

October 1987

Volume 3, Number 9

# THE MONTHLY PLANET

Are We Preparing For A  
**FIRST STRIKE?**



The MONTHLY PLANET

c/o Nuclear Weapons Freeze  
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Santa Cruz, Ca. 95060

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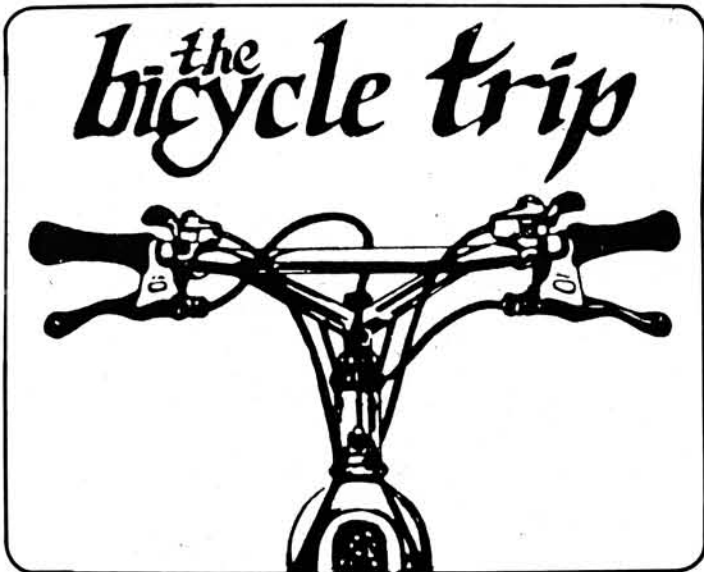
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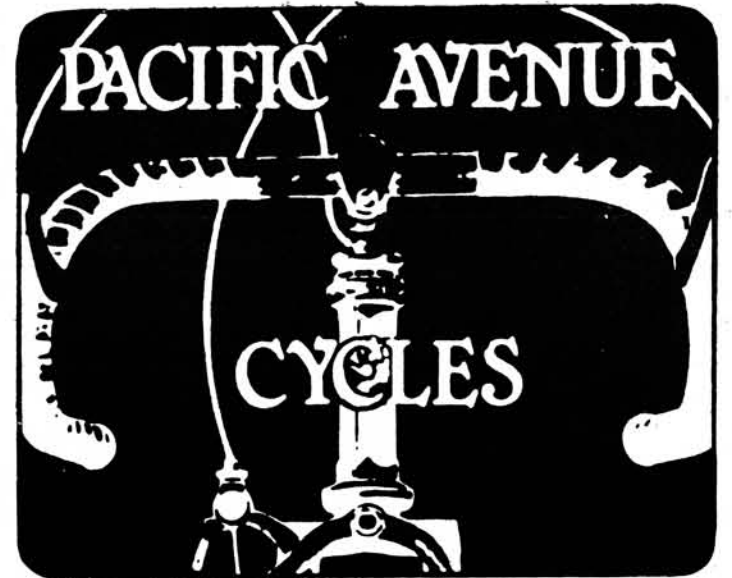
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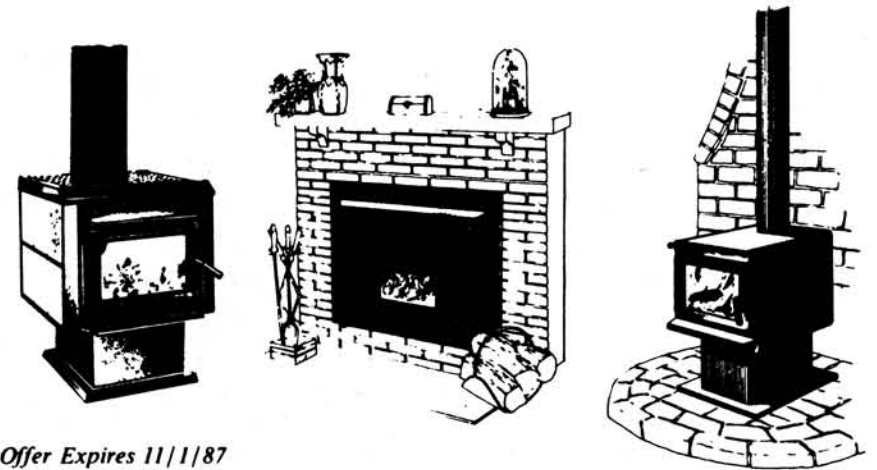
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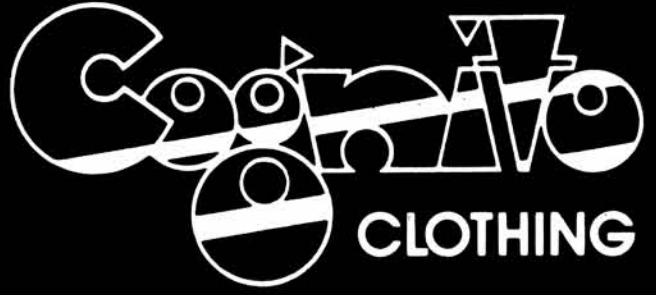


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GREG MARTIN

About 7,000 people attended a demonstration on Saturday, September 5, at the spot where Brian Willson was run over by a weapons train. See the centerfold for a photo essay.

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The Monthly Planet is published at the beginning of every month (except January) by the Santa Cruz County Nuclear Weapons Freeze, 320-G Cedar Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060. (408) 429-8755. The Planet is mailed free to all Santa Cruz County Freeze members. Memberships are available at \$15 for one year (\$10 low income). The views expressed in the Planet are those of the authors and are not necessarily the official views of the Nuclear Weapons Freeze. Articles, calendar items, and letters should be typed, double spaced, and sent to the above address. Letters must be signed and not more than two pages in length. We reserve the right to edit letters for brevity and clarity. Call for deadlines and advertising rates.

## 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 December, 1986, the National Conference of the Freeze adopted the current long-term goal of the Campaign: Enactment of a bilateral, comprehensive Freeze as an essential verifiable step toward lessening the risk of nuclear war; and the phased mutual reductions of nuclear weapons, beginning with U.S and Soviet ballistic missiles. These goals are concrete steps toward a vision of a world without nuclear weapons by the year 2000. Achieving the elimination of nuclear arsenals should be accompanied by an end to the cold war, sharp mutual reductions in conventional forces, conversion to a peace economy, and establishment of common security among the nations of the world.

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.

## Deadlines

for the November Monthly Planet

**Publication date**  
Thursday, October 29

**Poetry submissions**  
Monday, October 12

**Letters to the Freeze**  
Tuesday, October 20

**Calendar listings**  
Tuesday, October 20, 5 p.m.  
(no phone calls, please)

**Display ads**  
Friday, October 23, 5 p.m.  
(call Risa at 427-3405)

# From The Grassroots



We prefer that letters to *The Monthly Planet* be typed, double spaced, and not more than two pages in length. Hand-written letters should be printed or written as legibly as possible. We reserve the right to edit for brevity and clarity.

## Don't Criticize Track Demolishers

Recently, on Saturday, Sept. 5th, I attended a demonstration at the Naval Weapons Station in Concord, California. This protest of over 7000 people is the largest gathering of opposition at that weapons depot so far and possibly

points to a resurgence in our awareness and activism in stopping the war machine where it matters most—in our own communities. I felt exhilarated and moved by the numbers of concerned people, the appeals and exuberance of the speakers and singers, and especially in the diversity of all those present.

It is this diversity that became an issue for me at that protest. As a large number of demonstrators excitedly dismantled the railroad tracks behind them, spokespeople of the Nuremberg Action group, the official organizers of the day's event, were on stage emphatically disassociating themselves from that "fringe group" as the dismantlers were being labelled. What I feel angry about is the way some members of the organizing group chastised the track demolishers, calling their actions "wrong" because "... Brian wouldn't have wanted this." Well, I for one felt elated watching those tracks come apart and the ties then formed into symbolic "housing." As far as I could tell, the entire dismantling process was, overall, nonviolently carried out, and in

effect, was *not* a violent destruction of property, but a *re-structuring*. It was an active symbolic call for changes in this country's priorities—from ones of war, represented by the tracks, to ones of peace and justice, seen in the railroad-tie housing.

To criticize a creative and symbolic outburst because it wasn't planned into "their" action, to me smacks of elitism—an attitude we don't need or can ill afford in the peace and justice movements today. Instead of portraying those desiring more active nonviolence as wrong, we need to understand that, just as life itself is never truly static, so also the methods of nonviolence cannot remain static. With 63 cents of each of my federal tax dollars now going for military purposes, I personally *will* seek more active ways of nonviolently protesting the repressive regime in Washington and the mentality it represents. To me, *all life*—including plant, animal, and human—is infinitely more sacred than the superficial importance we put on our "property." As much as I will try to respect those

with other definitions of nonviolence, so also I want my views to be respected in turn. Brian Willson actually said it quite well in a taped message replayed to all of us at that demonstration, "Only we can bring peace. Only we can stop the madness. Each must decide what price he [sic] must pay."

I feel we need to open our hearts and our intellects more toward greater acceptance of others' opinions, beliefs, and strategies if the movement to change the existing societal structures is to grow and survive. As a weapons base spokesperson talked of "radical elements mixed in with peaceful demonstrators," we must be careful not to let this military scheme of "divide and conquer" deter us. No one of us is more important than the interconnections between us. This is what will make the movement happen—the connections of all, not the focus on the few. As in the environment around us, diversity becomes the lifeblood of the community, for without it, all becomes stagnant and eventually susceptible to dis-integration and failure.

Ron Andrews  
Petaluma

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## Don't Restrain Justices

The editorial "Unrestrained Justice," *San Jose Mercury* 9/11/87, scolds Justice Thurgood Marshall for publicly voicing his disapproval of President Reagan's record on civil rights. Evidently the writer of that editorial believes that for the sake of the court, "hypocrisy is better than candor," and the justices should not give up paying "lip service" to the myth that they are not tainted with politics because if they give up the "lip service" they give up a great deal.

Just what is the great deal that they would give up? The truth? The fact that they did not give up being a part of all people? That they do hold beliefs and opinions as other people do? And that they *do* have not only the right but indeed the duty to voice their opinions and to criticize a president's actions, especially where those actions are *not* in the interest of the country as a whole—when the president not only fails to implement the gains made in civil rights, but *cuts* funds needed to really achieve the civil rights won after long and bitter struggle.

The justice has a right to disagree with the president when he stubbornly insists on using the taxpayer money to support and actually fund the contras in Nicaragua because he does not believe, as the president does, that the people in Nicaragua have no right to act in their own interest, to rid themselves of oppression and exploitation. Justices can disagree when they find their president ignorant of the fact that there is still a great deal of race discrimination, ignorant of the fact that there are millions of unemployed, hungry, homeless and poor through no fault of their own.

The writer of the editorial further insists that the appointment of Robert H. Bork to the Supreme Court is ok since Bork holds the same philosophy as the president and Justice Marshall has his philosophy. Therefore fair is fair. Right? Wrong! Thurgood Marshall is rooted in thorough knowledge of race discrimination and the harm it does to *all* people, not only the blacks.

Since Bork's philosophy is the same as the president's his confirmation will *weld* the court in that philosophy for decades inasmuch as Supreme Court justices are appointed for life. A Supreme Court welded in such philosophy will mean a court insensitive to the needs of the people.

Sincerely,  
Zena Druckman  
Santa Cruz

# Editorial



## 1500 Down, 49,000 To Go

The United States and the Soviet Union will soon sign an unprecedented agreement, the first to actually reduce nuclear arsenals and not just limit their growth. The negotiation of this agreement is a direct response by the administration to the overwhelming public demand for arms control.

The peace movement, both here and in Europe, deserves much of the credit for mobilizing that public demand and bringing it to bear upon the governments. While this reduction of nuclear weapons is welcomed and can be claimed as a victory for the nuclear disarmament movement, some cautious optimism is in order at this time. The INF agreement will remove U.S. and Soviet medium-range and shorter-range missiles from Europe resulting in the elimination of more than 1,500 nuclear warheads. But it will not denuclearize the continent. In fact, approximately 10,000 tactical nuclear weapons, shared by both superpowers, will remain in the European theater after the reductions. The missiles to be eliminated make up only about 2 percent of the U.S. nuclear arsenal and about 4.5 percent of the Soviet nuclear arsenal. We still have a long, long way to go to reach the goal of nuclear disarmament.

Arms race developments in the wake of the INF treaty create even more reason for caution. The agreement will not prohibit the development and deployment of different weapons to replace the removed INF weapons. U.S. military planners are already discussing how to convert intermediate-range Pershing IIs scheduled to be removed from Europe into Pershing Is, which are not covered by the proposed agreement. Another plan involves moving land-based cruise missiles onto submarines. And, the Pentagon claims it will need to improve U.S. short-range or tactical "battlefield" nuclear weapons to compensate for missiles eliminated by an INF treaty. Furthermore, France has indicated that it may be compelled to expand its independent nuclear forces to fill the "vacuum" left by the removal of U.S. weapons.

The success of the INF treaty can best be assessed in terms of its effects on the prospects for more far-reaching arms control measures. In and of itself it represents the most modest of proposals. However, it is very significant that an administration which has been so extremely hostile to negotiating with the Soviets—which in fact at one point claimed it to be impossible to negotiate with them—has successfully forged an agreement which eliminates some nuclear weapons. An important precedent now exists. Another meaningful effect of the treaty will be the improved verification procedures that will be used to enforce it. Such procedures will lay the foundation for further negotiations.

We urge congressional arms control proponents not to use the INF treaty as an excuse to abandon comprehensive measures aimed at halting the nuclear arms race. Congress has repeatedly claimed that it can't tie the president's hands by exercising its constitutional power of the purse to enact arms control legislation. While we are encouraged by the positive aspects of the INF agreement, we realize it will not end the arms race. The Freeze will continue to lobby Congress to cut off funds for nuclear tests, ballistic missile flight tests, and Star Wars. These are comprehensive and bilateral steps which will seriously hinder the arms race, not just exchange one class of weapons for another.

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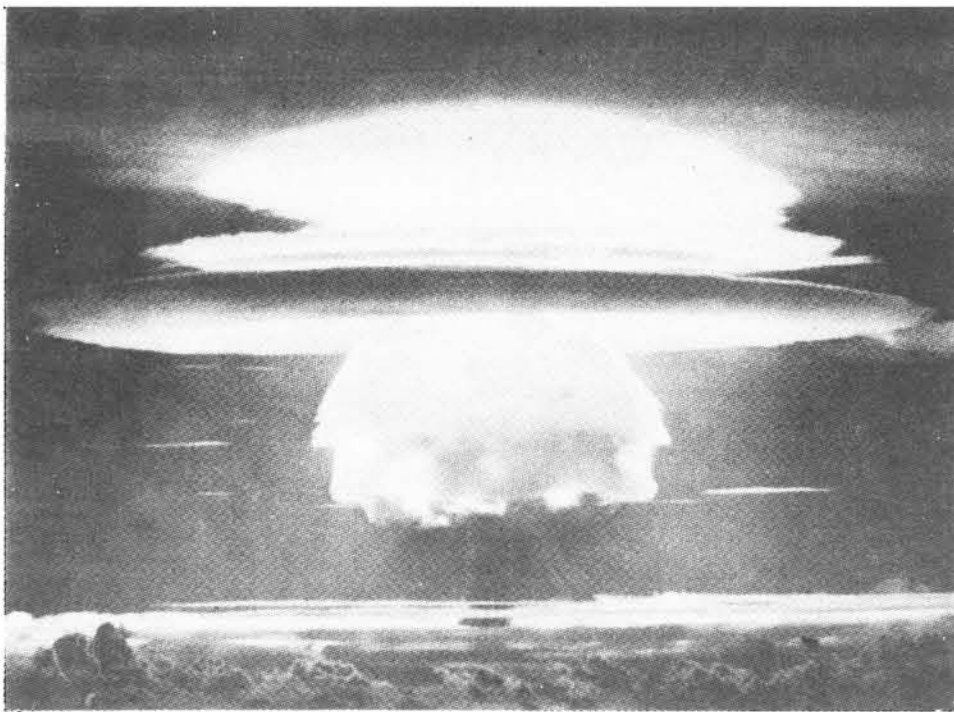
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# Hot Flashes by Bradley David Neily

## Closer and Closer

Government weapons scientists say they have succeeded in controlling a cruise missile to explode over a target area or fly in low and penetrate *within inches* a designated target. In tests conducted by the Navy, a target was struck 3,000 miles away from a submarine, a range twice as far as previously reached in earlier cruise missiles tests.

The implications of this new technology may have profound effects upon global security and arms control efforts. Nuclear and non-nuclear missiles would become increasingly accurate and therefore more destructive. Coupled with the "Stealth" technology made to escape radar detection, these weapons herald the development of a new type of "standoff" weapon system that can be fired and controlled by a launcher thousands of miles away from the target.

## Protection, Army Style

Human error has been cited, in a recently released Army report, as the cause for two toxic chemical leaks involving the Army's chemical weapons disposal program. One accident occurred on March 4 in the Pacific at the Johnston Atoll Chemical Agent Disposal System when four workers were exposed to the nerve poisoning agent "GB" while cleaning out bunkers used to store the Army's aging chemical weapons stockpile. "GB" was used in the M-55 rocket class of chemical weapons and the major reason the Army said the exposure occurred was because the worker's protective suits were inadequate.

