

THE MONTHLY PLANET

OUR 3RD ANNIVERSARY ISSUE!

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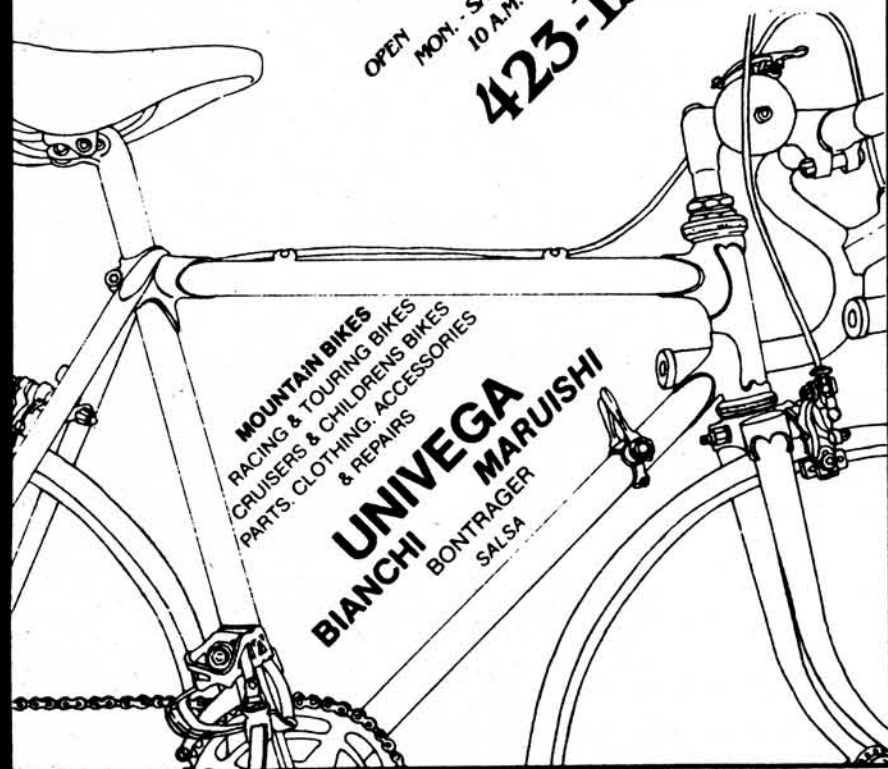
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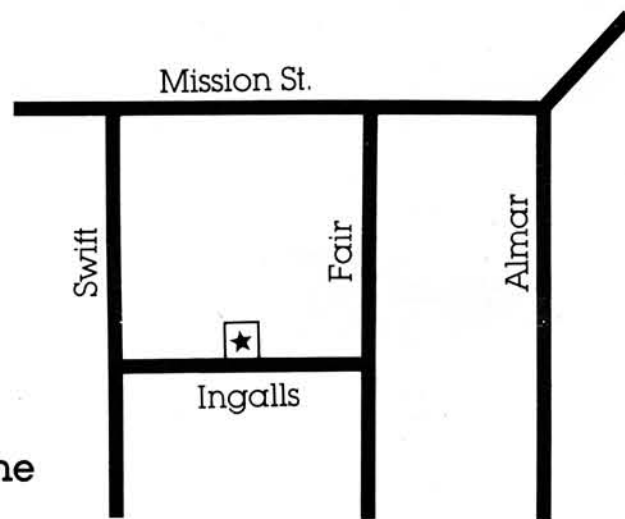
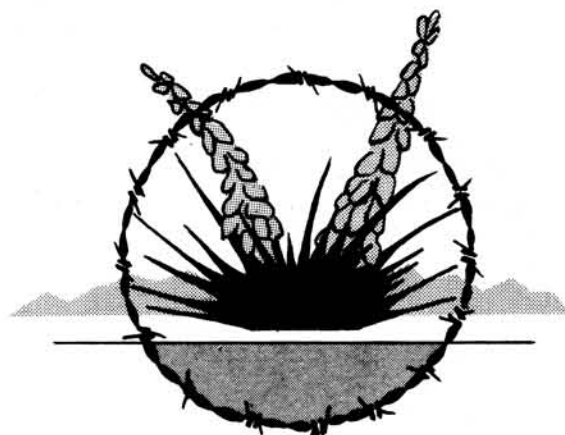
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DEADLINES

for the April *Monthly Planet*

Publication date:

Thursday, March 31

Poetry submissions:

Monday, March 14

Letters to the Freeze:

Tuesday, March 22

Calendar listings:

Tuesday, March 22, 5 p.m.

