the arms race.

thing we spend is one trillion dollars. Two trillion dollars is the entire national debt. You know, the national debt that the president is so concerned about, that in every State Of The Union address he says we have to worry about. It can be wiped out in a flash. Just abandon Star Wars. It's easy.

But I mention Star Wars also because a major part of the activities that can be foreseen for the Nevada Nuclear Test Site in coming years are the painstaking tests to try, hope against hope, to develop such a system. I don't want to talk about it at great length, but let me just say that the vast majority of competent opinion, including some enormous number — in the high 80 percents of a poll made of physics and mathematics members of the National Academy of Sciences — said that the scheme was wholly unworkable, and would never work. To say nothing of the fact that the Soviets have a wide range of counter measures available to them, including building more offensive weapons to saturate Star Wars, building decoys and so-called penetration aids to get through, building low-flying systems which will escape Star Wars. And those alternatives involve, by and large, technologies which are at hand, not blue sky stuff like Star Wars, and are much cheaper than Star Wars. So this is a fool's bargain. Star Wars is a system in which the advantage is always on the Soviet's side. We challenge

them to a race which we have to lose, although it will be painful and costly for them as well as us.

Star Wars is in part a major item on the hidden agenda of the Nevada Nuclear Test Site, and therefore anyone concerned about the continuance of nuclear testing has to be concerned about Star Wars in many different aspects, but one of which is the so-called hydrogen bomb-pumped X-ray laser. Despite the fact that the president has repeatedly stated that Star Wars will be wholly non-nuclear, at the same time between half a billion and a billion dollars a year are being spent on this fundamen-

statement from the president as to what it was to which he agreed or didn't agree. His own advisors can't agree among themselves on what it was that he did, but at least according to one statement, he was for getting rid of all U.S. and Soviet nuclear weapons and strategic delivery systems in a quite short period of time. But now you hear that's really not it. The most likely case is that the president, with his hands untied, didn't know what he was doing. It is time to tie his hands again.

This is the clear wish: a mutual, verifiable ban on further testing, maybe down to some low yield limit. It is the clear wish of the American people in opinion poll after opinion poll. It is the clear wish of both houses of Congress, even in the last session of Congress, and the complexion of the Congress has changed to be more favorable to such an opinion since November.

Quite interesting legislation was announced yesterday by the leadership of the House of Representatives. Some of the members of the House of Representatives who played a central role in that will be at the Nevada Test Site tomorrow to explain to the press and to everyone who is gathered there what it is that they are about, and I think I see, along with Ramsey Clark and everyone up here on this platform, that there is a sea of change happening, that enough is enough, that we have decided it is time not to press our luck, and I would only like to say that we are grateful to the hospitality and support and kindness of the citizens of Las Vegas, and of Nevada, in this centrally important issue. Thank you.

tally nuclear component of Star Wars. Perhaps the president doesn't really know.

Mr. Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev met in Reykjavik, Iceland and before the president left, he begged, pleaded, cajoled and arm wrestled members of Congress to release him from a bill that had been passed requiring the president to stop testing as long as the Soviets stopped testing, at least down to some low yield. He said it would tie his hands in Iceland. And after a great deal of back and forth, Congress went along. He then went to Iceland, and did something or other, and came back. We still have no coherent

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Nuclear Weapons Waste: Dealing With The Military's Mess

by Glenn Barlow

When the United States government institutionalized the mass production of plutonium, it got more than it bargained for. Tiny microgram particles of plutonium can produce cancers and death in exposed humans — it and certain other radioactive wastes must be kept out of human environments for periods ranging from one thousand to one million years. This is a problem that no government has ever faced before.

Today, more than 40 years after the birth of the atomic age, the nuclear-industrial complex has found no reasonable solution to the problem of storing nuclear wastes. Dumping in the oceans is still an active proposal, although temporarily on hold.

From 1946 until 1972, the military and its nuclear weapons labs at the University of California at Berkeley and Livermore routinely dumped radioactive wastes into the ocean. More than 50 dumpsites in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans were used by the military and its contractors, the most famous of these being the Farallon Islands, a few miles off the coast of San Francisco.

Today, the U.S. Navy operates 150 nuclear reactors on submarines and other naval vessels. The wastes from these reactors is currently shipped to Idaho from the

waste handling docks near Seattle and San Francisco (Mare Island). The Navy has always maintained the right to routinely dump radioactive liquids at sea and in harbors, but it also hopes to ultimately dump its retired nuclear reactors into the ocean off the West Coast.

The bulk of radioactive wastes from

Hanford

The military site with the most nuclear waste stored there is Hanford, Washington. Nine military reactors were built there on the banks of the Columbia River. Routine dumping and leaks have made the Columbia the most radioactive river in the world. Seafood at the mouth of the river near

had created a potential critical mass capable of triggering a nuclear explosion. The plutonium had to be removed.

From 1946 until 1965, Hanford was operated by the General Electric Company. During that time, more than 2000 pounds of plutonium were unaccounted for. GE claims it was emitted through the smokestacks and had stuck to various chunks of reprocessing wastes.

Between 1947 and 1963 GE built six nuclear reactors and a huge complex of plutonium reprocessing laboratories at Hanford. The reactors at Hanford are similar to the Soviet Chernobyl reactor in that they do not have protective shields to trap radioactive releases before they enter the air. Under routine conditions, radioactive wastes are simply diluted with air and vented into the downwind environment.

Idaho Falls and Savannah River

The Navy ships its nuclear wastes by truck and train to Idaho Falls on the Snake River, home to 50 military reactors used to test operators and parts for 150 naval reactors at sea. Serious accidents have occurred there, including a reactor explosion that spread radiation over several states.

The Savannah River site, on the border of Georgia and South Carolina, was chosen

... at one point it discovered that so much plutonium had been dumped into one trench that it had created a potential critical mass capable of triggering a nuclear explosion.

nuclear military programs are currently being held in long-term storage at three sites in South Carolina, Washington, and Idaho where dozens of military reactors were built in the 1940s and '50s.

The process that makes these sites so messy is plutonium reprocessing. Nuclear reactors transform uranium into plutonium, the main ingredient of nuclear bombs. Removing the bomb stuff from the spent fuel is a tricky procedure that results in enormous quantities of reprocessing wastes.

Portland contains radiation. Massive leaks have plagued the aging tanks that store over 70 million gallons of high-level wastes at Hanford. These wastes are so hot that they boil spontaneously and continuously. The tanks they are in were meant to be replaced by now, but efforts to remove the hot wastes have been unsuccessful.