The other leak occurred in Utah last January 28 at the Tooele Army Depot's Chemical Agent Munitions Disposal System. The Army said in a statement that the leak was not noticed immediately because "the toxic area was not being monitored during the storage" and that that was "contrary to the approved monitoring plan."



CONI PITTMAN

## Expensive Bargaining Chips

The cost of developing and installing the U.S. Pershing 2 missiles and the ground-launched cruise missiles in Europe has been estimated at \$7.5 billion in a report entitled "Expensive Bargaining Chips" issued by the Natural Resources Defense Council. These missiles are slated to be destroyed if the agreement to eliminate these types of missiles is signed by the United States and Soviet Union.

It is unknown what the next cost will be for the Soviet Union to eliminate its missiles under the agreement. Edward L. Rowny, an arms control advisor for the Reagan administration, has estimated that a comparable number of Soviet missiles, each with three nuclear warheads instead of one as in the Pershing 2, would have cost three times as much for the United States to develop, deploy and maintain.

## Filling In The Gaps

Air Force General John T. Chain, head of the Strategic Air Command, is requesting \$3 billion to be convert old B-52s, slated for removal in the 1990s, to be instead retained and modified to carry

## Exploding Waste

The danger of an explosion from the storage of toxic nuclear waste has been cited as high as one in 50 per year in a study issued by the Environmental Policy Institute on the Savannah River Plant facility. The report is entitled "Evading the Deadly Issues: Corporate Management of America's Nuclear Weapons Production" and is the second done on the huge 300-square-mile complex of reactors, reprocessing plants and stored chemical and nuclear wastes located southeast of Augusta, GA.

Officials of Du Pont, which runs the facility, downplayed the study's claim of such a high risk of a radioactive explosion

but did acknowledge that two types of explosions are possible. One is a hydrogen explosion and the other is an organic vapors explosion.

Arjun Makhijani, a researcher with a doctorate in nuclear fusion who works for the Environmental Policy Institute, said that taking into account the number and individual vulnerability of tanks gave the chance of any one of them suffering an explosion as one in 50 each year. Harry Harmon, a research manager for Du Pont's storage tanks, put the probability of a hydrogen explosion at one in 23,000. Du Pont officials said that some of their evidence to support their claims was classified or in draft form.

Robert Alvarez, director of the institute's Nuclear Project, responded to Du Pont's safety analysis of its nuclear waste storage tanks by saying "Their method is in draft form, available for them to juggle in secret. There is some lack of scientific integrity to release the results and not release the method." The study adds to the growing debate and controversy surrounding the safety of government owned and privately operated military nuclear plants and the environmental threat posed by the increasing amounts of nuclear waste and its storage needs.

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advanced cruise missiles. An improved guidance system is now being tested that will allow cruise missiles to be fired far from a target area and strike with pinpoint accuracy.

General Chain claims that if nuclear missiles are banned in Western Europe refurbished B-52s could help fill the gap.



## Won't You Be My Neighbor?

Mister Rogers is going to the Soviet Union and will appear on "Spokoinoi Nochi, Malyshi" ("Good Night, Kiddies"), a popular Soviet children's television show aired every evening. In return, Tatyana Vedeneyeva, the show's host, will come to the United States as a guest on "Mister Roger's Neighborhood" this March. This latest breakthrough in citizen diplomacy came when puppet Daniel Striped Tiger broke a last minute impasse in negotiations by shyly murmuring "Zdravstvuyte," the traditional Russian greeting of "hello," and then buried his head into Fred Roger's sweater. "They just lit up," said Rogers, host of the PBS children's show. "It was as if the child in them came out. I handed Daniel across the table and they all started putting him on their hands."

The 15-minute Soviet program is a mix of creative animation using clay figurines and textured puppets, featuring Styopa the rabbit and Khryusha the piglet, to depict Russian fairy tales about morals, manners and kindness. "The puppetry really cuts across everything, the language barrier and everything," said Paul Lally, director of Mister Roger's Neighborhood. It is believed that Mister Rogers is the first foreign guest and certainly the first American to appear on the Soviet show.

## New Society Publishers Now In Santa Cruz

New Society Publishers, the nation's only trade book publishing house specifically dedicated to fundamental social change through nonviolent action, has just set up new offices in Santa Cruz as part of its general expansion plans. The six-year old publishing house headquartered in Philadelphia is the fastest growing book publishing house in the Philadelphia area and has recently acquired new offices there as well.

"We chose Santa Cruz," noted West Coast marketing director and editor David H. Albert, "because of its long and continuing association with progressive social action. We have long been friends with the Resource Center for Nonvio-

lence based here and include several of their staff members among our authors." Albert also noted that the current mayor of Santa Cruz, Jane Weed, had served as a staff member of the Resource Center for Nonviolence. "It's hard to imagine a political and business climate more conducive to our concerns," said Albert. "We think the mayor and city council's efforts to maintain a safe and clean environment, to educate its citizens and to take open and active stands against U.S. military aggression and an aberrant foreign policy, and to withstand the encroachment of military contractors and oil companies on this community are good for people. And what's good for people is, although it is often forgotten, fundamentally and ultimately good for business."

The new branch office of the non-profit, worker self-managed publishing house is taking on responsibilities for

national publicity, direct mail, and expanded editorial capacities. "Our success is due to our ability to tap into the energy and creativity of nonviolent activists at the grassroots level," emphasized editor and financial manager Ellen Sawislak. "By being available to respond to the needs of authors and activists on the West Coast, we expect to continue to expand our service to the larger social change community."

Having published its first book in late 1982, New Society Publishers is now publishing more than 15 books a year, with sales exceeding \$550,000. In a recent article in the American Library Association's Booklist on "Nonviolence: The Tradition of Gandhi and King," 19 books were recommended for acquisition by public libraries. Six of them were New Society Publishers' titles; no other publisher in the United States, large or small, was cited more than once.

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# Ways And Means

A resource, according to Webster, is something that lies ready for use or can be drawn upon for aid. To be resourceful is to be able to deal effectively with problems. The planet is faced with the serious problem of the nuclear threat. What resources are available to us to deal with that threat?

We, as people, with all of our various skills, experiences, and imaginations, are probably our own most valuable resource. We have what we need to save ourselves. We have the brains and the hearts necessary to apply all of our other resources toward ending the nuclear arms race and building a peaceful world. Those other resources include organizations, money, supplies (e.g., tables, chairs, paper, phones, stamps), computers, lists, offices and information.

The way these resources are applied is through a cycle, beginning and ending with people (with lots of people throughout). People donate money to organizations comprised of people who spend that money to disseminate information to other people who process that information and perhaps pass it on to other people (maybe using the telephone or writing a letter) who then decide to act. They can attend a demonstration planned by a group of people using their skills, experience, creativity and material re-

sources. They can write a letter to a representative, using addresses provided by an organization and stamps bought with money.

Any social movement is defined by its resources and how well they are used.

objectives of the larger movement. Organizations and individuals which are able to strategize create a movement which is not only sustainable but also effective in the long run.

In order to do this work, the people

**The fundamental challenge to an organization is how to effectively apply what it has in order to get what it wants.**

Organizations and individuals are resources of a movement; the Nuclear Weapons Freeze is but one organization in the peace movement.

The fundamental challenge to an organization—which, remember, is itself a resource of the larger movement—is how to effectively apply what it has in order to get what it wants. The key element which differentiates an organization which is good at keeping itself going and one which is both good at keeping itself going and being effective is its ability to strategize. This involves long-term planning, coordinating with other groups and individuals (locally, nationally, and internationally) and always making decisions which take into consideration the

involved need such resources as time, space and information. Sometimes the time issue is handled by paying people to do the work. Other times, people with time (who are retired, independently wealthy or supported by their family, for example) are depended upon to do the work. Organizations are usually well-equipped to provide space and information. They can also find those people with time and raise money to pay a staff.

Furthermore, the means to transmit information are necessary. Computer networks such as PeaceNet are revolutionizing the communications process of the peace movement. Conferences, meetings, and good old-fashioned telephone and mail correspondence are other commonly used and effective ways movement strategists communicate.

As strategies are formed, the means to implement them demand various resources, the most important of which are the means to communicate information to the general public. Talking to friends and family about the nuclear threat is probably the most effective way to communicate the issues. Organizations can provide more formal opportunities for such communication—through door-to-door canvassing, setting up information tables in public places, and holding educational talks, films and forums. Groups or individuals with money, information and skill can publish literature, newsletters, and even their own newspapers. Furthermore, they can buy television time to reach even more people. Finally, they can organize public demonstrations,



sometimes involving nonviolent civil disobedience.

Reaching people through all the various means is essential. Better decisions about issues which affect us all, such as the nuclear arms race, depend on informed participation by as many people as possible. Therefore, people must be reached in a way which prompts them to act. Once people are reached and moved, they become part of the decision-making process. They can participate either by providing valuable input to policy-makers, (through lobbying and voting) or by becoming active in the movement, or by doing both.

Organized and effective movements apply most of their resources to reaching people. And people, remember, are our most important resource for not only ensuring our survival, but for creating a just and peaceful world. We've got what it takes and it's up to us to use it.

(Next month: a discussion of the issues facing the new SANE/FREEZE organization.)

Terry Teitelbaum is the Executive Director of the Santa Cruz County Nuclear Weapons Freeze.

## Join The Freeze!

The Nuclear Weapons Freeze in Santa Cruz County is funded entirely by membership dues and contributions from local supporters. Where does the money go? To office rent, director's salary, telephones, postage, printing and copying, utilities, bookkeeping, and other costs of keeping our office and organization visible and effective. We also make contributions to the regional and national Freeze organizations. We are committed to getting the most out of each dollar contributed to stopping the nuclear arms race. A very small percentage of our expense goes toward fundraising costs.

Won't you help too? Membership dues for 1987 are: \$15/individual; \$25/family or household; \$10/senior, student, or low-income. You can also become a *sustaining member* by pledging an amount monthly or quarterly. Sustainers help stabilize our financial base so we can spend more time organizing and less time fundraising.

Members receive a subscription to *The Monthly Planet* and are kept up to date on all activities and events. To join, just fill out the form below and send it to:

Nuclear Weapons Freeze  
320-G Cedar St.  
Santa Cruz, Ca. 95060

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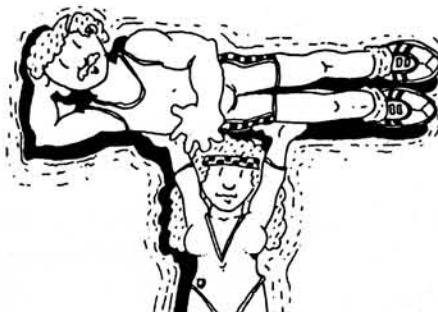
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# The Real Star Wars

Several months ago we in California received word that the Conservative Action Foundation had targeted our state, along with New Mexico, Utah and Florida, for an attempt to get a pro-Star Wars resolution through the state legislature. On checking with the Friends Committee on Legislation in Sacramento, we found that the measure was indeed already in the Rules Committee. We contacted friendly legislators and found that the odds were against the measure getting out of the committee room.

Thus, it is no surprise that we read in the *Los Angeles Times* of Tuesday, September 1, 1987, that a group has formed to try getting such a pro-SDI resolution on the November ballot for the 1988 election in California. A key point about the measure is that it calls for early deployment of a limited system.

What can possibly keep people at this nonsense? Progress is being made with the Soviet Union on arms control, and abundant scientific opinion exists to show the expense and dubious value or even practicability of the Star Wars system, deployed early or late. Moreover, weaponization of space is itself an absurd and dreadfully stupid move. Even the testing required for early deployment of Star Wars will produce a level of space debris harmful for the communications and reconnaissance satellites already in orbit. And does anyone in his or her right mind want a crude, quickie, computerized system of lethal nuclear weapons overhead, out of the effective reach of damage control experts?

It can't even be just jobs—in California, existing Star Wars research and development jobs would be destroyed by early deployment; federal contracts would



DIANE RIGOLI

ple, but patience is not always high on the list. Thus, some of us are always willing and even anxious to resort to nuclear or other forms of murderous blackmail when the going gets a little tough. We must never forget that our recent forebears cleared this very continent for our own use by organized murder. Thus, some elements of our population continue to want to solve the "Soviet Question" by organizing a sort of neo-Mafia gun in the sky to make the Soviets an offer they can't refuse or "wipe 'em out."

The irony of it all is that right now the Soviet Union has the most enlightened leadership it has seen since Peter the Great, who made Russia into a westernized nation. Even more, the whole Star

fied by the first film with its suicidal fatalism, she turned to the later ones. In part II, Luke Skywalker asks his spiritual guide Yoda what he will find on the inner journey of initiation that Yoda has prepared for him. Yoda answers, "What you took in there." What Luke "took in there" turns out to be a part of himself that was

in his father, Darth Vader—the use of force to achieve one's ends, however fine the ultimate goal. In the climactic scene, Vader warns Luke that he will end like his father if he takes that path, because it has an inexorable and killing logic of its own. Murder becomes the end, in the end—blood lust. And if you don't believe that is alive and well in the U.S.A. today, turn on the tube. You can see it and feel it any night in prime time, where it is made pretty in pastel sport coats. Or you can see it unadorned right here, in my country, riding a Navy locomotive on the track at Concord Naval Weapons Station.

Doctrinaire supporters of Star Wars have an overtly admirable goal. They want to protect Western-style political and economic freedom. So do all people of sound mind. Even the ordinary people of the Soviet Union might like more of it. What the zealots don't seem to grasp is that the West has already won the war of ideas by out-eating and out-shopping the Soviet bloc, hands down. Democracy is a better deal and the whole world already knows it. That is why Gorbachev is doing what he is. The West has already won. Peacefully and by persuasion.

Susan C. Strong chairs the Northern California Freeze Campaign.

**The irony of it all is that right now the Soviet Union has the most enlightened leadership it has seen since Peter the Great.**

move on to the producers of hardware, not necessarily even in our high-tech state. Current Star Wars R&D programs which have at least the possible benefit of civilian spinoff discoveries would be curtailed. The capability of channelling federal money into civilian development of space as such discoveries are made will be drastically reduced.

So, unless the supporters of the new measure are all heavily invested only in hardware producers, they must be driven by something besides money. Maybe the basic source of all their energy is what I call the real Star Wars syndrome, or good old American John Wayne political theory. Draw first, ask questions later. This is, if you ask me, the actual origin of the first-strike military plan, which remains our government's official policy. Americans like things good and clean and sometimes that has meant good and dead when the chips were down.

We have many good qualities as a peo-

Wars system, early or late, can easily be outsmarted by much cheaper and simpler countermeasures. We can't even spend the Soviets into their graves this way, which is another tack dear to the hearts of those whose idea of great power politics remains annihilation.

So what is it the ideologues determined to destroy the Soviets really mean? In *Star Wars and the State of Our Souls*, Patricia Mische reflects on the meaning of George Lucas's Star Wars trilogy. Horri-

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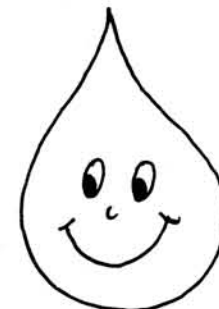
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# Nunn Holds Firm On ABM Treaty

In an unexpected turn of events, Senate Republicans dropped their three-month filibuster, permitting the full Senate to consider the 1988 Defense Authorizations Bill.

The filibuster was orchestrated by conservative Senators opposed to an amendment by Senators Sam Nunn (D-GA) and Carl Levin (D-MI) that would require the president to adhere to the traditional interpretation of the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty. The treaty specifically forbids the testing and deployment of space-based systems. However, Mr. Reagan would like to "reinterpret" the treaty to allow for deployment of his Star Wars program. Most senators oppose the presi-

dent's intent, not so much because they support the ABM Treaty, but rather because the president is choosing unilaterally to interpret a treaty contrary to the understanding of Congress when it entered into that treaty.

The filibuster was dropped partly due to parliamentary maneuvering on the part of Senate Democrats, and partly due to the threat of punitive actions if they didn't. Senator Nunn, together with the support of Senate Majority Leader Robert Byrd, stated that no decision would be made on Supreme Court nominee Robert Bork until the Republicans ended the filibuster. Also, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee has threatened to delay ratification of the INF agreement indefinitely if the president does not reverse his stance on the ABM Treaty. Commented Senator Nunn, "It's not my bill, it's the DOD bill. If they don't want a defense bill this year, I'm fairly relaxed about it."

The Nunn-Levin amendment had been approved in the Senate Armed Services Committee and was already part of the defense bill when it reached the floor of the Senate. A motion by Senator John Warner (R-VA) to kill the amendment was soundly defeated by a vote of 58-38, with Senator Pete Wilson supporting the Warner amendment, and Senator Alan Cranston voting against. The president has vowed to veto the entire defense bill if the ABM provision is attached.

Once the hurdle on the ABM amendment was cleared, the Senate dealt with a series of arms control initiatives in rapid succession, defeating every one.

The most dramatic moment came when Vice President George Bush, for the seventh time in his career and the fifth time on a military issue, broke a 50-50 tie, handing a victory to President Reagan. On the floor for consideration was an amendment by Senator J. Bennett Johnston (D-LA) to cut the Star Wars program from the Senate Armed Services Committee recommendation of \$4.5 billion, to \$3.7 billion. A motion to kill the amendment was offered, which resulted in the 50-50 tie, with Vice President Bush casting the deciding vote. Earlier this year, the House froze Star Wars spending at last year's level of \$3.1 billion. The two bills will now be resolved in conference committee, with a likely compromise figure around \$3.7 billion.