(no phone calls please)

Display ads:

Friday, March 25, 5 p.m.

(call Risa at 427-3405)

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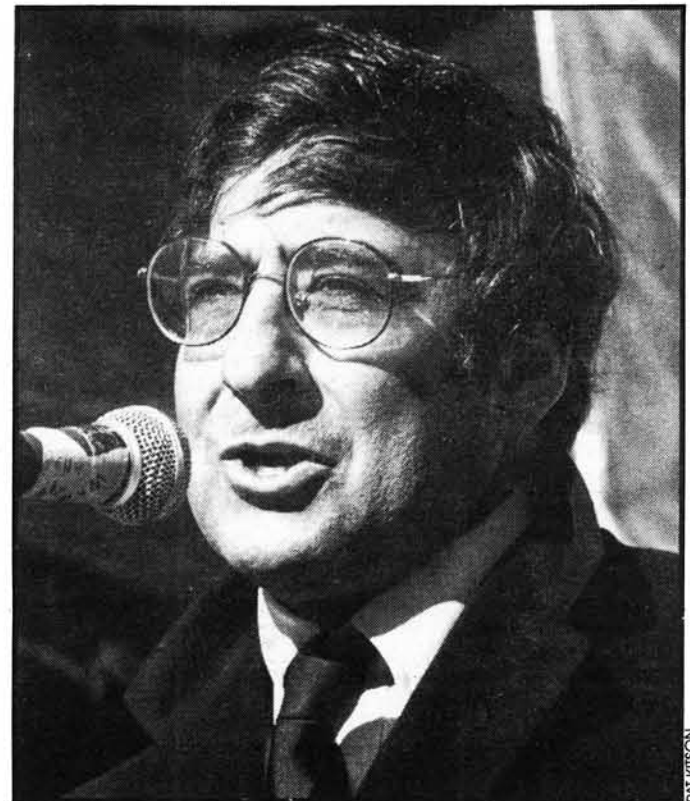
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"No policy of this nation can succeed in a whirlwind of dissent. No policy can succeed where a majority of Americans are opposed. No policy can succeed when there is a majority of Latin and Central American nations opposed to it, where a majority of our allies are opposed to it, and where there is constant friction and distrust between the branches. Such a policy is doomed to failure, and we either change it or we watch it become irrelevant in this hemisphere."

—Rep. Leon E. Panetta (D-Monterey)

"Don't just try to
 influence the media—
 be the media"



PAT KITSON

The Monthly Planet is published every month (except January) by the Nuclear Weapons Freeze of Santa Cruz County. Mailing Address: P.O. Box 8463, Santa Cruz, CA 95061. The Freeze office is located at 320-G Cedar St., Santa Cruz. Telephone (408) 458-9975 for the Freeze; 429-8755 for *The Monthly Planet*. 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, letters, or poetry submissions should be typed, double spaced, and sent to the above address. Letters must be signed and include a phone number. We reserve the right to edit letters for brevity and clarity.