Hanford used to dump a lot of wastes into ditches in the ground. Inventories were not always kept, but at one point it was discovered that so much plutonium had been dumped into one trench that it

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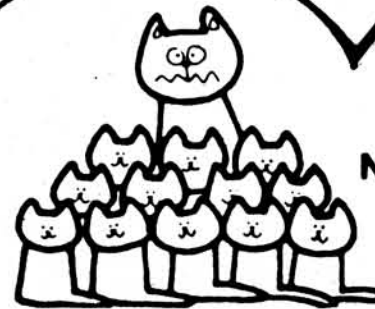


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in the fifties for military reprocessing of plutonium and tritium. Many leaks and spills and routine emissions have contaminated the nearby cities and coastal resorts. The soil, which ranges from swampy to moist, transports radiation rapidly.

All three military sites are currently storing antique reactors and millions of gallons of intensely radioactive reprocessing wastes. They are all built on top of enormous aquifers that supply drinking water and all use the nearby rivers for reactor cooling water.

More Military Nuclear Wastes

Many contractors with the Department of Energy nuclear weapons program produce nuclear wastes, beginning with the mining of the uranium. Mountains of radioactive dust from mine tailings sit near Salt Lake City and on Indian reservations. Indian mine workers have experienced lung cancers from the radon gas emitted from the tailings and the drinking water supply for Southern California was contaminated by a big spill of this stuff in the early 1980s.

Uranium enrichment plants in Kentucky and Ohio prepare the fuel for all reactors. The fuel rods are constructed at the Kerr-McGee Company of Oklahoma, where a major accident occurred in 1986.

Transportation of all these parts of the fuel cycle involves many more contractors. There are nuclear weapons contractors routinely emitting and dumping radioactive wastes near Tampa, Cincinnati, Denver, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Santa Fe, and Amarillo, Texas.

Rocky Flats, near Denver, is the DOE's largest producer of nuclear wastes. This Rockwell-International facility, which produces the plutonium triggers for bombs, has had so many accidental leaks and spills that Denver's suburbs and some reservoirs are permanently contaminated with radiation. At one time, wastes including plutonium were stored in barrels in an empty field during harsh winters. The rusted barrels leaked their wastes into the topsoil. The DOE's solution was to pave the area, long after the leaks began.

Similar solutions, among others, have been applied at the nuclear weapons labs in Los Alamos and Livermore. Besides dumping wastes into prime fishing sites near San Francisco, the Livermore labs have leaked plutonium, tritium and other wastes into the water system that supplies San Jose and the Silicon Valley. That drinking water passes through a reservoir and an open-air aqueduct located just across the street from the Livermore lab. San Francisco's water is also aerated nearby in Sunol. The labs formerly evaporated plutonium wastes outdoors to reduce the volume until high levels of wastes were discovered in the topsoil near the South Bay Aqueduct.

In spite of these questionable practices of handling nuclear waste, the public has consistently been told there is no danger. Yet radiation is still hidden behind national security secrets. After 40 years of the nuclear arms race, we find ourselves no closer to a solution of what to do with the waste. Even when arms control finally ends the nuclear arms race, there will remain the silent bomb — the legacy of military nuclear waste scattered across the nation.

Glen Barlow is a staff writer of The Monthly Planet.



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High-Level Waste: The Politics Of Dumping

by Shelly D'Amour

Charging that politics, not science, is behind the selection of a potential site for the nation's high-level nuclear waste burial ground, more than 15 states have gone into federal court since 1983 to try to block the Department of Energy (DOE) from conducting exploratory drilling in their states.

The controversy stems from the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 (NWP), which establishes a national policy for packaging, transporting and permanent storage of highly radioactive spent fuel rods from nuclear power plants. There are more than 12,500 metric tons of spent fuel rods in existence, currently stored in deep pools of water located at nuclear reactor sites. An additional 28,000 metric tons of high-level waste is expected to be produced by the year 2000.

In addition to waste produced by nuclear power plants, high-level waste is also generated by nuclear weapons production. The Department of Defense currently operates three storage facilities for its radioactive waste. Under the provisions of the NWP, both "civilian" and "defense" generated waste may be stored together in the same repository.

The NWP establishes an elaborate set of guidelines concerning exploration of possible sites, as well as a timeline that

would have a repository ready to accept waste by 1998. However, looming legal battles with the states as well as congressional doubt over the way the program has been administered so far will almost assuredly move that date into the next century. The plan is already five years behind schedule.

The DOE has chosen three potential sites from among nine locations suggested

ity to ground water, population centers, or areas of national interest such as national parks.

High-level wastes will be buried in steel and concrete casks deep in underground shafts. The site will be monitored for roughly 80 years, at which time it will be sealed and then marked to warn future generations. The waste may be lethal for 10,000 years. The first repository site will

Without a doubt the most explosive issue revolves around the question of exactly where such a repository should be placed.

in 1983. They are: Hanford, Washington; Yucca Mountain, Nevada; and Deaf Smith County, Texas. The next step is for the DOE to conduct an extensive evaluation process called site characterization. This involves drilling a hole of up to 4,000 feet deep to determine rock conditions at repository level. The cost for each site characterization could run as high as \$1 billion. Eventually, one site will be selected as the nation's repository. Considerations in choosing a site include geology, proxim-

hold up to 75,000 metric tons. A second site is planned to be in operation by the year 2020.

Critics charge that the process for selecting potential sites has been rife with political considerations from the outset. Some contend that the DOE is cutting corners in order to meet its contractual obligations to local utility companies.

Utilities currently pay one-tenth of a cent per kilowatt hour of electricity generated by nuclear power plants into a Nuclear Waste Fund, which helps pay for the repository program. These costs are passed on to the consumer. Ratepayers nationwide have paid in excess of \$2 billion from their utility bills since 1983. The Defense Department will pay the costs of transportation and storage of nuclear weapons waste—however this too is ultimately borne by the taxpayer. All indications are that the utility companies will hold the DOE to its contractual agreement to begin accepting their fuel rods in 1998, because storage pools at local facilities will soon reach capacity.

Without a doubt the most explosive issue revolves around the question of exactly where such a repository should be placed. Roughly 85 percent of all high-level nuclear power waste is generated east of the Mississippi. In order to gain support for the NWP among the western states, the act stipulated that eventually two sites would be selected, one in the West and one in the East. In May of 1986, Energy Secretary John Herrington announced that the DOE would drop indefinitely all plans to research potential sites in the East. The reason: the crystalline rock found there was judged to be a poor choice for housing the lethal casks. The western states cried foul. Senator Morris Udall of Arizona joined 11 other senators to demand the DOE explain how it could legally disregard the provisions set forth in the NWP.