The significance of this particular vote can be demonstrated by the fact that this was the first time in more than two months that all 100 Senators were present for a vote.

The Hatfield-Kennedy amendment to place a moratorium on nuclear weapons testing for two years was also defeated. Senator Harry Reid (D-NV) motioned to table the amendment, effectively killing it for this year. The Reid motion was overwhelmingly approved on a vote of 61-36.

The Carey-Chafee-Hatfield-Simon amendment to place a one-year moratorium on final-stage assembly of binary nerve gas was also defeated 51-47. A similar amendment to halt production of the nerve gas altogether was also defeated, 49-48.



Finally, an amendment offered by Senator John Kerry (D-MA) to continue the anti-satellite (ASAT) weapons moratorium for another year failed on a 51-47 vote.

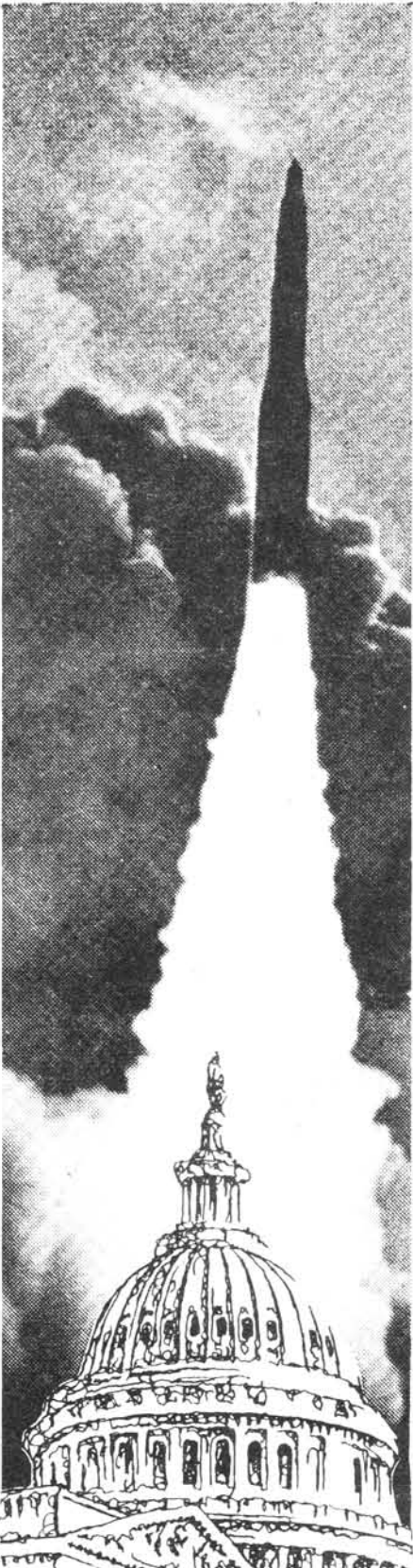
As we go to press, the Bumpers-Chafee-Leahy-Heinz amendment to force the Reagan administration back into compliance with the terms of the SALT II agreement is still waiting to be voted upon. It currently has 50 co-sponsors, which means it is very likely to pass, although Pentagon and administration officials have been involved in some fast and furious arm-twisting on this issue. If enacted, the bill would deny funding for any strategic weapons that exceed the limits of the treaty, for a period of one year.

Once the work on the Senate version of the Defense Authorizations Bill is complete, a joint House-Senate conference committee will meet to resolve key differences in the two versions of the bill. At stake will be many of the arms control provisions passed by the House but not by the Senate.

At this juncture, several factors work to our disadvantage. The authorizations bill is months behind schedule, and the appropriations process is yet to be taken up. The fiscal year ends at midnight, September 30, and the government must run itself via a

series of temporary spending measures enacted by Congress until the 1988 budget is approved. President Reagan has sworn to veto the Defense Authorizations Bill if it contains the ABM language, which it currently does. Finally, the INF agreements are about to be signed and a fall summit between Reagan and Gorbachev is imminent. Conferees will be highly motivated to get through the defense bill as quickly as possible. In past years, House conferees have been all too ready to barter away their arms control provisions in the interests of coming up with a defense bill that the president would sign.

If the president vetoes the authorizations conference report, Congress is faced with several options: come up with a two-thirds majority to override the veto; send the bill back to the conference committee for reworking; take up the entire bill again from scratch; or forget it and not have an authorizations bill. Due to time factors, this last scenario is the most likely, in which case Congress would just move on to the appropriations process. Any arms control provisions not signed into law by the president as part of the Defense Authorizations Bill would have to be taken up during the appropriations process. In all likelihood



## Contact Your Representatives Today!



### Hotlines

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

President Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500  
(202) 456-1414

Senator Alan Cranston  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
(202) 224-3553

Senator Pete Wilson  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
(202) 224-3841

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)

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

there will be no authorizations bill, or at best a very weak one; congressional arms control advocates will virtually have to start all over again by reintroducing amendments on chemical weapons, nuclear weapons testing, ASAT moratorium, and possibly the ABM and SALT II provisions.

**ACTION:** Contact House Armed Services Committee chair Les Aspin (202) 225-3031 and Senate Armed Services Committee chair Sam Nunn (202) 224-3521. Tell them to do everything in their power to see that the arms control provisions passed by the House and

member of the House wanted to go on record approving a Rule that contained funding for the contras. Following the vote on the Rule, the House went on to approve the Continuing Resolution by a vote of 270-138. The Senate also approved the CR by a vote of 70-27.

In a remarkable turn of events, 12th district Representative Ernest Konnyu switched his position on contra aid and voted against the CR, the only Republican in California to do so. According to information received from Witness for Peace,

**"It's not my bill, it's the DOD bill. If they don't want a defense bill this year, I'm fairly relaxed about it."**

**—Senator Sam Nunn**

Senate are not dropped in the authorizations conference committee.

### Persian Gulf

Recent actions in the Persian Gulf have prompted members of Congress to attempt to invoke the War Powers Act. The War Powers Act require the president to inform Congress within 48 hours whenever U.S. troops are engaged in hostilities or are in imminent danger of hostilities. Once the act is invoked, Congress has up to 90 days to vote on whether to maintain a U.S. military presence. If no vote is taken in that period, the president must withdraw the troops.

A motion by Senator Lowell Weiker (R-CT) to invoke the act was defeated 50-41. Senate Majority Leader Robert Byrd (D-W.VA) is drafting a compromise piece of legislation that would terminate funding for the U.S. military escort program in six months, unless the Senate votes otherwise.

### Central America

Proponents of contra aid chalked up another victory last month when Congress voted to include a \$3.5 million "humanitarian" aid package in the Continuing Resolutions (CR). The CR is a stop-gap spending measure that temporarily funds the federal government until a new budget can be worked out. The new fiscal year begins October 1 and, with no new budget in sight, Congress is obliged to pass a series of CRs or face the prospect of shutting down the government.

The provision for contra aid was actually contained in the Rule for Debate set out by the House Rules Committee. The Rules Committee determines the debate format of a piece of legislation: the length of time for debate, whether amendments may be added, whether individual items may be pulled from the bill and debated, and the number of speakers for or against. In this instance, the Rules Committee voted 11-1 to include a provision authored by House Speaker Jim Wright (D-TX) to fund the contras through November 10, when progress on the Central America peace plan will be evaluated.

The Rule for Debate was approved by the full House on a voice vote, which speaks to the strength and persistence of U.S. citizens' opposition to contra aid. No

Konnyu recently returned from a delegation to Central America and felt that the Arias peace plan should be given every opportunity to work.

President Reagan is expected to approach Congress by November 15 with a request for \$270 million in military and economic support for the Nicaraguan rebels, to be distributed over an 18-month period. The administration has spared no opportunity to cast a shadow of doubt over the viability of the peace plan, and to negate the Sandanista government's efforts to comply with its terms. It is clear that the president is determined to do all in his power to bring down the government in Managua before the end of his presidency.

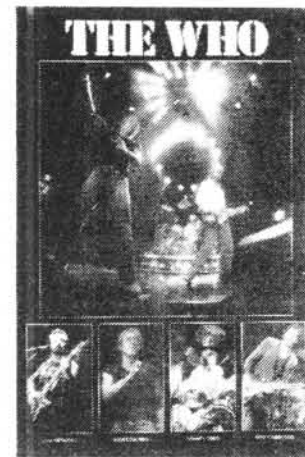
**ACTION:** It is crucial that everyone contact his/her representatives in Congress and demand, in no uncertain terms, an end to all types of aid to the Nicaraguan contras. Contact Speaker Wright at (202) 225-5071 and express your disappointment over his support of continued assistance to the contras, which is in direct violation of the terms of the Guatemalan accord. If you live in Rep. Konnyu's district, call him at (202) 225-5411 and thank him for his vote. Encourage him to also vote against the president's request for \$270 million when it comes before the House.

Finally, the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations is holding up consideration of a request by the Reagan administration for \$9.1 million for police training in El Salvador, pending the results of hearings conducted by the House Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere Affairs. The hearings have served to highlight continued human rights abuses in El Salvador, particularly the lack of judicial process in that country. Last year the House, in approving aid for police training, stipulated that such aid would be eliminated in the 1988 budget. The Reagan administration is trying to get in this last request before the fiscal year ends September 30. Rep. George Crockett (D-MI), chair of the Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere Affairs, deserves our thanks for continuously raising the issue of human rights, and for insisting that funding be tied to improvements in a country's human rights record. You can reach him at (202) 225-2261.

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

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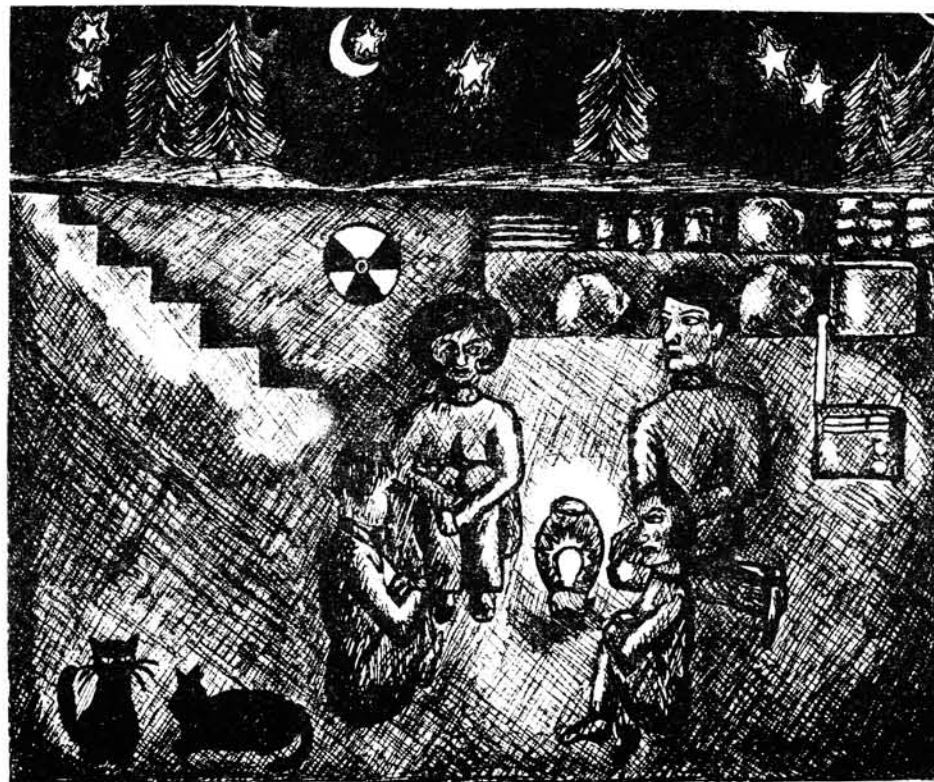
# 25 Years Ago: The Cuban Missile Crisis

by Ronald A. Lampi

The most studied international crisis of recent history has its 25th year anniversary this month. October 1962 saw the United States facing its gravest encounter with the Soviet Union since the Nuclear Age began. Many of us may remember that ominous time when the dark talk of war was in the air, the 13 days at the brink that would be known as the Cuban missile crisis. Though it has received so much attention, considering that it can offer crucial, firsthand lessons on crisis resolution between the superpowers, to this date important questions about it still remain, and this month we can expect to see various conferences and reunions, including one at Harvard between American and Soviet policy-making officials of that time, still raising them.

When we begin to look at it, the Cuban missile crisis presents us above all with a picture of how military competition, with all the attendant fears it generates, can go awry when a dangerous venture is undertaken. We can begin with the so-called "missile gap" that President John F. Kennedy had made so much of during his presidential campaign. It turned out that the United States had not fallen behind in the race to build missiles; on the contrary, it was the Soviet Union that had fallen behind the U.S. buildup. U.S. intelligence in the first two years of the 1960s discovered that we clearly had the advantage, and that the Soviets knew it. Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev later expressed the feeling at the time from the Soviet point of view. He recalled how intimidating it was that American missiles were pointed at the Soviet Union from almost every direction, and this included just over their border in Turkey. What if Americans were intimidated in the same manner? he asked. What becomes apparent is that the Soviets were always fearful of the capability the United States had to launch a first-strike attack.

The exact motivations of the Soviets for venturing to place missiles in Cuba still remains something of a mystery. That their opportunity for intimidation came up in Cuba, though, is clearly in the picture. For one thing, they had promised



MICHELLE KAISER

military aid to the new Cuban government of Castro after he had proclaimed himself a Marxist and expressed his constant fear of an American invasion. Why not missiles? Khrushchev might have thought. But, in real terms, would deploying missiles in Cuba have altered the balance of power between the two superpowers? No, said analysts later. What it would have altered, though, was the *psychological* balance. The question, too, is whether the Soviet venture was a bluff to test U.S. resolve against Soviet missiles anywhere in the Western Hemisphere.

Though it had already been suspected that the first missile shipments to Cuba had started in July of 1962, it was not until October 14 of that year that a U2 surveillance flight was able to take photos of actual Cuban missile bases under construction. The crisis is said to have begun the following day after the photos were analyzed and the results given to President Kennedy. The subsequent days saw a flurry of secret meetings between Kennedy and his military and civilian advisors. Questions remain, however, whether the Kennedy administration in fact sought to turn these developments

into a crisis. The official line was that missiles in Cuba were totally unacceptable. The crucial question then became: What was the United States prepared to do to get them out? Three alternatives were proposed: an invasion of and/or air strike against Cuba; seeking a settlement

**What becomes apparent is that the Soviets were always fearful of the capability the United States had to launch a first-strike attack.**

through the United Nations (which was considered too slow and to be a sign of weakness to Kennedy's critics); and a naval blockade of the island, preventing any further military shipments from taking place.

The decision was made: on October 22, President Kennedy made a TV appearance, announcing that a naval "quarantine" (the official label) of Cuba was to be put into effect as a result of the indisputable evidence that missile sites had been observed. It was this announcement that effectively turned the Cuban developments into a crisis. From that point on, everyone held their breath. What would the Soviets do? Would they defy the action? When the quarantine went into effect on October 24 Washington was preparing for war: evacuation plans of government officials were underway, all military forces were placed on combat status, the Strategic Air Command put on the highest alert in its history.

Soviet ships enroute to Cuba finally did stop. Secretary of State Dean Rusk was quoted to have said (summing up the almost adolescent nature of the competitiveness the crisis revealed), "We're eyeball to eyeball and I think the other fellow just blinked." Yet, it was not over, not yet: what of the missiles believed to

be in Cuba already? Through a series of secret negotiations an ultimatum was given to Moscow: the United States would promise not to attack Cuba if they got their missiles out. There was also a vaguely expressed promise — never made publicly — that the United States would soon remove its obsolete Jupiter missiles from Turkey. October 27 was considered the darkest day of the crisis — the United States, to all appearances, was prepared to go to war. Thousands went to bed that night wondering if they would ever see dawn again. But on the following day, October 28, Khrushchev sent word that the Soviet Union would agree to abide by the ultimatum — the missiles would be removed.

Over the years, further details have trickled out and further questions have been raised. What of the political overtones? There was a congressional campaign that fall. Though new revelations seem to indicate that President Kennedy had secretly been willing to go the extra mile in seeking a less dangerous alternative (the United Nations as third party) if the Soviets had been unbending — that is, too, willing to accept the political backlash — the pressure on him first demanded the firm, tough stance, again, for appearance' sake. For what also comes out is that there was no evidence that *nuclear warheads* were in Cuba.

Some observers have commented on how unlikely or at least unusual it would have been for the Soviets to have actually allowed nuclear warheads to be deployed outside their own boundaries. Also, for all our show of making preparations for war, there was no indication that the Soviets were doing likewise.

Might the crisis have been a double bluff, as Richard Ned Lebow of Cornell University's Peace Studies Program has suggested? Might the Soviets not have intended to actually deploy nuclear warheads? Might Kennedy not have gone through with the air strike he threatened? How close, then, were we to war? In the Nuclear Age, to try a situation as was done in Cuba was close enough.

And what result did the crisis have on military competition? Though the Soviets were acknowledged to have made a serious and embarrassing blunder, it only resulted in their determination never to be second in military strength again. The remaining years of the 1960s saw a massive buildup of Soviet nuclear weapons. And to this day the first-strike mentality still finds currency. And the same fears are still there.

Ronald A. Lampi is a Santa Cruz writer and the Poetry Editor of The Monthly Planet.