Feature

The Planet Turns Three

by Risa Krive

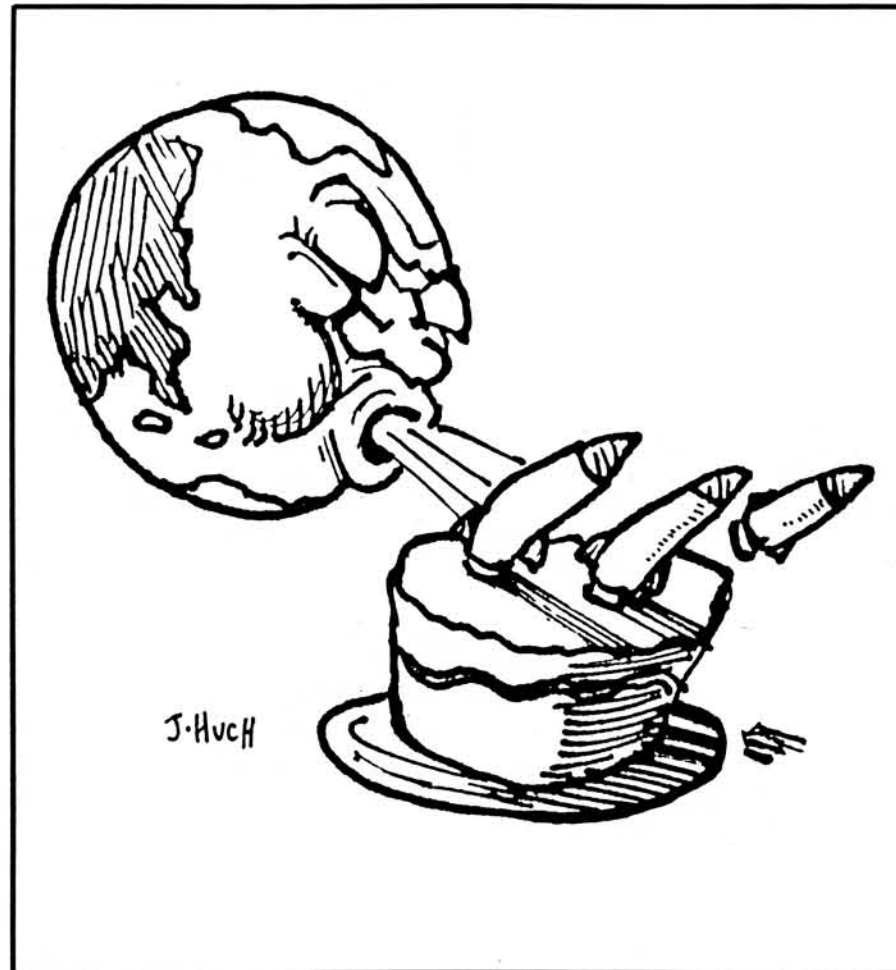
As you leaf through this Third Anniversary Issue of *The Monthly Planet* you'll notice the outpouring of community support for our efforts. We are proud and delighted with this and wish to thank all of you for your participation—for *The Monthly Planet* is truly a community effort come to fruition. It is the result of many talented people's labors of love, and of your ongoing interest. You are a key participant in *The Monthly Planet*. By choosing to inform yourself about and participate in the vital issues of our times, you are keeping the hope of democracy alive.

Many of the events of the 1980s conspire to make us live as ostriches—with our heads buried not in the sand, but in the red tape and minutiae that seem to be the requisites of "keeping afloat" and "getting ahead" in our military/money oriented society. As tax time approaches we become, perhaps, more fully aware of our predicament.

We are in an election year. When we began to publish this paper three years ago, Ronald Reagan was the most popular president in history. The man has not significantly changed; however, public perception of him and of his administration has altered considerably. Our faltering economy and our awareness of some of the inner workings of the White House basement and the Wall Street boardrooms prompts many to feel that our constitutional principles are not guiding our country's policies—and that no one is steering our ship of state.

The level of public awareness will determine our new leadership and the direction in which we as a nation and a world power will move. This choice is ours. It is not so much our selection of a new president that will decide our future but more the choices we make in our own lives as citizens that will ultimately determine if and how we are to live.

There are two clear paths to choose from—that of greed and fear, which leads to destruction, and that of goodwill, which



leads to peace. For peace is not simply a goal—it is an ongoing choice. Choosing peace in our personal encounters, in the ways we relate to our family, friends, neighbors, and associates, creates a pathway of progress. "Progressive" politics is likewise made of just such cooperative choices.

Much of America's commercial media are owned and/or sponsored by those who stand to profit from the production of weapons. This breeds an Orwellian climate of slick illusion. It is inappropriate for citizens to depend on such media as

our primary source of news. *The Monthly Planet* is a natural offspring of this climate. In these times the voice of the child who speaks the truth as s/he sees it, who says aloud that the emperor has no clothes when the cloak of secrecy is removed, who is willing to look anew at our problems and at solutions, becomes a voice for the many.

I urge all our readers to use your own voice to make a difference. The simplest actions can have profound effects. Staying informed, supporting news sources such as *The Monthly Planet*, involving yourself

and your family in peaceful activities, make a difference. Registering to vote and inspiring your neighbors and acquaintances to do the same gathers strength. Writing letters to your elected representatives, and helping your friends and colleagues to send letters—are all actions which, when undertaken collectively, help to heal a world gone mad with greed and violence. Your own imagination leads you to more creative contributions.

This final Reagan defense budget evidences a desire to insure that the MX missile and Star Wars will outlive his presidency.

You can help *The Monthly Planet* continue to grow and improve by supporting the businesspeople who support the *Planet*. These people are your neighbors. They have created businesses to serve the needs of the local community, and they serve it very well indeed when they choose to advertise in *The Monthly Planet*. They provide the funds to produce the paper. It is this simple.