In a similar controversy in 1985, the DOE enraged members of a House subcommittee on energy conservation and power by informing them that it could not give them its files on the site selection process because they had been thrown away or destroyed.



DIANE RIGOLI

Aside from the general controversies that surround the DOE plan, there are some very specific problems involved with each of the three potential sites:

HANFORD, WASHINGTON

Critics say that the long-standing acceptance of nuclear power operations by local residents has made Hanford a political choice, not a scientific one. In fact, the Hanford site ranked fifth out of five semi-finalists because of its geologic conditions. The basalt (crystalline) rock makes mining extremely difficult. The DOE has stated that it will not consider crystalline for future repository sites. Mysteriously, the Hanford site jumped from fifth to third place when the final three candidates were chosen.

According to a 1985 report by Donald White of the Health and Energy Institute, the Hanford site poses significant geological and safety problems. Rock bursting may occur as miners attempt to drill deep holes beneath the Earth's surface. Rock temperatures can reach as high as 125 degrees Fahrenheit, making working conditions impossible and possibly damaging storage casks over a period of years.

The greatest concern is over the potential poisoning of the water supply. The Columbia River flows only six miles from the site. In addition, there is always the danger of radioactive seepage reaching

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Low-Level Waste: Where Is It Going?

by Igal Dahari

No one wants a nuclear garbage dump in the backyard, but as long as the nation continues to produce huge quantities of low-level radioactive waste (LLW), the need for such dumps will grow. It has already reached epidemic proportions. Only three commercial waste dumps have been open since 1979, when the last of the other three dumps was closed due to unmanageable safety hazards. Since then, Congress and the states have been grappling with various plans and deadlines to find an acceptable way to dispose of LLW. Below is a sectioned review of the situation.

The Current Plan and its Roots

The current plan to handle the waste

... there is still no safe way to dispose of this waste and guarantee that it does not damage the health and environment of Americans.

problem derives from a bill first introduced by Representative Morris Udall, a Democrat from Arizona. His bill, in turn, derived from legislation passed by Congress in 1980 and calling for the establishment of new waste dumps by January 1, 1986. The motivation for Congress to introduce such a law came from the states that host the still-active disposal sites—Washington, Nevada and South Carolina. In 1979, these three states threatened to close or restrict their LLW dump sites unless new legislation was passed. But the deadline passed with still no new disposal sites built; the plan became the victim of political haggling and election-time battles.

Legislation similar to that passed in 1980 was passed last year. It calls for the formation of regional compacts between states, and the selection of one state in each compact to handle the others' LLW. States not part of a compact must find another way to dispose of their LLW by the end of 1992, or face stiff penalties and restrictions on dumping their waste. Unlike its predecessor, this plan has a strict timetable that uses the stick approach (i.e., penalties and restrictions) to force states to comply.

What is LLW?

LLW is defined as anything other than high-level waste (HLW), which itself is defined as irradiated nuclear fuel and the liquid and sludge resulting from the reprocessing of such fuel. HLW is longer lived and more radioactive than LLW, but the distinction is somewhat arbitrary. For example, in 1983 the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) redefined transuranic waste, or HLW containing more than a certain concentration of elements heavier than uranium, to have a higher level of radioactivity than what it had before. The amount of transuranic waste was reduced by almost 90,000 cubic meters, which then reappeared as LLW. Thus, this move raised both the volume and radioactivity

of LLW.

The rationale behind reclassifying HLW is that regulations for storing the former require more technically complicated dumping methods. So some of the dangerous HLW was simply redefined to be LLW, making it relatively easy to dispose. The new LLW, being more radioactive and having a longer lifespan, heightened the environmental danger already existing at the current LLW dumps.

Existing LLW

At this time, the volume of stored commercial LLW stands at about 3 million cubic meters. It is buried at six state dumps, including the three operative ones still being filled. In addition, the government has buried over 2.1 million cubic

meters of military LLW at a multitude of federal dumps across the country. Although the volume of military LLW is growing at a slower rate and is less radioactive than its commercial counterpart, the condition of federal dumps is not open to public inspection. Therefore, leaks from these "secret" dumps into the surrounding environment may not be corrected for a much longer period than leaks from state dumps.

Where LLW Comes From

The producers of LLW include industries and research and medical institutions. But by far the largest producers of LLW are nuclear power and weapons reactors.

continued on page 31

How Much Nuclear Waste Is There In the U.S.?

by Arno Nording

High-Level Commercial Waste (Spent Fuel)

Spent fuel is nuclear power plant fuel that has been burned to the point where it can no longer be efficiently used to create electricity. As of December 1984, over 10,000 metric tons (150,000 cubic feet) of spent fuel have accumulated. Each year, an additional 2000 metric tons (30,000 cubic feet) of spent fuel are created. It is estimated that by the year 2000, 50,000 metric tons (over 700,000 cubic feet) will have been created.

High-Level Military Waste

As of December, 1984, 1,000,000 cubic feet of military high-level waste have accumulated. This waste is a byproduct resulting from the production of fuel for nuclear weapons. The Department of Energy expects this volume to remain constant because of its program to concentrate and solidify high-level waste.

Transuranic Waste

Transuranic waste contains artificial elements that are heavier than uranium, such as plutonium. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission defines this waste as emitting more than 10 nanocuries per gram of waste. As of December 1984, 11,971,000 cubic feet of transuranic waste had accumulated. In 1983, the NRC "redefined" transuranic waste as emitting more than 100 nanocuries per gram of waste; under this new definition, 8,864,000 cubic feet of transuranic waste have accumulated.

Low-Level Waste

Low-level wastes are defined as those that cannot be classified as high-level or transuranic waste. Over 100,000,000 cubic feet have accumulated from commercial reactors, and over 74,000,000 cubic feet have accumulated from military reactors.

Uranium Mill Tailings

Over 225,000,000 metric tons of uranium mill tailings cover hundreds of acres of land. In addition, mine wastes are also left at the mines.