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# Brian Willson: Back On The Tracks

by Robby Labovitz

On August 23, 1987, I danced with Brian Willson at his wedding. On Sept. 1, I watched an engine and two boxcars crush him at the Concord Naval Weapons Base in Clyde, about 50 miles from San Francisco. Brian, Duncan

## Activist's Notebook

Murphy, and David Duncombe were blocking the tracks with their bodies when the weapons train failed to halt.

Brian and others decided to focus on Concord because this base holds contracts with the U.S. Department of Defense that result in bomb shipments to El Salvador and other Third World countries. For example, sections of a contract for June 10, 1985 indicate that the government of El Salvador ordered over six million dollars worth of bombs to be shipped from Concord. Among these weapons are white phosphorus rockets which are filled with a chemical more deadly than napalm. It burns through the flesh of its victims, sometimes innocent children in El Salvadoran villages. Naming this continuous act of "blocking the tracks" the Nuremberg Actions is significant in that after World War II the Nuremberg trials called for individuals to be responsible for obeying international human rights laws even if their governments do not. Since June 10, 1987 there has been a sustained presence on the tracks with vigilers holding signs and banners and leafletting the cars and people passing by on the adjoining Port Chicago Highway.

On Sept. 1, I joined about 30 others on the tracks for the action. The tracks were decorated with a peace symbol made of stones, and a four-by-five-foot banner was held across the tracks for most of the morning (including when the train approached). A prayer vigil at 10 a.m. preceded a press conference at 11 a.m. Here Brian, Duncan, and others explained their reasons for blocking the train as well as for beginning a 40-day fast. Brian reiterated that "We have decided to put our bodies on the line to save the lives of other people who are worth no less than us."

About one half-hour before the train was to approach, he and others hand-delivered a letter to the base authorities which included their intentions of blocking the train. At no time were they asked to leave the tracks prior to the train's approach.

At about 12:15 p.m., the train, which had been stopped a few blocks down the tracks, approached the protesters. It was traveling at what has been determined from a video tape to be about 20 miles per hour. At no point en route did the train slow down. I was focused on the eyes of one of the two spotters who stood on the front of the engine car as the train continued full speed ahead. I saw Duncan jump on the front of the engine and other bodies (there were the three people on the tracks and two others holding the banner across the tracks) flying to the side. And I saw the engine and two cars plow through the body of Brian Willson. The train stopped some three blocks down the tracks. Contra Costa County sheriffs appeared on the scene almost immediately and began their investigation by taking reports from those of us

present (the incident occurred on Contra Costa County property). The ambulance came for Brian after a long twenty minutes.

Brian has lost his left leg below the knee and his right foot. There was extensive damage to his head but his mental faculties appear to be O.K.

People from all over the country have joined the actions at Concord. There have been over 20 people there daily, many of whom are fasting. A fast support group, as well as medical support for fasters, is available at the tracks. Tents have been set up in Clyde Park across the road from the tracks.

Each morning at 7 a.m. trucks carrying munitions pass the highway. More bodies are continually needed to block these as well as the trains which generally pass twice daily. Before committing civil disobedience or risking arrest by blocking the trucks or trains, people must have nonviolence training. This is provided daily at Concord or can be arranged here in Santa Cruz by calling Bob Tingleff (429-1217). Every day

people are arrested at Concord. For first arrests, they are detained for a few hours. Second arrests carry a \$300 bail before release. As of this writing, three people have been incarcerated for three days awaiting arraignment.

At the Witness for Peace office at 509 Broadway in Santa Cruz, there is a bulletin board with daily updates of the Nuremberg Actions as well as information about carpools and directions to the base. Also, every Wednesday at 7:15 p.m. there is a drop-in meeting there. Sherry Conable (425-8921) is helping to arrange carpools to Concord from Santa Cruz.

Please join us on the tracks. We want to build this action. And please tell your representatives and senators to stop contra funding. Ask your friends to do the same. Also, consider joining a Veterans Peace Action Team to rebuild what the contras have destroyed in El Cedro, Nicaragua (contact 426-7822). Together we are making a difference, especially with shining lights like Brian Willson to guide us.



Robby Labovitz is a volunteer coordinator and support person for Veterans Peace Action Teams.

Editor's note: At press time, Brian Willson was back on the tracks.



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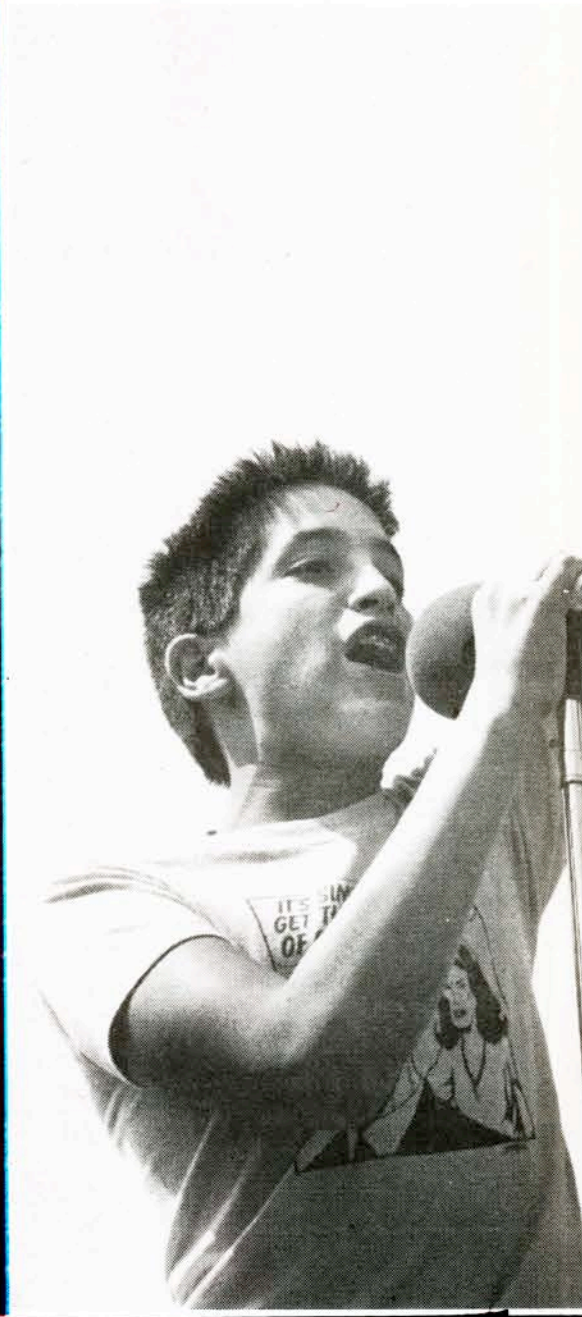
Rev. Jesse Jackson.

GREG MARTIN



Holly Rau, Brian Willson's wife.

GREG MARTIN



Approximately 7,000 people turned out to show their support for Brian Willson and their opposition to U.S. weapons shipments to Central America.

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# NUREMBERG

# ACTIONS

Concord Naval Weapons Station  
Saturday, September 5



GREG MARTIN

Holly Rauwen, Brian Willson's wife.



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Gabriel Rauwen, 14, Brian Willson's son.



Approximately 7,000 people turned out to show their support for Brian Willson and their opposition to U.S. weapons shipments to Central America.

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# ACTIONS

Concord Naval Weapons Station  
Saturday, September 5



PAT KITSON

Gabriel Rauhen, 14, Brian Willson's stepson.



TERRY TEITELBAUM

Members of V.F.W. Bill Motto Post 5888.

At the rally called in response to the maiming of Brian Willson by a Navy munitions train, a tape recording of Brian, who was at that time still in the hospital, was played. Here are excerpts from Brian's taped speech.

I want to thank all of you for coming to Concord today out of concern for the violence which the Death Train inflicted on me last Tuesday. But, please remember that the same horror and much worse is happening everyday to the people in Central America.

I am grateful you are here today to demonstrate your concern for peace in Central America. I hope you will come back day after day after day after day to nonviolently block the trains and trucks carrying bombs and munitions to ships bound to Central America and other parts of the world . . . tomorrow, the next day and the next day and the next.

Our government can only continue its wars with the cooperation of our people and that cooperation is without taxes and with our bodies. Our actions and expressions are what is needed, not our whispers and our quiet dinner conversation. Martin Luther King Jr. said: "An injustice anywhere is an injustice everywhere." When someone is hurting in El Salvador or Nicaragua, we are hurting too.

I never thought I would lose my legs here in the U.S.; maybe while walking for peace in Nicaragua but not here. I hope everyone will search their hearts about what they can do to stop this madness. We each need to take responsibility. I want to call on everyone to speak out and act as strongly and powerfully and honestly and nonviolently as possible. Together we can stop these death trains and the horrible war in Central America.

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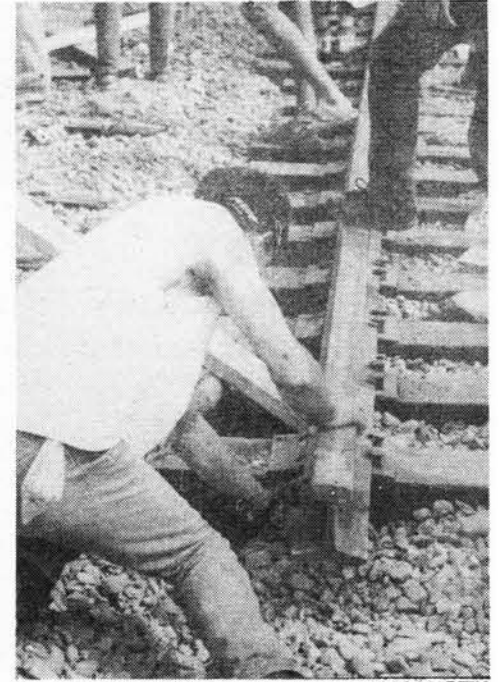
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PAT KITSON



GREG MARTIN

On September 5, four days after the maiming of Brian Willson, emotions ran high at a rally called by organizers of the Nuremberg Actions. Hundreds of police stood behind barbed wire fences and watched

# Concord Demo Raises Hard Questions

When a group of people, masked with bandannas and equipped with crowbars, began to tear up the train tracks at Concord Naval Weapons Station, it was not the police who tried to stop them, but other peace activists. Ironically, the activists who sat on the tracks to prevent them from being removed had been working for months to stop the weapons train which rode on those tracks. In the aftermath of Brian Willson's maiming and the resulting bad publicity for the Navy, tearing up over 300 feet of tracks had the effect of stopping the train, if not the weapons. The Navy announced that it would now use trucks instead of the train to transport the weapons from the munitions bunkers to the ships which take them to Central

America.

But there has been another kind of effect of the Concord track removal incident: a local intensification of a growing debate within the direct action movement for peace and justice. This debate often centers around particular acts of property damage or a variety of confrontational tactics, but it also brings into question the larger strategies and even the goals of those who do nonviolent direct action. The incident at Concord is an excellent subject for such a discussion because it challenges any easy distinctions between violence and nonviolence, and brings up complex questions about the methods and targets of direct action. While there seems to be a general, if sometimes secret, satisfaction that the tracks were torn up,

peace activists everywhere I go in Santa Cruz are talking about the questions raised by Concord, such as:

Was the removal of the tracks violent? Were the "masks" a violation of the openness and willingness to accept the consequences of one's actions often associated with civil disobedience? Should the people have stopped removing the tracks because Brian's wife, Holly Rauen, told them that Brian would not approve of what they were doing? Was it right for the organizers of the Nuremberg Actions (the vigils and blockades that Brian was taking part in when he was maimed) to publicly disassociate themselves from the track removal? Were the people removing the tracks wrong to violate the nonviolence guidelines used by Nurem-

berg Actions? Or was the spontaneous nature of the rally, called in response to Brian's maiming, such that Nuremberg Action organizers couldn't claim to define and control everyone's actions? Were the people sitting on the tracks to prevent further removal acting too much like peace police or did their actions diffuse a volatile situation? Were the people removing the tracks exposing the crowds to potential police violence by using the people clustered around them as an unwitting shield?

For local activists organizing future direct actions for the Emergency Response Plan (the upcoming Days of Decision in response to Reagan's request for more contra aid) and Stop First Strike Santa Cruz (the October Missile Crisis Actions against Lockheed in Bonny Doon, the prime contractor for Trident II missiles) the debate around Concord is particularly important. Beyond immediate answers to questions such as those outlined above, these activists are interested in the lessons they can learn about the dynamics of large nonviolent direct actions. While both of these future actions will be significantly different from Concord because of the previous planning involved, activists are seriously concerned to balance safety with autonomy, moral witness with effective intervention, and unity of purpose with political diversity.

For the nonviolent direct action movement, these considerations and debates are hardly new. Indeed, the nonviolence guidelines used in most California actions, including those at Concord, were crafted from extensive statewide discussions about nonviolence and civil disobedience in preparation for the 1981 blockade of the Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant. These guidelines, in particular the guideline which states "we will not damage property," were a response to the 1979 direct action at the proposed

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while about 100 activists dismantled the railroad tracks at the Concord Naval Weapons Station.

Seabrook, N.H. nuclear power plant. In that action, attempts to cut the chain-link fence surrounding the construction site by helmeted activists with bolt-cutters was met by police violence, including beatings and tear gas. Perhaps worse, the issue of whether or not it was appropriate to cut the fence divided the Clamshell Alliance, the organizing group in New Hampshire, hampering its ability to organize against the plant up until recent years.

Across the country but in close contact with the Clamshell, the Abalone Alliance tried to avoid a similar situation by asking all participants in the Diablo blockade to agree to a six-point nonviolence code, or else not to participate. These guidelines were treated more as a voluntary covenant between participants, a common framework under which people with different notions of nonviolence would work together, rather than a rigid definition of "true" nonviolence. The success of this approach, reflected in the peaceful, yet confrontational tone of the two-week-long blockade, encouraged the use of roughly the same set of guidelines in almost every California action since 1981, as well as many actions in other parts of the country. The guidelines used for the upcoming actions in Santa Cruz will be very similar to the guidelines used in 1981 at Diablo.

But the context of anti-militarist struggle has changed since 1981. For one thing, the very growth and persistence of non-violent civil disobedience as an anti-militarist tactic has led to greater skill and experience not just on the part of peace activists, but on the part of the state which has learned to contain and dilute the power of the experience. When civil disobedience takes on the appearance of a choreographed ritual between police and protestors, the actions seem to lose some of their meaning. On the one hand, the media cover these actions as though they are standard fare, lending them a certain legitimacy. On the other hand, such bland coverage may also be less effective coverage.

Many believe that it will be necessary

to have mass involvement in civil disobedience and direct action before the growing militarization of our economy and our political system can be reversed, before the arms race, U.S. intervention, and the human suffering which results

the ante of civil disobedience. Since most Americans tend to unquestioningly value our "right" to property (which the Constitution substitutes for the Declaration of Independence's "right to the pursuit of happiness"), it is thought to be more

when "risk-taking," whether it involves property damage or not, is appropriate and effective.

This constructive debate will not be resolved in any simple sense, but represents a renewal of interest and involvement in civil disobedience and direct action. The desire to move away from complacency towards creativity and action reflects the urgency of our situation, in which we are led by an irresponsible government into greater danger from nuclear weapons and interventionist foreign policies. In order to take political and moral responsibility for these policies and end the suffering they cause, we must continue to talk to each other openly about the hard questions involved in doing direct action.

Noel Sturgeon is an activist and student of the direct action movement. Any comments on this column, or information on past or upcoming direct actions can be sent to her c/o The Monthly Planet.

### **Raising the stakes also raises deeper questions about which actions, methods, and targets will best encourage both growth and effectiveness for the nonviolent direct action movement.**

can be stopped. The obstacles encountered by overwhelmingly popular Freeze legislation in the early '80s convinced many peace activists of the necessity of adding civil disobedience to electoral persuasion. But raising the stakes also raises deeper questions about which actions, methods, and targets will best encourage both growth and effectiveness for the nonviolent direct action movement.

One answer has been proposed by the spate of "Plowshares disarmament actions" begun in 1980, in which primarily Christian activists have entered military bases and damaged missiles and other military equipment, following the Biblical injunction to "hammer swords into plowshares." One of these activists, Helen Woodson, serving 12 years in prison for using a jackhammer to damage a Minuteman silo, recently sent a letter to women organizing for the Mother's Day Action at the Nevada Test Site, urging "direct disarmament" as a proper response to the nuclear threat. "Human beings built nuclear weapons," wrote Woodson, "and human beings must take them apart. God will not do it for us, the government will not do it for us, the law will not do it for us."