Thank you for your patronage of these businesses. In this way we all grow together: as you turn to the *Planet's* business supporters to provide for your needs, the local peace economy flourishes, the *Planet* moves forward in its orbit, and we all benefit. Please tell our advertisers you support them in supporting the *Planet*. Continue to let them know it matters to you.

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



HAPPY BIRTHDAY MONTHLY PLANET

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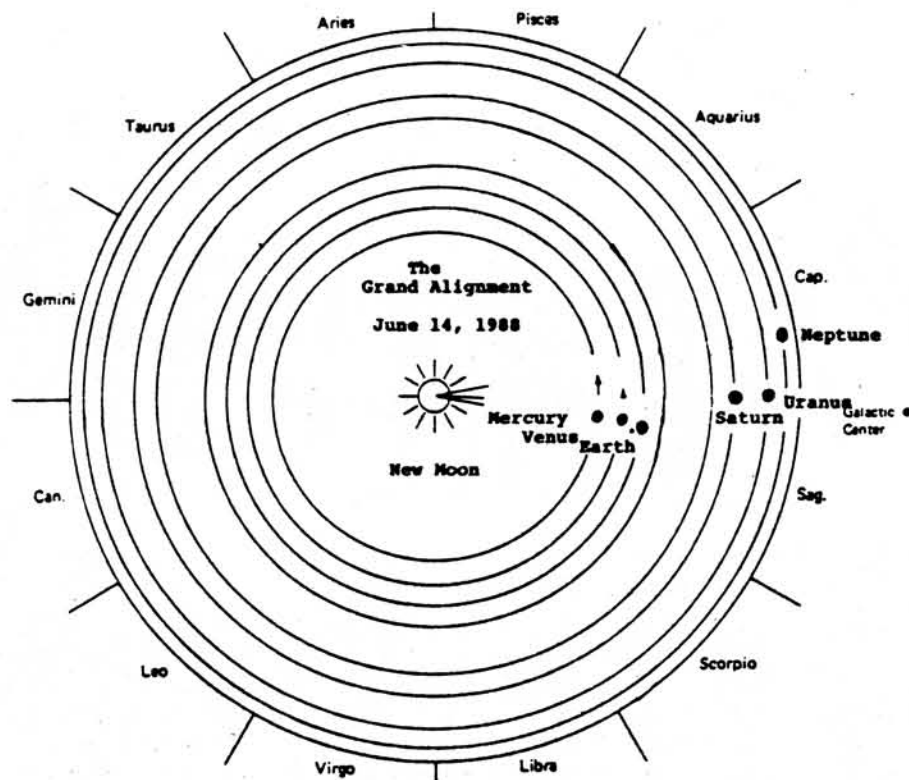
From the Grassroots

Solar Activity Affects International Tension

In the past few months, since moving to Santa Cruz, I have sent you some of my research on warring behavior as a species disorder. Our research has involved:

- (1) Discovery of a new type of life magnetism approximately one million times as large as the body's intrinsic magnetic field.
- (2) Discovery that this life magnetism field is linked to variations in the geomagnetic field and therefore to solar activity.
- (3) Integration of these findings with previously discovered cycles of international battles.
- (4) And with laboratory research showing that small magnetic fields alter hormone balance.
- (5) Showing that crimes, riots, accidents, and often geophysical disturbances and weather are all linked to solar/geomagnetic activity and.
- (6) Successfully making predictions of times of planetary stress.

Five years ago it was mentioned that June, 1988 would be the time of the most stress and greatest likelihood of a large increase in international battles. Analysis of others' data shows that two years before solar peak is the average time that international battles peak. Personal observations, plus the research of others, shows that planetary alignments trigger solar activity. The alignment taking place in



June is one of the tightest to occur in many years. There is nothing arcane or psychic about this work. It is based on so many studies of others that it does not depend on the validity of one piece of research, and the data can be verified by anyone.

Last fall I made the prediction that there would be minor difficulties around Dec. 21. A report on what happened is

enclosed, along with solar and geomagnetic activity. My work is accurate and important! I urge you to print something about the forthcoming event along with our plans for doing something positive about it right here in Santa Cruz.