Sources

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Dept. of Energy, Environmental Analysis, May 1986
Nuclear Information and Resource Service

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Food Irradiation: The Weapons/Waste Connection

by Brion Sprinsock

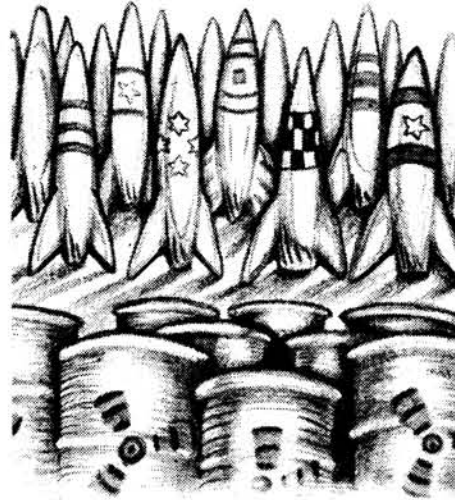
Food irradiation may be the most significant food and health issue of the decade. It is an emotional and far reaching proposal, and one which has put the Food and Drug Administration in a defensive position with health and consumer watchdogs. Next month the U.S. Congress will hold an oversight hearing to investigate the safety of irradiated foods, and examine a recent FDA ruling for wrongdoing.

While the debate over food irradiation often centers around food safety, irradiation's ties to nuclear weapons are rarely revealed. This dark side of the food irradiation story raises serious concerns for society today, even though its roots go back to the 1940s.

During the second world war, American policy makers embarked on a top secret research and development program to build the first atomic bomb. The program, headquartered at Los Alamos National Lab in New Mexico, generated small quantities of lethal nuclear wastes. These highly toxic, radioactive wastes remain hazardous for many thousands of years, and hence, require tight security, and absolute containment from the biosphere. Release of these radioactive wastes into the environment could permanently contaminate groundwater and easily enter the food chain.

During WW II the U.S. government designated Hanford Reservation in Richland, Washington as the nation's depository for radioactive military wastes. As the arms race grew through the 1950s and '60s so did the stockpile of military wastes. To handle the mounting wastes, the United States built a series of 152 waste storage tanks with an aggregate capacity of 97 million gallons.

It was hoped that these tanks would contain the noxious wastes long enough to find a permanent resting place for the material, one which would keep it out of the environment for thousands of years. Unfortunately, this hope was not realized. By the early 1960s, 20 of the storage tanks were leaking, and another 14 were removed from service as suspected leakers. By



DIANE RIGOLI

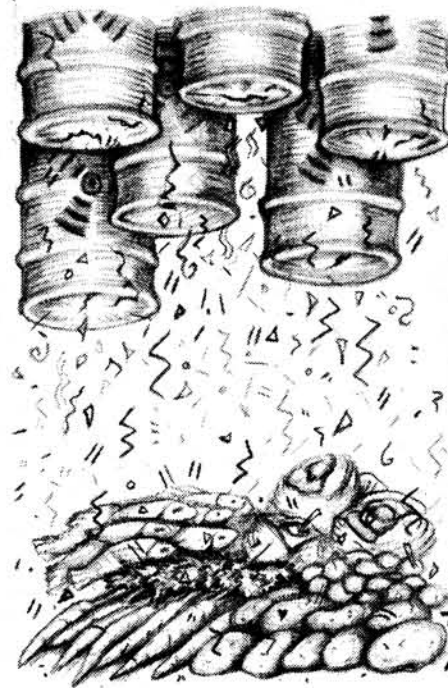
1975, a total of 450,000 gallons of radioactive waste had escaped the tanks and were migrating towards the nearby Columbia River.

In an effort to halt the leaking and simplify waste management in the future, the government decided to isolate the cesium-137 in the military wastes. Once isolated it was encapsulated in stainless steel rods. Cesium-137, a water soluble radioactive salt, amounts to 55 percent of the radioactivity and 50 percent of the heat in the wastes. Although the cesium is encapsulated, the radioactivity generates so much heat that the rods must be housed in specially built cooling ponds for hundreds of years. Early on, it was believed that the rods would find permanent homes deep within the earth. It is now known that the tremendous heat they generate would melt the solid rock caverns they would be housed in. What then to do with the ever increasing stockpiles of nuclear waste?

In 1976, the Carter administration created the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to coordinate all nuclear research and waste management. Officials within the DOE think that they have an answer to the cesium storage dilemma. They hope to lease cesium-137 to private industry as a source material for food irradiation. Food irradiation facilities require the use of huge quantities of radioactive materials. Until recently, all commercial irradiation plants have been stocked with radioactive cobalt-60. But that may change soon.

Cobalt-60 is a manufactured radiation source made in Canadian government nuclear power reactors. Canadian cobalt-60 has enjoyed a monopoly on irradiation source material and sells for \$1.26 per curie (commercial irradiators house anywhere from 1 million to 5 million curies of cobalt-60). The DOE would like to compete with the Canadians and lease cesium-137 to these industrial irradiators. Although cesium is an unproven source material, and presents greater hazards than cobalt, the U.S. government is tempting industry with very low prices. In 1984, the DOE announced that it would accept applications from industry for shipment of their cesium at 12.8 cents per curie. Although it takes more cesium than cobalt to do the same job, these low prices have found the DOE some customers.

Irradiation opponents are worried about a shift in the DOE's treatment of lethal



DIANE RIGOLI

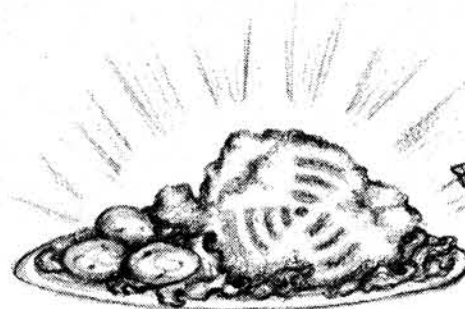
wastes. Originally the DOE's wastes were viewed as a severe liability. They were an unfortunate and unavoidable side effect of our nuclear weapons habit. It was generally agreed that as long as these wastes were generated, the DOE would attempt to collect them in a single location and isolate them from people, animals and the earth. The DOE's cesium leasing program now puts these wastes on the highways and brings them into local communities. But irradiation opponents have yet another worry.

Until now, troublesome military wastes have created a bottleneck in the military

fuel cycle, and slowed the development of new weapons. As long as nuclear wastes are created, and no permanent disposal site exists, the very creation of these wastes stresses the nuclear fuel cycle and prevents the free and unfettered proliferation of new nuclear weapons. Irradiation opponents fear that if the U.S. government develops a cesium-based food irradiation industry, it will use the cesium demand to create more weapons, and more cesium waste. What food irradiation could do for the DOE is provide a "socially acceptable" justification for nuclear waste itself. In effect, a very serious and costly liability in the nuclear fuel chain could be transformed into an asset, a "useful byproduct for American industry."