Against such calls for greater risk, and willingness to accept personal sacrifice, are those who feel that the movement must make it possible for greater numbers of people to participate before raising

appealing to more people to refrain from even principled destruction of military equipment. In addition, some activists worry that the desire for an increased level of confrontation often stems from macho or moralistic posturing. The conversation thus moves to questions about

## **Upcoming Direct Actions in October (National and Local)**

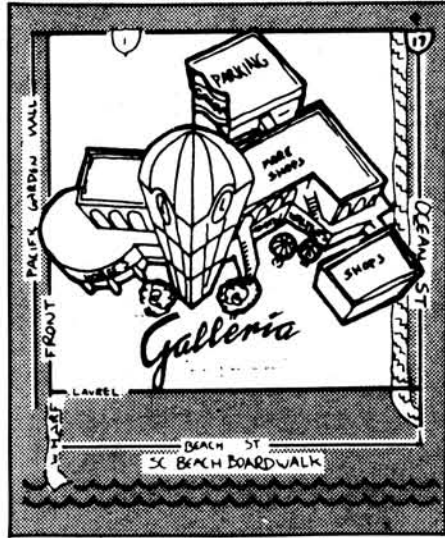
- Ongoing: Nuremburg Actions at the Concord Naval Weapons Station (408) 426-7822
- Days of Decision, actions against contra aid (408) 426-6916
- 13 Civil disobedience in Washington, D.C. at the Supreme Court after the March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights (202) 783-1828
- 17-20 Nevada Test Site Peacekeeper Action (503) 371-8002
- 24 Take Back the Night March, Women Against Rape, San Francisco (415) 861-2024
- 24 Walk-a-Thon for Justice and Peace with the People of El Salvador, Venice, (213) 225-6136
- 18-26 25th Anniversary of the Cuban Missile Crisis. Actions at:
  - Lockheed, Santa Clara/Santa Cruz (Stop First Strike Walk from Hunter's Point to Sunnyvale, then an action on the 26th at Lockheed, Bonny Doon) (408) 479-8781
  - Hanford Nuclear Reservation, Richland, WA (503) 295-2102
  - Kirtland Air Force Base, Albuquerque, NM (505) 268-9557
  - General Dynamics Electric Boat Co, Groton, CT and Quonset Point, RI (203) 889-5337
  - General Electric Space Center, Valley Forge, PA (215) 544-1818
  - Honeywell Corporation, Minneapolis, MN (612) 339-3524
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  - Strategic Air Command Base, Omaha, NE (402) 422-0592

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# Are We Preparing For A Nuclear First Strike?

by Peter Lumsdaine

Four decades into the Nuclear Age, most of us have grown used to a never-ending arms race. Despite strong majority support for a bilateral freeze on the testing, production, and deployment of nuclear weapons, the buildup of sophisti-

## Analysis

cated missiles and hydrogen bombs still continues at an alarming rate.

The relative apathy of the American public in the face of this stockpiling may be due to the fact that most people do not think that a nuclear world war in the 1990s will likely occur. In 1984 when the Public Agenda Foundation conducted a national poll it found that a majority of the public held this view. The basis for it undoubtedly corresponded to the 89 percent of those

*The U.S. government has made a series of secret ultimatums and threats, accompanied by detailed operational plans, to initiate nuclear warfare.*

surveyed who believed that neither of the superpowers could win a nuclear war, but that both sides would be destroyed, in addition to the *mistaken* belief by 81 percent that "It is current U.S. policy to use nuclear weapons against the Soviets if and only if they attack the U.S. first with nuclear weapons."

For many years the American people have heard official reassurances that U.S. nuclear weapons exist only for "deterrence"—that is, to prevent a nuclear attack on our country by our own threat and ability to retaliate. Since 77 percent of the public, when surveyed by the Public Agency Foundation, opposed the use of nuclear weapons in foreign non-nuclear conflicts, to say nothing of a first-strike attack against the Soviet Union, the Pentagon continues to explain its policies in the preferred nonaggressive terms of "defense" and "deterrence." However, a careful examination of actual U.S. military programs and specific U.S. policies reveals a dramatically different picture.

## Secret Threats

The historical record, including autobiographies by former Presidents Eisenhower and Nixon, and newly declassified or leaked government documents, now shows clearly that the U.S. government has made a series of secret ultimatums and threats, accompanied by detailed operational plans, to initiate nuclear warfare. In most cases the potential targets were non-nuclear Third World nations that had come into conflict with "American interests." However, the Pentagon and the White House also developed, and came very close to carrying out, operational plans for either a limited or all-out nuclear first strike against the U.S.S.R.

During the Korean War, for example, General Omar Bradley, on May 19, 1953, relayed a somber message to President Eisenhower: "It is the view of the Joint Chiefs of Staff that the necessary air, naval

and ground operations, including extensive strategical and tactical use of atomic bombs, be undertaken so as to obtain maximum surprise and maximum impact on the enemy," in Korea and China. At a top secret meeting of the National Security Council (NSC) on the following day, the president and the NSC decided to implement the Joint Chiefs' recommendation if the military situation in Korea continued to deteriorate. In the event that the Soviets brought in forces to assist their allies in the conflict and general war erupted, the NSC was prepared to carry out its "final option": operation SHAKEDOWN, a massive first strike against the U.S.S.R.

In their writings, Eisenhower and Nixon both claimed that the credible threat of such an escalation is what ended the Korean conflict and allowed the U.S. to remain in control of South Korea, and that such threats had a similar effect in other conflicts, from Iran in 1946 to the Cuban missile crisis in 1962. Indeed, the Truman, Eisenhower, and Kennedy administrations ser-

iously considered a bolt-out-of-the-blue first strike to eliminate the Soviet Union as a rival world power, during potential "windows of opportunity" in the late 1940s, in 1954, and in 1961.

## The Deadly Connection

Threats that were made in the 1940s and '50s to launch a nuclear attack on the Soviet Union if it were to challenge U.S. intervention in key Third World regions became obsolete with the development of a credible Soviet retaliatory deterrent force in the 1960s. The Soviet Union's newly developed second-strike ability, together with the domestic revolt that we witnessed here against the war in Vietnam, put dramatic constraints on U.S. military options.

In congressional testimony on March 18, 1976, Vice-Admiral Gerald E. Miller, former deputy director of the Joint Strategic Target Planning Staff, said, "We will be looking increasingly toward Africa and the Middle East, as well as South America, for the materials required by our industrial economy. We will be forced to keep trade routes free. We will require free access and intercourse with many far distant nations of the world in order to remain a leading import-export nation . . . I think in the future we may get into areas where it will be increasingly difficult to maintain stability with conventional forces and nuclear weapons will be our only alternative."

The United States has demonstrated that it will intervene militarily in the Third World, and even threaten to use nuclear weapons, if it deems a situation adversely affects "American interests." This option can only be maintained if the U.S.S.R. is capable of being neutralized, by the threat of an all-out strategic nuclear attack. Such a threat, however, can only regain credibility if a U.S. nuclear strike can destroy the Soviets' ability to retaliate against North America with unacceptable destructive power.

## The First-Strike Arsenal

Let us consider which of the two superpowers could lay claim to a first-strike capability.

Unlike the U.S. bomber fleet, Soviet intercontinental bombers are not kept on alert, carry only a small part of their country's nuclear firepower, and could quite easily be blown up on the ground or



The Trident II D-5 missile.

shot down by U.S. forces. Soviet missile launching submarines, based on their country's limited Pacific and Baltic coasts, could be readily "bottled up" in a conflict at nearby naval "choke points." Only 15 percent of the Soviet fleet (carrying about 3 percent of the nation's long-range nuclear warheads, in contrast to the 30 percent carried on American ships) is on ocean patrol at any given time. These submarines, unlike their U.S. counterparts, are relatively noisy and can be systematically tracked for rapid destruction by the Pentagon's far more advanced anti-submarine warfare arsenal. In the May 13, 1985 issue of *Defense Week*, then-Navy Secretary John Lehman said that his forces would attack Soviet missile submarines "in the first five minutes of the war," and CIA officials testified on June 26 of that same year that there is no realistic possibility in this century of "any significant threat" to U.S. strategic submarines on patrol.

Only the U.S.S.R.'s land-based ICBM force provides a credible retaliatory deterrent to U.S. nuclear attack. These 1400 missiles, most of them sheltered in underground reinforced concrete silos, and the similarly reinforced underground Soviet military command centers, can be destroyed

continued on page 22

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# First Strike

continued from page 21

only by nuclear weapons with very accurate guidance systems. This "strategic counterforce" and "de-capitation" credibility can be the only reason for the development of the upgraded Minuteman III, MX, and Trident II D-5 high-accuracy ballistic missiles, in addition to the huge arsenals of cruise missiles and precision Navstar satellite guidance systems for the Trident I C-4.

The development of a full-scale first-strike arsenal, referred to in official terminology as "strategic modernization," provides the only logical military context for the Star Wars program, officially labelled as the "Strategic Defense Initiative" or SDI. Nearly all scientists and generals realize that a strategic defense system could not work perfectly enough to keep an all-out Soviet surprise attack from completely destroying the United States. The Kremlin leaders would not launch such an attack in any case, because if they did the U.S.S.R. would easily be destroyed by U.S. retaliatory power, comprised of invulnerable strategic submarines on patrol and its alert-status bomber aircraft.

However, the Star Wars program *does* have a very real and dangerous military function, as analysts like the late Herbert Scoville, a former CIA research director, have pointed out. A limited missile defense system *could* block the ragged retaliation by the few Soviet missiles which might survive a U.S. first strike in the 1990s, reducing American casualties to what Henry Kissinger calls "tolerable levels."

This is why the Soviets are so worried about Star Wars, and about the continuation of the nuclear arms race. This fear has driven them to make enormous negotiating concessions, giving in to virtually every American demand in the Euromissile talks, in an all-out effort to reverse the momentum of the arms race before they are driven into a corner by the completion of a U.S. first-strike capability.

If current programs go forward, the Trident II D-5 missile system and Navstar targeting satellites, in conjunction with existing anti-submarine warfare capabilities,

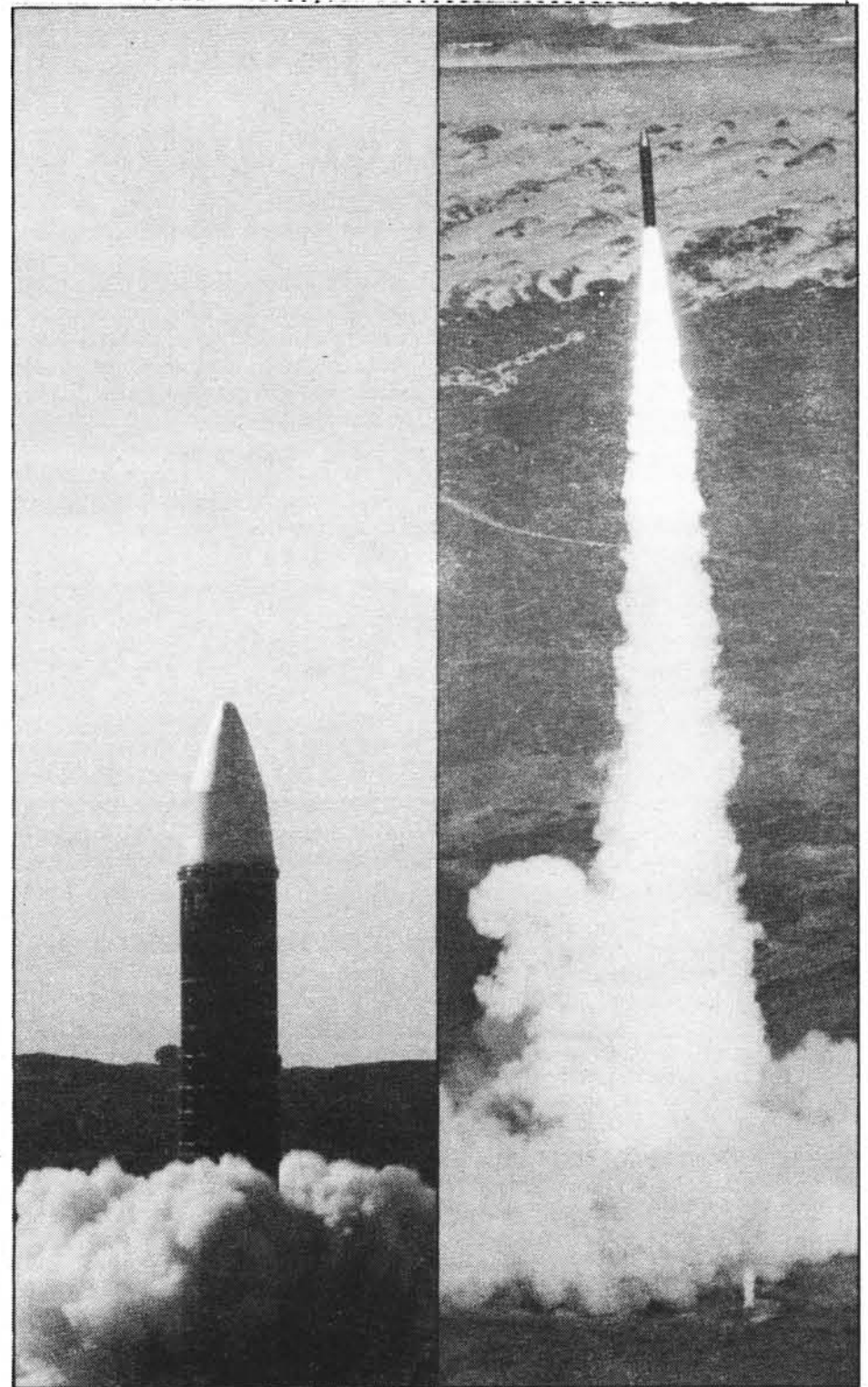
and perhaps supplemented by a *limited* anti-missile/anti-satellite system of homing kinetic kill devices, will add up to a usable nuclear first-strike capability in only a few more years. Caspar Weinberger stated in the 1986 federal budget hearings that "strategic modernization" and Star Wars are now the military's *highest priorities*; and former missile designer Robert C. Aldridge has documented that Navstar satellite deployment could give the Pentagon a first-strike capability *as early as 1990*.

## The Thinkable Option

Military and civilian strategic planners have repeatedly written that the loss of up to 20 or 30 million American lives in an all-out war with the U.S.S.R. would be "acceptable" if the U.S. national infrastructure survived and the Soviet Union was permanently eliminated from the world. Even the "nuclear winter" studies have not dissuaded these high-level government planners from their global warfighting strategies. Indeed, the Pentagon's official conclusion after studying the question was that some degree of global climate change probably *would* occur in the wake of a World War III, but that this did *not* indicate any need for change in current military policies. Believing that the bulk of American society would be intact after a successful U.S. first strike, and atmospheric smoke densities kept down by a selective targeting list, the planners expect to ride out a limited nuclear winter and emerge as the unquestioned leaders of the post-war world.

Of course things may not work out so neatly. It is also possible that Soviet missiles can and will be launched at the first electronic hint (correct or false) of U.S. attack in the 1990s, or the Kremlin may even be driven to attempt a desperate pre-emptive strike against some U.S. weapons systems before an American first-strike capability can be completed or used.

Whether or not top U.S. officials are actually planning a decisive thermonuclear assault on the country they see as an arch rival, they are unquestionably seeking the



The MX missile.

ability to *credibly threaten* such an attack, their standard public relations disclaimers

notwithstanding. In 1983, a set of classified documents, including one titled "Effect of potential U.S. first strikes, 1993," confirmed once more that the government is seriously considering the option of initiating all-out war when technological developments open a new window of opportunity.

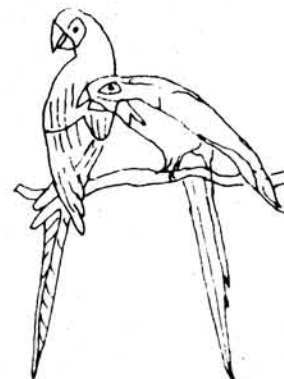
The final completion of a first-strike capability in the next few years, if current programs continue, pushes the global community deeper into an unprecedented hair-trigger crisis situation. As the super-power arsenals shift into continuous "launch-on-warning" computerized alert, nuclear world war (by design, desperation, escalation, accident or false alarm) becomes far more likely than ever before. In the approaching world of the 1990s, a six-minute false alarm, like the one that swept through the North American Air Defense Command computers in November 1979, will take too long to correct before the missiles are launched.

Peter Lumsdaine is a former U.S. Department of Energy researcher and current Coordinator of the First Strike Prevention Project, which is co-sponsored by the Santa Cruz County Nuclear Weapons Freeze, the San Jose Peace Center, Agape Foundation and a network of supporters. He also serves on the National Coordinating Committee of Mobilization for Survival.

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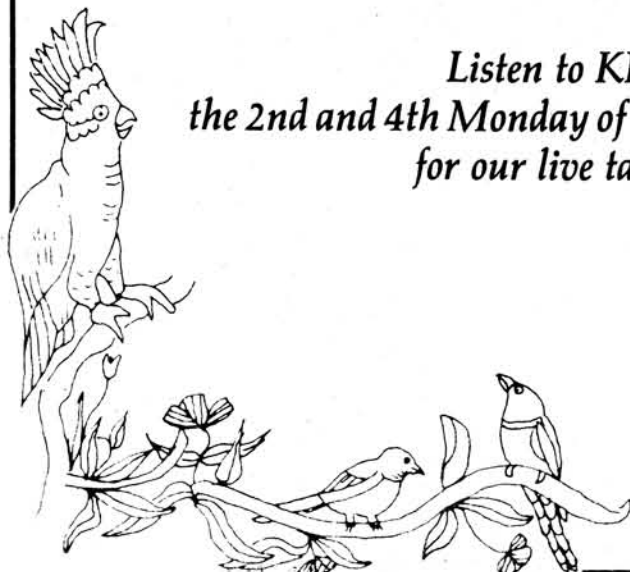
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# What Does "First Strike" Really Mean?

by Peter Lumsdaine

"Any weapon can be a first-strike weapon if you use it first," claimed U.S. Representative Norman Mineta at a public forum in 1985, when the liberal Silicon Valley Democrat was challenged about his consistent support for the Trident II D-5 missile. While it is true that most weapons can theoretically be used first to start an armed conflict, such use makes little sense unless it provides significant military advantage to the user, and it makes none at all if the attacking nation can expect to be annihilated in the ensuing war.