There is one other very far reaching implication of the cesium lease program. The nation's 100 or so nuclear power plants continue to generate spent, or waste, fuel rods, for which there is no permanent repository. These fuel rods must now be stockpiled until a repository is found sometime in the future. Although there is plenty of plutonium for bomb production in these spent rods, Congress has steadfastly refused to allow the DOE to reprocess the rods and release the plutonium. Instead, the U.S. Congress has insisted on keeping military wastes and civilian wastes separate. Key members of Congress fear that the blending of these wastes would produce an abundance of cheap plutonium, and lead to a massive arms buildup. It has been suggested that an industrial demand for cesium could add incentive to the idea of reprocessing civilian fuel rods. Already, the Reagan administration has expressed its desire to open up the civilian waste stockpiles for military uses. A cesium-based food irradiation industry could be the "trojan horse" the administration is looking for.

Brion Sprinsock is the Board Chairperson of Food Irradiation Response. FIR is the Santa Cruz chapter of the National Coalition to Stop Food Irradiation. FIR can be reached at 426-2734.



DIANE RIGOLI

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U.S. Has Yet To Ratify U.N. Equal Rights Convention

by Bill Philipps

Recently, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld a California law that grants maternity leave for women. This means that a woman can leave her job to become a mother and have her job secure upon returning to the work force. This decision reminded me that over seven years ago, on December 18, 1979, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. This 30-article convention sets legally binding principles to achieve equal rights for women everywhere. This convention has been ratified by at least 56 countries; however, the United States Congress has not even voted on its acceptance!

The convention calls for abolishing all laws which are discriminatory against women. Monitoring of the progress toward this goal shall be conducted by a committee reporting directly to UNESCO (United Nations Economic and Social Council) and ultimately to the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Women for International Peace and Arbitration (WIPA) is an organization dedicated to the promotion of the education of women regarding their role in bringing peace to the world, equality of men and women, arbitration and mediation in conflicts, communicating through international language, and elimination of prejudice. The members of this organiza-



tion of men and women are encouraging the U.S. Congress, through the Senate Foreign Relations Committee (of which Sen. Alan Cranston is a member), to adopt the U.N. Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. In addition, this group, with chapters throughout the U.S. and other countries, is encouraging the study of people throughout history who have lived selfless, peaceful lives, who were opposed to war and violence, were skilled negotiators and reconcilers, and loved their fellow human beings irrespective of race, religion, color, or creed.

For more information about WIPA please call 423-0756. If you would like a copy of the complete text of the convention from the United Nations please call 476-4584.

High-Level Waste

continued from page 24

ground water on the site, which will eventually reach the outside environment. The NWPA "allows" for not more than one part in 100,000 radionuclides seepage after 100 years. The DOE contends that it would take 81,000 years for radioactive leaks to reach groundwater. In reviewing the report the Nuclear Regulatory Commission disagreed, stating it could be as soon as 300 years.

YUCCA MOUNTAIN, NEVADA

In general, most Nevadans are opposed to a permanent high-level waste storage facility located in their state. They feel they've paid their dues by "hosting" nuclear weapons testing for the past 40 years. However, residents near the proposed site welcome the opportunity for the jobs such an operation would bring.

Site characterization at Yucca Mountain would involve drilling into volcanic tuff. There are concerns about how earthquakes or continued nuclear weapons testing would affect the stability of the plant over the years. There are also major concerns about the safety of transporting waste material through Arizona to the plant. Waste material arriving from the South would have to pass over the Hoover Dam, a dangerous, curvy, two-lane highway. If the Nevada site is chosen, nearby residents of the town of Beatty can expect more than 6000 waste-laden trucks to pass through their town each year.

DEAF SMITH COUNTY, TEXAS

If a permanent repository is constructed

in the bedded salt formations of Deaf Smith County, Texas, shafts would have to be drilled straight through the Santa Rosa and Ogallala aquifers. The Ogallala is the world's largest single source of ground water, providing irrigation to eight states. A plant at this site would create a situation similar to Chernobyl, which was constructed and operated in the heart of the Soviet breadbasket. A serious accident at the Deaf Smith County site would poison the water and soil for thousands of years to come.

The Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 is currently running into severe political, legal, and scientific problems. The congressional compromises which created the act are unravelling, states are suing the federal government over site selection, and there is still no proven scientific method of keeping the wastes isolated from the environment for hundreds, let alone thousands, of years. In the meantime, new nuclear power plants are coming on line and several new nuclear weapons are being built every day, but what to do about the resulting waste remains unclear.

Shelly D'Amour is the Legislative Editor of The Monthly Planet.

Headline Of The Month

Send Nixon to Arms Talks as Top Negotiator, Cuomo Suggests

— New York Times, 2-25-87

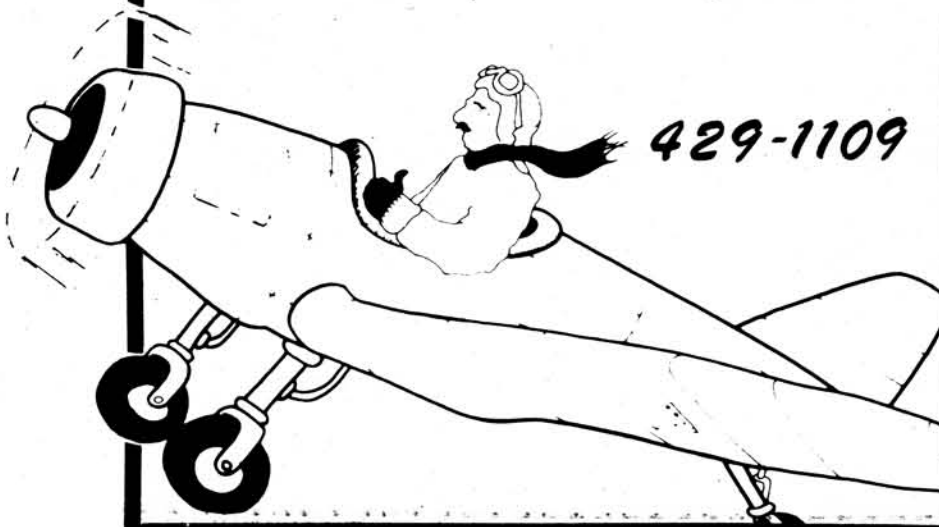
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Low-Level Waste

continued from page 25

The waste from reactors is also the most dangerous, since it contains the highest concentration and longest-lived radioactive LLW. While over 99 percent of all radioactive medical waste decays to undetectable levels within 8 months, waste from nuclear plants may remain dangerous from a few centuries to hundreds of thousands of years.

LLW in California

California, the biggest producer of LLW west of the Mississippi, did not join any other states in an LLW disposal compact. Therefore, California will have to find a



way to dispose of its own waste. The state Department of Health Services has already hired a Kentucky-based firm with offices in Newport Beach to look for disposal sites. The firm, U.S. Ecology, has named three desert locations as candidates, and plans to apply for a state license to build on one of them. Two of the sites are in San Bernardino County and one is in Inyo County.

The drawback of not belonging to an LLW disposal compact is that, once its dumpsite begins operating, California may receive a federal order to accept another state's waste, too. Recently, however, California approached Arizona about a disposal agreement, and the two states may soon enter into a compact together.

Solutions to the LLW Disposal Problem

Assuming all goes well with Congress' most recent disposal plan, it remains a temporary solution. More nuclear power plants are scheduled to come into operation in coming years, considerably increasing the amount of LLW produced in this country. More important, there is still no safe way to dispose of this waste and guarantee that it does not damage the health and environment of Americans. And all indications are that because of the nature of this type of waste, there may not be a safe way to store it.

Igal Dahari is the International Editor of The Monthly Planet.

1 HOUR PHOTO



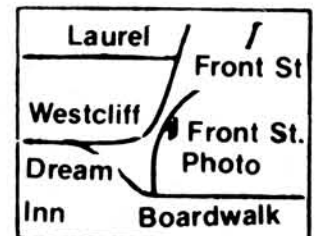
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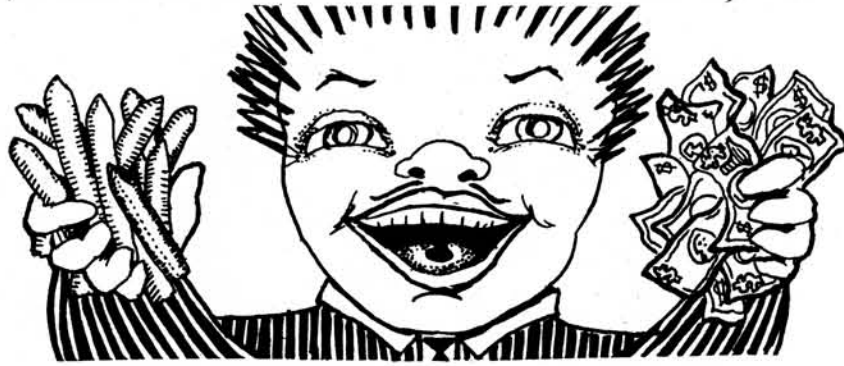
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How To Be A Billionaire

The Pentagon recently discovered that top executives working for military contractors have an income more than 20 percent higher than their colleagues at companies who don't do work for the Department of Defense. The "military" executives get larger, more frequent bonuses than their unlucky counterparts. Pentagon contractors also give larger annual base pay raises to their top managers, says the 93-page audit report recently released by the Pentagon's Office of Inspector General.

These amazing discoveries don't seem so strange in light of the huge profits taken in by most military contractors. The percentage difference in revenues between the last quarter in 1986 and the same quarter in 1985 are shown for just a few of the



largest military contractors: General Electric Company, +41 percent; Raytheon Company, +19 percent; Boeing Company, +18 percent; Allied-Signal, +16 percent; Grumman Corporation, +12 percent; McDonnell Douglas Corporation, +12 percent; General Dynamics Corporation, +8 percent; and with a plant right here in Santa Cruz County, the Lockheed Corporation, +5 percent.

Of Contractors And Spare Parts

While telling a news conference that 59 of the top 100 military contractors are under criminal investigation, the Pentagon's acting inspector general also said that "major contractors have, for the most, gotten serious about what we're (the

Pentagon's investigators) doing." Derek Vander Schaff also told the conference that there are currently 300 major fraud investigations going on, but he declined to name any of the companies involved. He added that 75 percent of the suspected defrauders probably broke the law by mischarging or giving false estimates, and said it was likely that only one-third of the investigations would result in some type of government action.

Vander Schaff also spoke about the overpricing of spare parts, saying investigators have made "major progress" on the problem. He termed "misleading and erroneous" the General Accounting Office's (GAO) congressional testimony that one-third of the spare parts in the Air Force's supply system cannot be found.

California's Republican Senator Pete Wilson had originally asked for the GAO's involvement after receiving an Army audit report that showed, according to Wilson, "a glaring lack of accountability for parts and supplies at the unit level and gross mismanagement at the command level."

The Price Of Power

The chickens are coming home to roost for the Reagan administration, Congress and, most important, the taxpayer. The consequences of unleashing a voracious Defense Department in the early 1980s include numerous unfinished weapons systems with staggering price tags, tons of unnecessary tools and unused factory capacity worth millions of dollars. Many of the weapons systems cannot be fully paid for at this time, even as their prices continue to climb out of sight.

One of the main reasons for the Pentagon's wild buying spree during the first years of the Reagan administration was its intention to commit future Congresses to support ongoing weapons systems—especially during future lean years with a less friendly administration in power. Many of the weapons bought then, and now, may still be in production well into the next decade.

The Navy may be the most glaring example of this sort of waste. Under retiring Navy Secretary John Lehman, the service not only ordered many different kinds of aircraft, but also proposed buying them in large numbers so that their unit price would be low. To further hide its true intentions, the Navy actually paid military contractors to build the facilities for manufacturing the number of planes it originally proposed.

Yet, as bloated as the Navy's budget became in subsequent years, it could not handle buying large numbers of aircraft, everyone of them already very expensive. So, the Navy decided to purchase much smaller numbers, which forces military contractors to raise the price of each plane in order to keep a profit.

Here is a partial list of the expected rise in cost of Navy aircraft for the next two fiscal years: A-6, up 117%; EA-6B, up 75%; F-14, up 61%; E-2C, up 49.5%; AV-8B, up 28%; and the F-18, up 4.4%, still higher than the current rate of inflation.