Military history, from ancient times to Pearl Harbor and the Israeli-Arab Six Day War, generally *does* show the clear advantage of a shattering surprise attack. As General Holloway, former commander of the Strategic Air Command, recently said, "There's obviously an advantage in warfare any time you strike first—an advantage *per se*." However, in the context of vast intercontinental nuclear arsenals, the ability to merely gain some "advantage" is useless if the other side can retaliate by destroying the entire society of those who struck first. This is the grim, stalemated stability known as "mutual assured destruction" which has persisted for some 20 years or more.

There is also a much more specific, modern meaning of the term "first strike" (sometimes preceded by adjectives like "disarming," "disabling," "credible," and "strategic") which is the *only* logical meaning of the term in the context of superpower standoff. This basic concept is commonly used by serious nuclear policy analysts, from militaristic hawks to pacifist doves, but is often obscured in public discourse. The strategic or operational meaning of a nuclear first-strike capability is, simply: a set of weapons systems which can destroy the other side's ability to retaliate, or is "at least capable of reducing its counterblow to tolerable levels while still retaining large residual forces for attacks on industrial targets," as Dr. Henry Kissinger put it in 1979.

The existence of "counterforce" missiles, those that are accurate enough to destroy reinforced missile silos, even in large numbers, does not in itself constitute a first-strike capacity. The ability of Soviet SS-18 and SS-19 nuclear missiles to destroy *part* of the U.S. strategic arsenal does *not* give the Soviet Union a first-strike capacity, despite the claims of the Pentagon, because thousands of invulnerable American warheads from U.S. submarines on patrol and bombers on alert would survive to bring catastrophic retaliation on the U.S.S.R.

"Deterrence" can be a very misleading term also, because most people think it means mutual assured destruction, where neither side would benefit from attacking the other. But often when government officials say "deterrence" they mean something very different from the common idea, and this semantic illusion is helpful in pacifying the public. In fact, the "extended deterrence" that U.S. strategic planners strive for is more properly described by them as "escalation dominance," the ability to launch a full-scale nuclear attack on the Soviets if they do not back down to American demands during a conflict in strategic parts of the globe, such as the Persian Gulf. In this usage the term "deterrence" becomes almost synonymous with first strike!

First strike is a crucial concept because if one side can destroy not only its opponent's society, but *also* its capacity for unacceptably devastating retaliation, then nuclear world war is *no longer unthinkable* and suicidally irrational. It instead becomes the ultimate means for securing victory in the global power struggle, and is therefore far more likely to occur. It is this extremely dangerous capability (which only the U.S. is close to attaining), and the programs designed to achieve it, that is the real issue—not the deceptive rhetoric of deterrence, nor misleading comments like "any weapon can be used first."

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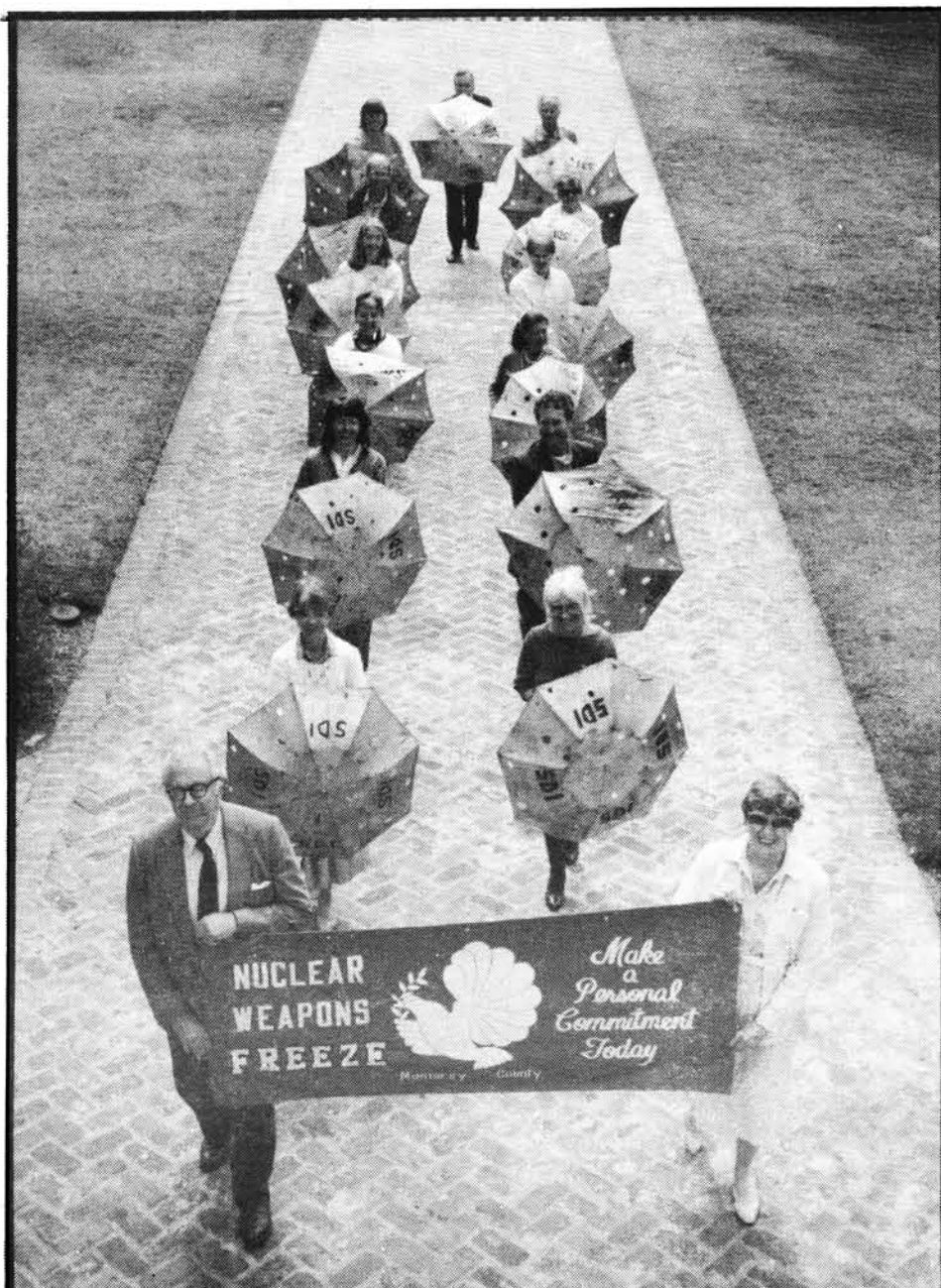
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## Star Wars Drill Team

The Nuclear Weapons Freeze of Monterey County proudly announces the formation of "The Star Wars Drill Team." The Star Wars Drill Team plans to march in public events as a humorous rebuttal to the administration's Strategic Defense Initiative, whose head, General Abrahamson, has admitted that the Star Wars program will keep out only 70 percent of the incoming missiles.

The Freeze office points out that just 5 percent of incoming missiles will devastate the country. It has chosen umbrellas riddled with holes to demonstrate that Star Wars is a leaky shield against a shower of nuclear bombs.

The umbrellas carried by The Star Wars Drill Team are painted gold to represent the expected \$1 trillion cost of the Star Wars program. The drill team marches in "military" style, following orders barked out by an S.D.I. (senior drill instructor) and repeating cadence calls such as "Missiles falling from the sky! We aren't safe with S.D.I.!"

The Star Wars Drill Team plans to march in peace demonstrations and other events and performs without charge. The Freeze believes that the leaky umbrella symbol will serve as an excellent graphic representation of the effectiveness of Star Wars.

## Trident II Missile Crisis Action Schedule

This action is part of a nationwide set of regional nonviolent resistance actions at seven key nuclear first strike development facilities which will occur simultaneously on the 25th anniversary of the Cuban Missile Crisis.

• **Sunday, October 18:** Stop First Strike *peace march* will begin with a noon sendoff, by actor Robert Blake and others, at Hunter's Point Naval Shipyard in San Francisco, and will arrive at Lockheed's Sunnyvale facility on Friday the 23rd, drawing a symbolic link between intervention in the Third World and nuclear first-strike preparations.

• **Saturday, October 24:** Statewide legal *rally* with speakers and music, at 1:00 pm at Shoreline Park in Mountain View, off U.S. 101, near Lockheed, north of San Jose.

• **Sunday, October 25:** Final nonviolent action *briefings*, preparations, and discussions for participants in the occupation/blockage at Cowell State Park off Highway 9 in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Reserve your camping space in the park now!

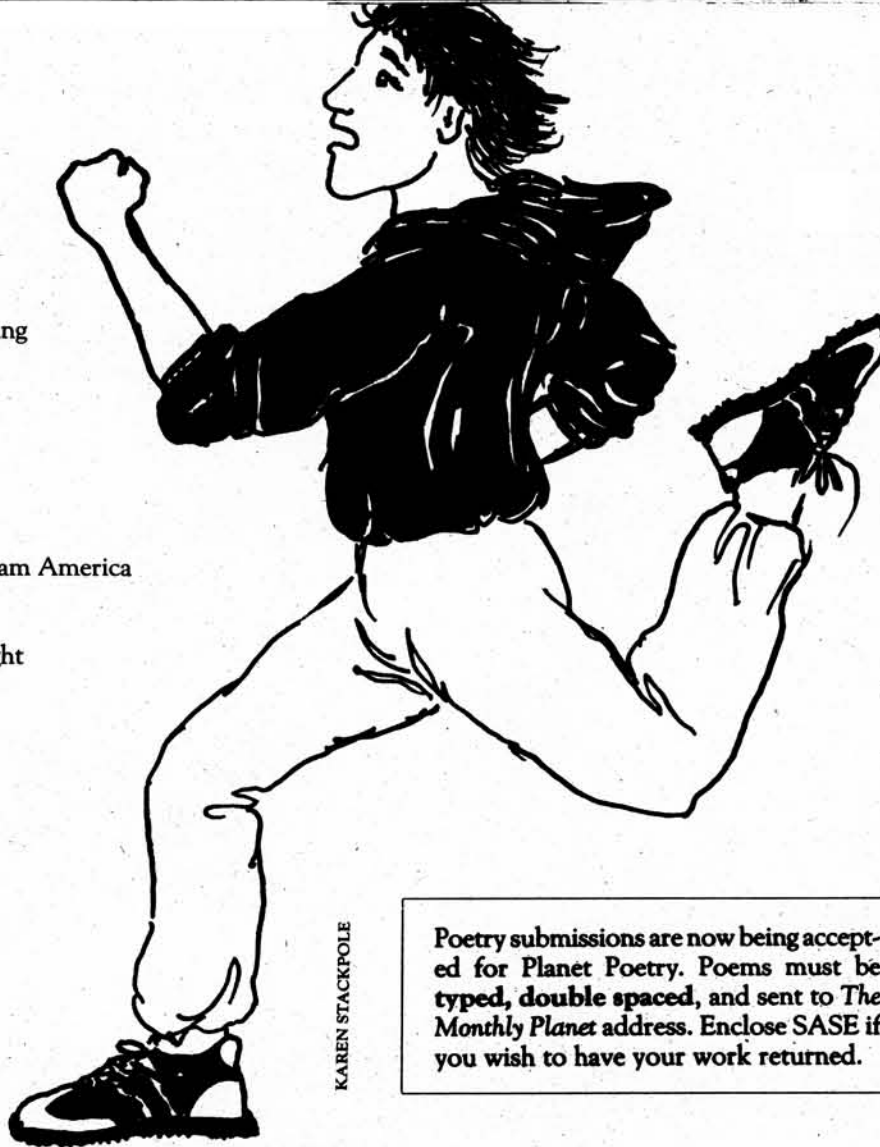
• **Monday, October 26:** Nonviolent *occupation/blockade* of Lockheed's Trident II re-entry vehicle assembly and testing facility in the Santa Cruz Mountains *begins*.

# Planet Poetry

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 oilslick wetdream, coffee shop modern oasis of light  
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# How Congress Works Through Committees

by Shelly D'Amour

*Editor's note: As our way of honoring the 200th anniversary of the Constitution, The Monthly Planet is publishing a series of articles on "How Congress Works." One of the first steps in making government more responsive to its citizens is for citizens to learn the legislative process.*

commodate congressmembers who wish to be on it. All committees have disproportionate ratios (Democrats to Republicans) which favor the majority party in Congress. Currently Democrats are in the majority in both houses of Congress, and so all committees are constituted by

## Committee Assignments

Congress runs in two-year cycles, or sessions, at a time. At the beginning of each congressional session, legislators compete for assignments to the committees of their choice. Requests for committee assignment are then funneled to one of four panels (one for each party in each house of Congress), which then

further amend a piece of legislation before sending it before the entire chamber of Congress.

Politics, of course, figures heavily into the equation. Legislators opt for the choice assignments—ones that will bring them power, prestige within their party, and score favorably with the voters in the home district. The favorites vary, depending on one's personal interests and who one's constituents are; but in general the most popular committees are Ways and Means, Armed Services, Foreign Relations, and Appropriations. The least popular are Judiciary, Post Office, and any of the joint committees.

## Important Committees

Here is a list and brief description of the committees most pertinent to nuclear weapons and Central America legislation:

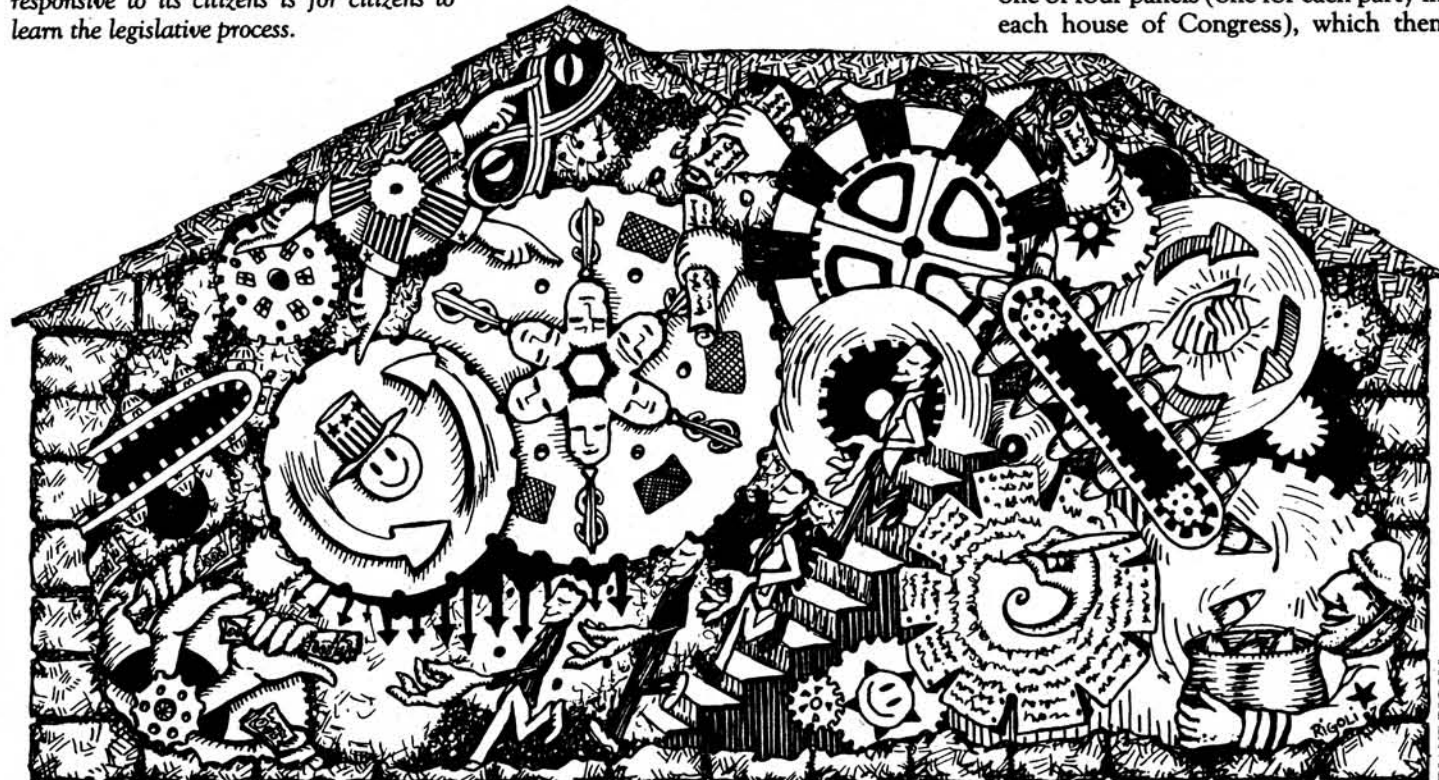
### Armed Services Committee

House Chair: Les Aspin (D-WI). 31 Democrats, 21 Republicans. 7 subcommittees.

Senate Chair: Sam Nunn (D-GA). 11 Democrats, 9 Republicans. 6 subcommittees.

The Armed Services Committee reviews all initial funding requests by the Pentagon and the administration for nuclear weapons, conventional military forces, military hardware, military construction and military personnel compensation (not including veterans benefits).

The committee may amend such requests by freezing, reducing, deleting or placing restrictions on the use of funding. Pro-arms control members within the committee try to attach these amendments in committee, so that the full Congress will already receive the bill in its amended form. They are successful about half the time. Even though there is a Democratic majority on Armed Services, the committee tends to be comprised of moderate to conservative members, with a few notable exceptions.