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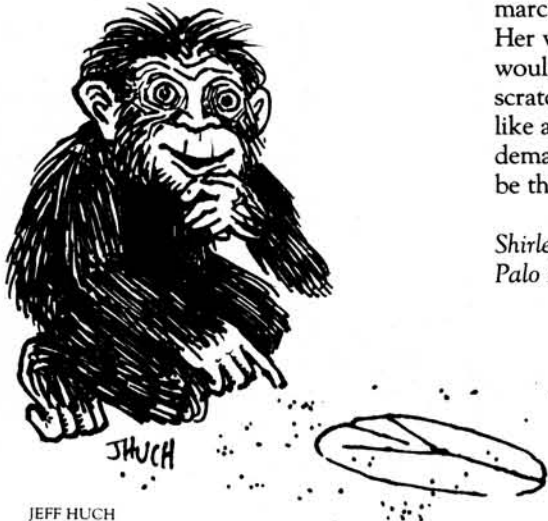
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Planet Poetry

THE 100TH MONKEY

"On the island of Koshima monkeys ate potatoes dropped in sand, until one washed hers in a stream. Others followed, and when the 100th monkey learned to wash potatoes, other monkey colonies across the seas began washing theirs" Lyall Watson, 1980.

A repeat of thirteen years ago, like a post card suddenly come to life. Fifty thousand gathering before the march. Colorful peace banners, mimes, moving into the streets in a long thick column like a migration of some new species. Chanting with the monitors, young runners with bull horns, who dashed back and forth like scissors trimming the edges of the march



At the rally speakers telling us
we have won thirteen years of peace
My daughter
no longer in her one piece
toddler play suit, but boots
swinging hair and swinging skirt
marching with me
Her vaporized image now
would be longer. Her question
scratches the back of my brain
like a small child's insistent
demand for an answer. Could she
be the 100th monkey?

Shirley Powers
Palo Alto

NUCLEAR WASTE PLANT

Buttermilk Creek
West Valley, N.Y.

Across the creek
a steel mesh fence
stretches for miles
to guard the monolith

The grass
is bleached
along the bank
There are no sounds
save the swift rush
of water over stone
the drone of flies
who swarm to shroud
a stiffened bird

Beyond the fence
a cautious doe
nudges her fawn
down the steep
slope of creek

All awkward grace
on straddled legs
it bends to drink

Maude Meehan © 1985
Santa Cruz
from Chipping Bone
a collection of her poetry



JEFF HUCH

Poetry submissions are now being accepted for Planet Poetry. Poems must be typed, double spaced, and sent to the poetry editor at *The Monthly Planet* address. Enclose a SASE if you wish to have your poem returned.

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Peace & Justice Calendar

All events listed are in Santa Cruz, unless otherwise noted.

Calendar items must be **typed, double spaced**, and sent (along with any photos) to *The Monthly Planet*, 320-G Cedar St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060.

We must receive your listing no later than Tuesday, March 24, for inclusion in the April issue (publication date: Thursday, April 2).

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

Celebrate International Women's Day by honoring several local women poets with the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. The poets to be honored are Ellen Farmer, Sara Halprin, Maude Meehan, and Amber Summerall. Trinity Presbyterian Church Social Hall, Poplar at Melrose, 7 pm. Info: 425-7618.

THURSDAY, MARCH 5

Michael Closson, Director of the Center for Economic Conversion in Mountain View will speak on "Are peace and full employment compatible?" The Center for Economic Conversion is a non-profit research and education corporation which promotes positive alternatives to military spending. Free lecture, 7 pm, preceded by a potluck at 6 pm. Bring something to share or share the potluck for a \$2 donation. Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship, 6401 Freedom Blvd., Apts. Info: Bea 475-3163 or Harriet 684-1401.

SATURDAY, MARCH 7 - SUNDAY, MARCH 8

Kayak Surf Benefit for Save Our Shores and Native Animal Rescue. Big name sponsors, grand prize/perception sabre, auction, party, jacuzzi, live music. Classifications: WW Kayak, Exhi-

bition Sea Kayak, Surf Shoe, Wave Ski, plus a special Flatwater Paddle. Registration Fee: \$30. Info: Ed (10-12:30) 458-1900 or write 1112-B Ocean Street. For registration packet write or call: Adventure Sports, Unltd. 303 Potrero Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060. 458-DOIT.

SATURDAY, MARCH 7

Monthly Green Supper to benefit *Matrix* women's newsmagazine. Noted historian and activist Marge Frantz will be the featured speaker on "The Present and Future of the Women's Movement and Movements for Social Change." Dinner served between 5:30 and 6:30 pm, and the talk and discussion begin at 6 pm. Santa Cruz YWCA. A \$3-\$6 donation is requested. Info: Bill 425-0452.

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

Peacemaking: The Risk and the Promise. An Ecumenical Lenten Series

sponsored by more than 20 area churches and organizations. Services begin at 7 pm and are followed by a discussion period. Free childcare. Daniel Buford, Director of the Ecumenical Peace Institute of Northern California, a former Baptist Campus Minister at University of Cincinnati and Black Campus Ministries of Ohio. Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist, 216 Oakland Avenue, Capitola. Info: Shelly 423-1626 or 426-9523.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

Violinist Miha Pogacnik with pianist Diedre Irons, lecturer Paul Lee and painter Li Zhong Liang. Presented by IDRIART, the Institute for the Development of Intercultural Relations through the Arts. 6 pm reception and exhibitions, 7 pm lecture and 8 pm concert. Holy Cross Church, 126 High Street. Tickets: All events \$12, students \$8. Exhibition only: \$5, \$3. Lecture only: \$5, \$3. Info: 438-1284.

FRIDAY, MARCH 13

"The Art of Birthing" slide show by Harriette Hartigan and Rahima Baldwin, followed by singing with Mothersong singers. 7:30-9:30 p.m. Annex of Community Hospital of Santa Cruz. Donation requested. Info: 429-1835.

SATURDAY, MARCH 14 and SUNDAY, MARCH 15

Trusting Ourselves: Women and Birth will be the focus of a seminar given by midwife/author Rahima Baldwin and writer/photographer Harriette Hartigan. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Cabrillo College, room 1522 ABC. Info: 429-1835.

SUNDAY, MARCH 15

Peacemaking: The Risk and the Promise. An Ecumenical Lenten Series. Hiber Conteris, Visiting Professor in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, University of Wisconsin—Madison, a leading fiction writer in his native Uruguay until his books were banned and he was imprisoned for 8½ years by the military junta. 7 pm, Star of the Sea Catholic Church, 515 Frederick Street. Info: Shelly 423-1626 or 426-9523.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

Antinuclear Network Forum For '88 sponsored by Educators for Social Responsibility at Cabrillo College and eleven other Santa Cruz and Monterey county arms reduction and educational organizations. 10 am to 4:30 pm, Cabrillo College Student Center. See box for details.

Fifth Annual Festival de Canto a El Salvador is being celebrated as part of the tradition of Central America Week. March 24 marks the seventh anniversary of the assassination of Archbishop, Monsignor Oscar Arnulfo Romero in El Salvador. It has become a tradition that the week of March 24 is Central America Week in the United States. Performers: Sangre Machehual; Sumpul; Los Compas (formerly Matica); Rafael Manriques; Ellen Moore; Lichi Fuentes; Fernando Torres; Hector Salgado; Leonardo Cereceda (formerly of Grupo Raiz). The focus for this year's event is Union Nacional de Trabajadores Salvadoreños (UNTS—United National



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Salvadoran Workers), the broad, united labor coalition in El Salvador whose call includes an end to the economic austerity program, resumption of dialog for peace, stopping U.S. intervention, regaining

national sovereignty, and a respect for basic human rights. 7 pm, Wheeler Auditorium, University of California, Berkeley. Tickets: \$7 in advance, \$9 at the door. Info: (415) 552-0401, (415) 282-3094 or (415) 641-1152.

SUNDAY, MARCH 22
Peacemaking: The Risk and the Promise. An Ecumenical Lenten Series. C.T. Vivian, close friend and associate of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Rev. Vivian currently directs the center for Democratic Renewal in Atlanta, which monitors and reports on the activities of right-wing extremist groups. 7 pm., First Presbyterian Church, 350 Mission Street. Info: Shelly 423-1626 or 426-9523.

TUESDAY, MARCH 24
Freedom Song Network. Monthly sing-a-long/songswap. Fireside Room at Trinity Presbyterian Church, corner of Melrose and Poplar. 7 pm. Info: Dirk 335-2365 or Theodora 458-1241.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28
News, Publicity, and Media Workshop led by Bruce Bratton. Features panel discussion "What's News" with news deci-

sion makers. Full day of how to use local and regional media. \$20. Of special benefit to community groups. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. First Cong. Church, 900 High St. Registration info: 423-2468.

SUNDAY, MARCH 29
Peacemaking: The Risk and the Promise. An Ecumenical Lenten Series. Richard Deats, Staff of the National Fellowship of Reconciliation, former theology professor in the Philippines who led nonviolence trainings in advance of the overthrow of Ferdinand Marcos. 7 pm, St. Stephens Lutheran Church, 2500 Soquel Avenue. Info: Shelly 423-1626 or 426-9523.

FRIDAY, APRIL 3 - SUNDAY, APRIL 5
The Activist, a musical satire on the State of the Union, directed by Carl Hunter, will be presented by the choir of the Unitarian Fellowship. Friday and Saturday, April 3 & 4 at 8 pm; Sunday matinee, April 5 at 3 pm. 6401 Freedom Blvd, Aptos. Limited seating. Tickets \$5. Info: 423-9707 or 684-0898.

Psychic Fair presented by Amy Craig and Kathy Cook promoting world peace through inner peace. Lecturers and mini-readings. 11 am to 6 pm, Jade Street Park Community Center, Capitola. Fee for admission and readings. Wheelchair accessible. Info: 462-2388.

SUNDAY, MAY 10
Mother's Day Action, for mothers and others, at the Nevada Test Site near Las Vegas. Women from all over the U.S. will gather to protest nuclear testing and to support a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). Info: Beth Coats 688-0898 or Ruth Hunter 423-9707, or send a card to 3130 Trout Gulch Road, Aptos, CA 95003.

SATURDAY, MAY 30
March for a Test Ban! Walk in the Sixth Annual Nuclear Freeze Walkathon to show your support for a Comprehensive Test Ban. To be a walker or a sponsor, or to help with the event, call 458-9975.

Test Ban Vigils

Lenten Desert Experience will gather people of faith to the Nevada Test Site for 40 days of prayer, vigil, and nonviolent civil disobedience in protest of nuclear weapons testing. Local test ban vigils around the country will be held on Fridays during the Lenten Season (March 6-April 17) in conjunction with the test site witness. In Santa Cruz, join us at the town clock these Fridays between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m.

For more information write or call Nevada Desert Experience, P.O. Box 4487, Las Vegas, NV 89127, (702) 646-4814. In Santa Cruz, call Robby Labovitz, 479-8183.

Antinuclear Network Forum For 1988

Saturday, March 21, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Cabrillo College Student Center

To prepare for the 1988 elections, this forum will present new information, group discussions, and workshops to enable groups and individuals to network and to develop innovative new action.

- Robert Aldridge, author of *First Strike*, will preside in a workshop.
- Bruce Cooperstein: "The Antinuclear Movement Confronts the Deadly Connection."
- Daniel Hirsch: "The Nuts and Bolts of Affecting Nuclear Policy."
- Sigrid McLaughlin: "The Soviet Union Today."
- Dan Miller: "The Use and Misuse of Fear by the Nuclear State and Antinuclear Activists."

Lectures will be from 9:20 a.m. to 12:10. There will be a lunch session with discussion groups of ten to twelve persons either with the speakers or in interest groups. Workshops will round out the day:

- Networking between action groups in the Monterey Bay and San Jose areas.
- Antinuclear media hotline to counter administration disinformation.
- Rolling back militarism through local initiatives.
- Star Wars, test ban, and first strike "brain picking" with Robert Aldridge and others. Ian Thiermann's *Star Wars: A Search for Security* will be shown.

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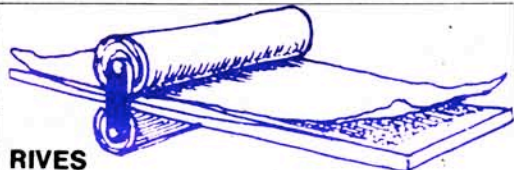
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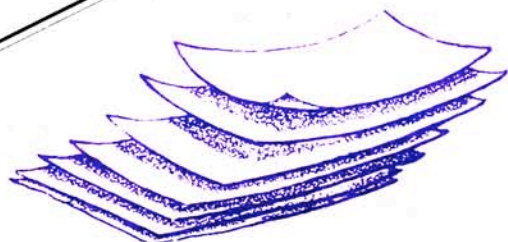
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