DIANE RICOLI

Imagine you've just been elected to Congress. Congratulations! Over the course of the next two years you and your colleagues will handle roughly 20,000 pieces of legislation, dealing with everything from highways to tax reform. Wait—before you turn in your resignation, let me explain that virtually all of this work will be dealt with efficiently through the congressional committee structure.

Soon after its inception Congress saw the need to establish a system of committees, not only in order to handle the volume of legislation, but also to strengthen and consolidate its power, acting as a counterbalance to the president in plotting the course of the national agenda.

## Types of Committees

Since the early 1800s, congressional committees have undergone many changes in structure, size, purpose and authority. Today, there are four basic classifications of committees: the standing, select, joint, and conference committees, as well as numerous subcommittees under each of these.

Standing committees are permanent committees, established by an act of Congress. There are currently 16 standing committees in the Senate and 22 in the House of Representatives. Practically every piece of legislation is referred to a pertinent standing committee, which in turn usually refers it to one of its subcommittees. The size of any particular standing committee is usually left to the discretion of its chair, who will often expand committee size, in order to ac-

commodate congressmembers who wish to be on it. All committees have disproportionate ratios (Democrats to Republicans) which favor the majority party in Congress. Currently Democrats are in the majority in both houses of Congress, and so all committees are constituted by

a Democratic majority and are chaired by Democrats. Select (or Special) committees are established to deal with specific needs outside of the regular committee process. Purely advisory in character, select committees conduct research and investigations on behalf of Congress and report their findings. Although generally temporary in nature, some select committees have become more or less permanent, such as the Select Committee on Aging. The 100th Congress recognizes six select committees in the House and five in the Senate.

Joint committees are made up of equal representation from both houses of Congress. Advisory in nature, they are primarily concerned with investigation and oversight. The chairship rotates between the House and Senate every two years. Currently, there are four joint committees of Congress: Economic, Taxation, Library and Printing.

Conference committees meet to resolve differences between the House and Senate versions of the same piece of legislation. Conferees are usually named from the committee that constructed the legislation. For example, differences between the House and Senate versions of the Defense Authorizations Bill are resolved in a conference committee comprised of representatives in equal numbers from the House and Senate Armed Services Committees, since it is the Armed Services Committees that initially reports this legislation to Congress.

Once a conference committee completes action on a bill and returns it to Congress, the committee dissolves, . . .

consults with party leadership. A list is drawn up which is approved by each party's caucus, and which then goes before the respective body for approval—House committee assignments go before the House; Senate committee assignments go before the Senate.

Once assigned, committee members tend to remain on a committee as long as they want to, and frequently longer. The chair is always a member of the majority party, and by tradition is chosen according to his/her seniority on the committee. The committee member of the minority party with the most seniority is called the Ranking Minority Member. This person generally works closely with the committee chair, when possible, while still maintaining and advocating the minority party's position.

Committee chairs wield a great deal of power and influence. In consultation with their chamber's leadership, that is, the Speaker of the House or the Senate Majority Leader, chairs will encourage or squelch individual items of legislation; make assignments to subcommittees; and apply their particular art of persuasion, friendly or not, to achieve their desired ends.

## Subcommittees

A committee may establish various subcommittees to deal with the complexities of legislative items. For example, the House Armed Services Committee has seven subcommittees, each one focusing on a specific area pertinent to the business of the committee as a whole. Subcommittees make recommendations to the entire committee, which may

## Committee Assignments of Local Representatives

### Senator Alan Cranston

Senate Majority Whip Committees: Banking-Housing-Urban Affairs; Foreign Affairs; Veterans Affairs; Select Committee on Intelligence.

### Senator Pete Wilson

Agriculture-Nutrition-Forestry; Armed Services; Commerce-Science-Transportation; Special Committee on Aging; Joint Committee on Economics.

### Representative Leon Panetta

Agriculture; House Administration; Select Committee on Hunger. Expected to be named chair of the House Budget Committee.

### Representative Ernest Konnyu

Government Operations; Science-Space-Technology.

**Appropriations Committee**  
House Chair: Jamie Whitten (D-MS).  
35 Democrats, 22 Republicans. 13 subcommittees.

Senate Chair: John C. Stennis (D-MS). 16 Democrats, 13 Republicans. 13 subcommittees.

The Appropriations Committee reviews funding requests from the 13 federal departments, during—you guessed it—the appropriations segment of the annual budget process. Appropriations grants the check-writing power for budget items that have already been authorized several months earlier. It functions as a second, and final, opportunity for Congress to review the budget and make recommendations. Amendments to delete, reduce or restrict funding may be proposed and voted on at this time, either in committee or on the floor of Congress, or both. Some subcommittees of interest include:

Defense Appropriation Subcommittee. House Chair: Bill Chappel (D-FL). Senate Chair: John Stennis (D-MS).

Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations. House Chair: David Obey (D-WI). Senate Chair: Dan Inouye (D-HI).

Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction. House Chair: Bill Hefner (D-NC). Senate Chair: Jim Sasser (D-TN).

**Foreign Affairs (House)/Foreign Relations (Senate).** House Chair: Dante Fascell (D-FL). 27 Democrats, 17 Republicans. 8 subcommittees.

Senate Chair: Claiborne Pell (D-RI). 10 Democrats, 9 Republicans. 7 subcommittees.

Foreign Affairs/Foreign Relations reviews requests for all economic and military aid destined for other countries. Funding requests for the Nicaraguan contras, or to aid police and paramilitary units in El Salvador and Guatemala are funneled through this committee.


Foreign Affairs/Foreign Relations may hold hearings to determine whether such funding should be granted, although it is usually only the House that chooses to do this, principally through its subcommittee on Western Hemispheric Affairs. These committees may deny or place restrictions on economic and military aid, such as releasing the aid in installments and requiring a measurable improvement in the human rights situation within a country before each subsequent installment is sent.

Committees, then, function to expedite the business of Congress. All congressmembers serve on at least one and usually several committees, requesting assignments which are personally interesting and politically advantageous. As we come to understand the nature, function and composition of various committees, we gain insight into the legislative process. In subsequent issues of *The Monthly Planet*, we will explore how to utilize this information in order to effect change in our nation's policies and legislative priorities.

*Next month: a look at elections.*

Shelly D'Amour is Legislative Editor of *The Monthly Planet*. Some of the information for this article was obtained from the SANE/FREEZE Congressional Handbook.

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*A thought expressed by the Bahá'í Faith*

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**Wed. Oct. 28 — Australia**  
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# Planet Watch by Ralph Chernoff, Susan Marsh, and Bradley David Neily

significant progress in arms control since the SALT II agreement in 1979, but it is also the first which calls for actual reductions in the superpowers' nuclear arsenals (previous agreements—including SALT II—require no reductions because their numerical limits were greater than the numbers of weapons held by either party at the time).

The big breakthrough came in July when the Soviets accepted the so-called "zero-zero" plan under which both the U.S. and the Soviets agree to give up all their intermediate range missiles without regard to missiles held by third parties. Even then the agreement was still in doubt due to U.S. refusal to include 72 Pershing 1A missiles nominally owned by West Germany but actually under U.S. control, but this last roadblock was removed when the West Germans themselves agreed to

include these missiles. At press time some timetable and enforcement details remain to be resolved but these are not expected to derail the agreement.

The weapons to be eliminated amount to approximately 2 percent of the U.S., and 4.5 percent of the Soviet, nuclear arsenals.

—RC

## Risk Reduction

U.S. Secretary of State George P. Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze announced the signing of an agreement to establish nuclear risk reduction centers in both countries on September 15. This agreement establishes an additional line of communication between Moscow and Washington that will be linked by high-speed satellite communications.

Senators Sam Nunn (D-GA) and John Warner (R-VA), originators of the idea, had envisioned the centers as a means of coping with terrorism and reducing the chance that detonation of a nuclear device by a terrorist would lead the U.S. to conclude it was under attack by the Soviet Union and vice versa. While the centers fall short of this model, they are viewed as an important gesture in dealing with more complex arms control issues. The agreement had actually been worked out several months ago, but its announcement was delayed in order to mark the beginning of three days of intensive negotiations on arms control, human rights and other issues between teams of experts from the two countries.

—SM

## U.S./U.S.S.R. INF Treaty Ahead

On Sept. 18, the United States and the Soviet Union agreed in principle to eliminate all their intermediate range (300 to 3000 miles) missiles everywhere in the world. Reagan and Gorbachev will sign a treaty formalizing the agreement later this year. Not only is the agreement the first

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KAREN STACKPOLE

## U.S.S.R. Russians Open Radar

The Soviets held open house at their controversial Krasnoyarsk radar early last month. The American visitors were Representative Thomas Downey, a Democrat from Long Island, and a team of experts from the National Resources Defense Council. In an unprecedented act of glasnost, the Americans were allowed to take over 1000 pictures of the installation.

The Reagan administration has charged that the radar, under construction, will violate the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty when it is finished. The treaty allows big radars only along the peripheries of either the U.S. or U.S.S.R., but Krasnoyarsk is in the middle of Siberia, nowhere near the Soviet borders. The administration also notes that it is a "phased array" radar, just the thing for an ABM system because such radars can track several targets (incoming warheads) simultaneously.

The Soviets deny any intent to violate the ABM Treaty. They claim that Krasnoyarsk is a satellite tracking radar. Western experts doubt this because of its orientation (it points northeast; a satellite tracking radar would point south). They believe that it's really an early warning radar designed to close a big gap in the existing Soviet network of such radars. But the same experts doubt that it's an ABM system for two reasons: 1) it's not "hardened" against nuclear attack, 2) its radio wavelength is way too long for ABM purposes.

—RC

## World Saving the Ozone

On September 16 in Montreal, representatives from 49 nations signed an agreement to reduce chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), chemicals which are thought to destroy the protective ozone layer surrounding the earth. United Nations officials who organized the meeting said they expect all major CFC-producing nations to ratify the measure. The agreement requires participating nations to freeze CFC use at 1986 levels by 1989, cut consumption by 20 percent in 1994 and by an additional 30 percent by 1999.

While recognizing it as an important step in the development of international efforts dealing with pollution and toxic waste, environmentalists have criticized loopholes in the agreement which allow developing nations to increase consumption by as much as 10 percent per year over the next decade and permit the Soviet Union to complete CFC plants presently underway.

More than a ton of CFCs are produced worldwide each year. CFCs are used in air conditioning, refrigeration, packaging and as cleaning solvents for electronics. When they disintegrate, CFCs ascend to the stratosphere where they are broken into chlorine atoms by sunlight. These chlorine atoms in turn destroy the ozone that screens the earth from the sun's dangerous ultraviolet rays. The dangers from ultra-



KAREN STACKFOL

violet rays include skin cancer, eye disease, neurological disorders and damage to marine, forest and agricultural life.

—SM

## Palau Suspicious Murder

The House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs has asked Interior Secretary Donald Hodel to investigate the murder of Bings Bedor, father of a founder of the Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific movement. Bedor was shot and killed guarding his son's law office in Koror, the capital of Palau, a U.S. Trust Territory. Palau's constitution bans nuclear war materials from its soil and surrounding seas. Roman Bedor, the son of the elder Bedor, is an attorney opposed to a new compact treaty that would eliminate the anti-nuclear provision of the current Palau constitution.

Palau must approve a new compact in

order to establish a new political relationship with the United States as an independent state. A provision of the proposed compact treaty would allow the United States military use of Palau as a base. Efforts by the current island government to remove the nuclear ban have so far met with failure as it requires a three-quarters majority vote under current Paluan constitutional law. Paluans have rejected such a move to change their anti-nuclear constitution in six public votes on the issue since 1983.

However, after the last vote August 21 on the issue failed to gather enough support to approve the proposed treaty, President Salii declared the compact agreement approved after obtaining a court order that overrode the three-quarter vote requirement. Salii then asked the U.S. Congress for ratification of the compact treaty which entails nearly \$1 billion in aid from the United States.

—BDN

## South Africa Wants to Sign NPT

On Sept. 21 South Africa said that it wanted to sign the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. The treaty, presently signed by 134 nations, is intended to stop the spread of nuclear weapons to countries which did not have them in 1970, the year it went into effect. Under the terms of the treaty, signers who have nuclear weapons may not help any non-nuclear country acquire them, and signers who have no nuclear weapons may not try to get them. The nuclear signers are the U.S., U.S.S.R., Britain and China. France, the fifth known nuclear power, never signed.

If it were to sign the treaty, South Africa would, in effect, be declaring that it doesn't have nuclear weapons, a claim which most experts strongly doubt. A joint South African-Israeli nuclear weapons program has long been rumored, and the South African government has refused to deny or confirm the reports.

The reasons for the South African statement remain obscure. Some observers believe it may be an attempt to win Western support for a "power-sharing" arrangement which excludes the African National Congress.

South Africa produces its own fissionable material from uranium ore mined in Namibia, a region which, according to the United Nations, it occupies illegally. It also exports some of that ore to the West.

—RC

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# Santa Cruz County Peace, Social Justice, & Community Organizations



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**Abraco** ..... 423-1626  
515 Broadway, Santa Cruz 95060 Judy Hurley

**Alliance for the Mentally Ill** ..... 426-7462  
Box 1516, Santa Cruz 95061 Emily Winfree

**American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)** ..... 429-9880  
411 Cedar St., Santa Cruz 95060 Robert Taren

**Amigas de AMPES** ..... 423-5128  
Box 467, Santa Cruz 95061 Martha Duenas

**Amnesty International** ..... 688-9140  
750 Encino Dr., Aptos 95003 Cheryl Bentley

**Aptos Neighbors** ..... 688-3460  
Box 1732, Aptos 95001 Peter Smitley

**Baha'i Faith** ..... 425-0993  
176 Alta Dr., La Selva Beach 95076 Ann Miller

**California Grey Bears** ..... 479-1055  
2710 Chanticleer Ave., Santa Cruz 95062

**Campus Association for Responsible Development (CARD)** ..... 423-2019  
A-Frame, UCSC, Santa Cruz 95064 Aaron Peskin

**Central American Health Rights Project** ..... 426-0528  
Box 366, Santa Cruz 95061

**Central Coast Sanctuary** ..... 426-4467  
511 Broadway, Santa Cruz 95060 Amber Sumrall

**Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO** ..... 475-1335  
2920 Soquel Ave., Santa Cruz 95062

**Child Care Switchboard & Studio** ..... 476-8585  
809-H Bay St., Capitola 95010

**Children's Creative Response to Conflict** ..... 425-3749  
509 Broadway, Santa Cruz 95060

**Chile/Santa Cruz Friendship Committee** ..... 425-8493  
374 Fairmount Ave., Santa Cruz 95062 Dale Roche

**Citizens for a Better Environment (CBE)** ..... 458-5053  
1320 Mission St., Santa Cruz 95060 Ralph Stachan

**Coalition for Meaningful Pay (COMP)** ..... 662-3633  
c/o 10094 Soquel Dr., Aptos 95003 Penny Schantz

**Coalition for Nicaragua** ..... 458-0303  
512 Front St., Santa Cruz 95060 Sojeila Maria Silva

**Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (CISPES)** ..... 458-3555  
Box 1553, Santa Cruz 95061

**Community Resources for the Disabled** ..... 429-9969  
340 Soquel Ave., Suite 115, Santa Cruz 95062

**Common Cause** ..... 425-7474  
125-3 Felix St., Santa Cruz 95060 Sylvia Knapton

**Communist Party of Santa Cruz** ..... 429-9720  
Box 7561, Santa Cruz 95061 Jim Brough

**Community Action Board** ..... 662-3616  
323-B Spreckles Dr., Aptos 95003 Chris Lyons-Johnson

**Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility** ..... 335-7068  
Box 7708, Santa Cruz 95061 Mark Fillipak

**Conflict Resolution Program** ..... 427-3234  
Box 7224, Santa Cruz 95061 Lucy Van Elgort

**Davenport Resource Service Center** ..... 425-8115  
100 Church St., Davenport 95017 Amy Weiss

**Democratic Central Committee** ..... 426-4272  
Box 7763, Santa Cruz 95061 Don Lane

**Democratic Management Services** ..... 425-7478  
310 Locust St., Santa Cruz 95060 Laurie Talcott

**Democratic Socialists of America** ..... 688-3781  
516 Humes Ave., Aptos 95003 Rachel Haskell

**Democratic Women's Club** ..... 479-9948  
Box 1499, Soquel, 95073 Elsie Beltram

**Earth First!** ..... 335-7768  
Box 344, Santa Cruz 95061 Karen DeBraul

**Ecology Action of Santa Cruz** ..... 476-8088  
Box 1188, Santa Cruz 95061 Ron Fahl

**Educators for Social Responsibility (Cabrillo)** ..... 429-6302  
Box 895, Soquel 95073 Rosmarie Greiner

**Educators for Social Responsibility (UCSC)** ..... 426-1597  
441 High St., Santa Cruz 95060 Sigrid McLaughlin

**Environmental Council** ..... 427-2510  
Box 1769, Santa Cruz 95061 Bill Leland

**Familia Center** ..... 423-5747  
302 Raymond St., Santa Cruz 95060 Lucy Trujillo

**Filipino Community of Watsonville** ..... 722-6522  
2448 Freedom Blvd., Watsonville 95076

**First Strike Prevention Project** ..... 479-8781  
Box 7061, Santa Cruz 95061 Peter Lumsdaine

**Food & Nutrition Services** ..... 688-8840  
236 Santa Cruz Ave., Aptos 95003 Sam Karp

**Food Irradiation Response** ..... 426-2734  
Box 5183, Santa Cruz 95061 Christine Albrecht

**Freedom Song Network** ..... 338-7283  
Box 559, Felton 95018 Mark Levy

**Friends Committee on National Legislation** ..... 423-2605  
118 Miles St., Santa Cruz 95060 Herb Foster

**Friends of Porter-Sesnon** ..... 427-3572  
106 Buena Vista Ave., Santa Cruz 95062 Vickie Powell-Murray

**Friends Peace & Social Order Committee** ..... 427-2399  
217 Marnell Ave., Santa Cruz 95062 Ned Van Valkenburgh

**Gray Panthers** ..... 423-8091  
Box 1015, Santa Cruz 95061 Jacob Litsky

**Green City Program** ..... 479-0702  
Box 906, Capitola 95010 Theresa Torrent

**Greenpeace** ..... 458-3090  
1012 Pacific Ave., Santa Cruz 95060 Joee Conroy

**Harbinger Communications** ..... 429-8727  
Box 624, Santa Cruz 95061 Bill Leland

**Housing Law Center** ..... 458-1086  
1522 Pacific Ave., Santa Cruz 95060 Mary Thuerwachter

**Janus Alcoholism Services** ..... 462-1060  
718 Carmel St., Santa Cruz 95062

**Kolaynu/Santa Cruz New Jewish Agenda** ..... 423-7952  
219 Peyton St., Santa Cruz 95060 Deena Hurwitz

**Lavendar Reader** ..... 684-1452  
Box 7293, Santa Cruz 95061 Michael Perlman

**League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)** .....  
Box 301, Watsonville 95077

**Lesbian & Gay Action Alliance** ..... 423-7287  
Box 7293, Santa Cruz 95061 Jo Kenny

**Lively Connections** ..... 458-9425  
320-H Cedar St., Santa Cruz 95060 Glen Schaller

**Matrix Women's News Magazine** ..... 429-1238  
418 Cedar St., Santa Cruz 95060

**Media Watch** ..... 423-4299  
1803-7 Mission St., Santa Cruz 95060 Ann Simonton

**Men's Alternatives to Violence** ..... 425-5248  
Box 2126, Santa Cruz 95061

**Migrant Media Education Project** ..... 724-2997  
101 E. Beach St., Watsonville 95076 Cruz Gomez

**Monterey Bay Pledge of Resistance** ..... 426-6916  
Box 366, Santa Cruz 95061 John Hunter

**Monterey Bay Women's Alliance** ..... 475-0251  
Box 7945, Santa Cruz, 95061 Mary Bryant

**The Monthly Planet** ..... 429-8755  
320-G Cedar St., Santa Cruz 95060 John Govsky

**Native American Support Group** ..... 479-0327  
Box 8260, Santa Cruz 95061 Abalone Walsh

**Natural Resources Employment Program** ..... 662-3616  
323-F Spreckles Dr., Aptos 95003 Brad Kisner

**New Society Publishers** ..... 458-1191  
Box 582, Santa Cruz 95061

**Nuclear Weapons Freeze of Santa Cruz Co.** ..... 458-9975  
320-G Cedar St., Santa Cruz 95060 Terry Teitelbaum

**Pajaro Valley Religious Committee for Peacemaking** ..... 722-5691  
Box 1160, Watsonville 95076 Roz Reddick

**Peace Day Steering Committee** ..... 479-8905  
583 Mello Lane, Santa Cruz 95062 Bonita Mugnani

**Peace Education Project** ..... 338-7283  
Box 559, Felton 95018 Helen Oppenheimer

**Peace & Freedom Party** ..... 688-8692  
564 Santa Marguerita, Aptos 95003 Maureen Smith

**Peacemakers** ..... 423-1626  
515 Broadway, Santa Cruz 95060 Shelly D'Amour

**People's Democratic Club** ..... 458-1830  
126 Auburn Ave., Santa Cruz 95062 William Allayaud

**Physicians for Social Responsibility** ..... 422-9066  
505 E. Romie Lane, Salinas 93901 Don King

**Planned Parenthood, Santa Cruz** ..... 426-5550  
212 Laurel St., Santa Cruz 95060

**Planned Parenthood, Watsonville** ..... 724-7525  
90 Mariposa Ave., Watsonville 95076

**Progressive Business Network** ..... 458-1070  
144 Seaside St., Santa Cruz 95060 Scott Roseman

**Psychiatric Inmates Rights Collective** .....  
Box 299, Santa Cruz 95061

**Rainbow Coalition** ..... 476-3426  
320-F Cedar St., Santa Cruz 95060 Bob Lissner

**Resource Center for Nonviolence** ..... 423-1626  
515 Broadway, Santa Cruz 95060 Doug Rand

**St. Francis Catholic Kitchen** ..... 425-9225  
205 Mora St., Santa Cruz 95060 Peter Carota

**Salud Para la Gente** ..... 728-0222  
10 Alexander St., Watsonville 95076

**San Lorenzo Valley Women's Club** ..... 338-4669  
Box 574, Ben Lomond 95005 Sherry Witt-Snow

**Santa Cruz Action Network (SCAN)** ..... 458-9425  
320-H Cedar St., Santa Cruz 95060 Glen Schaller

**Santa Cruz AIDS Project** ..... 458-4999  
Box 5142, Santa Cruz 95061

**Santa Cruz Community Credit Union** ..... 425-7708  
512 Front St., Santa Cruz 95060

**Santa Cruz Community Housing Corporation** ..... 423-1318  
340 Soquel Ave., Suite 110, Santa Cruz 95062 Arnie Fischman

**Santa Cruz County Immigration Project** ..... 724-5667  
406 Main St. Suite 217, Watsonville 95076

**Santa Cruz Green Alliance** ..... 429-8057  
Box 7011, Santa Cruz 95061 Birdie Hunter

**Santa Cruz Indian Council** .....  
Box 1443, Soquel, 95073

**Santa Cruz Westside Community Health Center** ..... 425-5028  
1700 Mission St., Santa Cruz 95060

**"Santana Chirino Amaya" Central American Refugee Committee** ..... 426-4467  
509 Broadway, Santa Cruz 95060

**Save Our Shores** ..... 425-1871  
Box 1560, Santa Cruz 95061 Dan Haifley

**Save Soquel** ..... 476-1871  
4453 Fairway Dr., Soquel 95073 Judy Parsons

**Senior Citizens Legal Services, Santa Cruz** ..... 426-8824  
343 Church St., Santa Cruz 95060

**Senior Citizens Legal Services, Watsonville** ..... 728-4711  
127 E. Beach St., Watsonville 95076

**Seniors Council** ..... 688-0400  
234 Santa Cruz Ave., Aptos 95003

**Sierra Club** ..... 426-4453  
9010 Soquel Dr., Aptos 95003

**Somos Hermanas** ..... 722-5614  
Box 467, Santa Cruz 95061 Marcia Rincon

**The Sun** ..... 429-8033  
118 Union St., Santa Cruz 95060

**UCSC Women's Center** ..... 429-2072  
UCSC, Santa Cruz 95064 Beatriz Lopes-Florez

**Unitarian/Universalist Fellowship Social Action Committee** ..... 684-0506  
6401 Freedom Blvd., Aptos 95003 David McMillan

**Veterans Peace Action Team** ..... 426-7822  
Box 586, Santa Cruz, 95061

**VFW Post 5888, Bill Motto** ..... 429-8345  
Box 664, Santa Cruz 95061 Richard Moran

**War Tax Resistance Fund** ..... 423-1626  
316 King St., Santa Cruz 95060

**Welfare Parents Support Group** ..... 458-9070  
509 Broadway, Santa Cruz 95060

**Westside Neighbors** ..... 423-4209  
123 Liberty St., Santa Cruz 95060 Gill Greensite

**Witness for Peace** ..... 423-3733  
515 Broadway, Santa Cruz 95060 Frances Wright

**Women Against Rape** ..... 426-7273  
Box 711, Santa Cruz 95061

**Women for International Peace and Arbitration** ..... 427-0278  
106 Comstock Lane, Santa Cruz 95060 Jackie Rochelle

**Women's Crisis Support & Shelter Services** ..... 425-5525  
1025 Center St., Santa Cruz 95060

**Women's Health Center** ..... 427-3500  
250 Locust St., Santa Cruz 95060

**Women's International League for Peace & Freedom (WILPF)** ..... 438-6094  
Box 61, Santa Cruz 95063 Kathleen Tranchina

**Women's Space** ..... 429-9007  
418-C Cedar St., Santa Cruz 95060 Lucy Van Elgort

**YWCA, Santa Cruz** ..... 426-3062  
303 Walnut Ave., Santa Cruz 95060

**YWCA, Watsonville** ..... 724-6078  
340 E. Beach St., Watsonville 95076

This list was compiled by the Santa Cruz Action Network for Lively Connections, an informal network of Santa Cruz County peace, social justice, and community organizations. To update information on the Lively Connections list, or to add your organization, call 458-9425. Mailing labels for this list are available for \$1.00.

# Peace & Justice Calendar

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

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1

**Social Action Public Seminar: Story and slide show of Santa Cruzans in Nicaragua:** "Bats, Balls and Books in the War Zone." By Burt and Lois Muhly. Unitarian Fellowship, 6401 Freedom Blvd., Aptos. Potluck at 6 pm, program at 7. Public welcome. Info: 423-9707.

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2

**Science and Technology: Panel Discussion: Views for Other Cultures.** Presented by The California Institute of Integral Studies. Unitarian Center, 1187 Franklin Street, San Francisco. 7 pm, \$3 donation. Info: (415) 753-6100.

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

**Congo Dance Beat.** Dance to the African rhythms of Samba Ngo. Experience the electrifying dancers of Fua Dia Congo. Proceeds will benefit Media Watch. 8 pm, Veteran's Hall, 842 Front Street. \$7 at the door. Info: 427-3169.

## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6

Jim Douglass speaks on "Stopping the Train—Death and Life at the Tracks." After watching trains carry nuclear weapons to the Trident base near Seattle, Jim helped develop a network of people watching and vigiling by the tracks of the train in over 250 communities. Sponsored by the Resource Center for Nonviolence, Veterans Peace Action Teams, and Stop First Strike Campaign. 7:30 pm, room 23, Veteran's Hall, 842 Front St. Info: 423-1626.



Musical activist Mark Levy, along with Judy Fjell, appear at Bernie's Place on Sunday, October 11.

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

**General membership meeting of Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.** The program will be "The prospects for and obstacles to peaceful resolution of the Arab/Israeli conflict, presented by Deena Hurwitz and Scott Kennedy who, with a peace delegation, have just returned from their 5th study tour of the area. 11:30 am to 1:30 pm, Trinity Presbyterian Church Social Hall, corner of Poplar and Melrose Streets.

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8

**Stop First Strike Santa Cruz organizing meeting for October nonviolence resistance action at Lockheed Santa Cruz.** Part of nationwide series of actions against first-strike nuclear weaponry. Co-sponsors: First Strike Prevention Project, Santa Cruz County Nuclear Weapons Freeze, National Mobilization for Survival, others. 515 Broadway, 7:30 pm. Info: Mark Mumper, 426-1924.

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

**Nonviolence preparation for October civil disobedience against Trident II missiles at Lockheed Santa Cruz.** UCSC, Stevenson Fireside Lounge, 10 am - 5 pm. Call Noel at 336-8960 if you are planning to attend.

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

**The Atomic Comics in "Social Software for the 21st Century."** What's so funny about White House scandals, budget deficits, hostage crises and weapons in outer space? San Francisco comedians Fran Peavey and Charlie Varon, the Atomic Comics, will explore these and other absurdities. Sponsored by the Resource Center for Nonviolence. 7:30 pm, Santa Cruz Vets Hall, 842 Front St. Info: 423-1626.

**Musical Activists at Bernie's Place:** Mark Levy and Judy Fjell. 8 pm, sliding scale \$4-\$6, Trinity Presbyterian Church (Melrose and Poplar). Info: 458-5307.

## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13

**In Celebration of the Muse,** now in its seventh season, announces Ann Simonton, Gael Roziere, Bernice Rendrick and Dona Luongo Stein reading poetry and prose. 7:30 pm, Vets Hall, 842 Front Street. Admission \$4 donation to benefit the Santa Cruz AIDS Project. Info: Amber 335-4084 or Patrice 462-1176.

## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13-

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14

**Nonviolence preparation for October civil disobedience against Trident II missiles at Lockheed Santa Cruz.** 6-10 pm, 515 Broadway. Call Noel at 336-8960 if you are planning to attend.

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15

**The Freeze is having a special Community Meeting** at 515 Broadway in Santa Cruz. 7 pm. Come and find out what the Freeze is planning and how you can plug into the nuclear disarmament movement. Info: 458-9975.

**Rebuild Nicaragua Night Benefit Dinner and Auction.** With Latin music. At India Joze Restaurant, 1001 Center Street. Hors d'oeuvres at 6:30, dinner at 7 pm. \$50 includes wine and other beverages, the tip, plus a generous donation to the APSNICA Building Brigade. All proceeds will be used to build houses for Nicaraguan families. Info and reservations: Bert and Lois Muhly 426-2798.

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16

**Science and Technology: panel discussion—When is technology appropriate to a culture? The nuclear case.** Presented by The California Institute of Integral Studies. Unitarian Center, 1187 Franklin Street, San Francisco. 7 pm, \$3 donation. Info: (415) 753-6100.

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17- WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28

**Stop First Strike Lockheed Actions.** State-wide actions include a nine-day march through the Bay Area beginning on October 17th and culminate in a direct action at Lockheed in Santa Cruz starting October 26th. Info: 479-8781.

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

**Nonviolence preparation for October civil disobedience against Trident II missiles at Lockheed Santa Cruz.** 10-5 pm, UCSC Fireside Lounge. Call Noel at 336-8960 if you are planning to attend.

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22

**Stop First Strike Santa Cruz organizing meeting for October nonviolent resistance action at Lockheed Santa Cruz.** See October 8.

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

**Dance For Life with Pele Juju,** a seven-woman world beat, rock, reggae band. The dance benefits Children's Creative Response



The Atomic Comics, Fran Peavey and Charlie Varon, will perform political comedy at the Vets' Hall on Sunday, October 11.

to Conflict. All ages invited. No smoking, no alcohol. Kids free. Others \$3-\$10 sliding scale donation. Vets Hall, 842 Front Street. 7:30 pm children's activities, 8:30 pm dancing.

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

**United Nations Day: "The United Nations and You."** Sponsored by the Peace Task Force of the Baha'is of Santa Cruz County. 7:30 pm, La Selva Beach Clubhouse, La Selva Beach. Info: 688-0221 or 476-4584.

## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27

**In Celebration of the Muse:** Barbara Bloom, Ellen Treen, Hope Hart and Sherri Paris read poetry and prose. 7:30 pm, Vets Hall, 842 Front Street. Admission \$4 donation to benefit the Santa Cruz AIDS Project. Info: Amber 335-4084 or Patrice 462-1176.

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7

**Public Speak-Out on the Military Budget and Unmet Human Needs.** Local residents testifying to elected officials and community leaders about the growing military budget and its impact on human needs. Co-sponsored by the Nuclear Weapons Freeze, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Central Labor Council AFL-CIO, Resource Center for Nonviolence, Community Action Board, League of United Latin American Citizens, and Santa Cruz Action Network. 1-5 pm, Cabrillo College Forum Bldg. Info: 438-6094 or 458-9425.

## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8

**Veterans For Peace Benefit** with Oliver Stone. Tampico Grande, Felton. Info: 429-8345.

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

**An Evening with Dr. Helen Caldicott and Academy Award winning filmmaker Vivienne Verdon-Roe** plus a special showing of *Women—For America, For the World* and a champagne reception to meet Dr. Caldicott and Ms. Verdon-Roe. All proceeds go to promote and distribute *Women—For America, For the World* and the continuing work of Vivienne Verdon-Roe. 7 pm, Palace of Fine Arts, 3301 Lyon Street, San Francisco. \$25 per person, advanced sales; \$30 at the door. Advanced tickets at Ticketron (415) 392-7469. Info: (415) 654-6312.

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

**Peace Symposium: "Visions of the Future."** Four workshops. Speaker, Stephen Kull, psychologist from Stanford University speaking on pre-nuclear thinking in a nuclear age. 9 am - 12:30 pm, First United Methodist Church, 229 Stanford St., Watsonville. Pre-registration preferred: send to 462 Townsend Dr., Aptos, 95003. Info: 724-2714.



Breakfast and Lunch served daily

**Pancakes  
Waffles  
Scrambled Tofu  
Salads  
Hamburgers  
Sandwiches**

Monday-Saturday 7-2:30 pm  
Sunday 8-2 pm

**1530 Pacific Garden Mall  
Santa Cruz 423-8625**



# Whatever time you start your day, start it right, with a good breakfast

Farm-style breakfasts  
served all day from 8 am

*Featuring:*

**Fresh** made corned beef hash with poached eggs, plus turkey hash and our own frontier style venison hash.

**Fresh** ranch eggs cooked perfectly, served with homefried spuds and a bagel. Top quality meats and poultry too.

**Fresh** vegetables, cheeses, chili, fresh roasted meats and poultry stuffed into big fluffy omelettes.

**Fresh** homemade cheese blintzes with sour cream and jam. Latkes (potato pancakes) with apple sauce and sour cream.

**Fresh** old-fashioned Belgian waffles, cooked over an open flame served simple or with fresh fruit & fresh whipped cream. Thick sliced French toast, too.

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Sun.-Wed  
8 am-9 pm  
Thurs.-Sat.  
8 am-10 pm