Beryl Payne, Ph.D.
Academy for Peace Research
Santa Cruz

Tell Congress to Stop Contra Aid

The American people have been sending an unequivocal and clear message to Congress. No more Contra aid of any kind, whether it be humanitarian or military. Since Contra aid was defeated last week, the media daily remind us that the Speaker of the House, Jim Wright, is busy creating a plan to maintain the existing status of the Contras under the euphemism of humanitarian aid. Efforts in this direction undermine the Central American effort to resolve its compelling need to achieve peace.

Writing an alternate package to placate the Reagan Administration is a betrayal of our unflagging efforts to defeat Contra aid through innumerable letters, wires, and phone calls. We call upon Congress to vigorously support the Arias Peace Accords. We call upon Congress to listen to the voice of the majority of people in the United States. We call upon Congress to honor its responsibility to our growing army of poor and homeless; to legislate funds for the needy in our country instead of maintaining an army that inflicts death and violence upon the peasants of Nicaragua.

Ruth Hunter, Co-Chair
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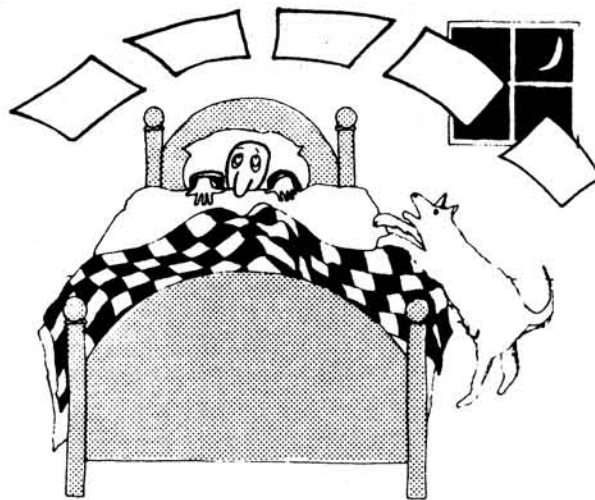
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Editorial

Come to the Test Site



JACK NELSON

On February 13 of this year, the Soviet Union exploded its 628th nuclear test. Two days later the United States exploded its 920th test.

Why do the superpowers continue to blow up nuclear weapons? They do this for precisely the same reason the peace movement has been trying to stop the tests: nuclear testing is an integral part of the weapons development process. Testing is the engine which drives the arms race.

This month thousands of people from all over the United States will gather at the Nevada Test Site to demand an end to nuclear testing. From March 11-20 a series of events is scheduled to occur at the site, including a large rally on Saturday the 12th followed by various acts of civil disobedience throughout the week. This "Reclaim the Test Site" action, sponsored by the American Peace Test, is expected to be the largest demonstration in the 37-year history of the Nevada Test Site.

Timed to closely follow the Super Tuesday presidential primaries, this action will help push the testing issue to the forefront of the 1988 campaign. Ever-increasing numbers of people willing to journey to the Nevada desert show candidates that Americans will no longer tolerate an ever-escalating arms race. It also indicates how people will vote.

Locally, the phones have been ringing constantly with requests for information on what's going on at the test site. It's become clear to those of us in the Freeze office that something very special is about to happen.

Join thousands of Americans this month who will take a small amount of time out of their busy lives to act in accordance with their beliefs. Now is the opportunity to make a difference. Come to the test site.

Because so many want to attend this action, the Santa Cruz Freeze has raised money to subsidize travel costs for those who need it. Four busses have been chartered to take people to the Saturday rally; bus tickets are available on a sliding-scale basis. Call 458-9975 for more information on bus tickets, flights, or carpooling.



PAT KITSON

RECLAIM THE TEST SITE March 11-20, 1988

American Peace Test nonviolent occupation and blockade at the Nevada Test Site.

Join thousands of people to take back this beautiful, wild land teeming with life, this holy land of the Shoshone, and liberate it. We will stand in the path of the forces that drive testing onward. We will challenge our selves, as people of conscience, to demonstrate the best that is in us. We will reveal the height of the moral force we bring to bear to end testing.

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Hot Flashes by Catherine Franke and Cynthia Leachmoore

NASA to Launch Plutonium on Shuttles

According to Karl Grossman, an investigative reporter and associate professor of journalism at the State University of New York, NASA intends to launch two shuttles into space loaded with enough plutonium "to kill every person on Earth."

The Project Galileo and Project Ulysses space probes are scheduled to be launched in 1989 and 1990, between them carrying 73.45 pounds of plutonium, most of that in its radioactive form, plutonium 238. One pound of plutonium, uniformly distributed, is theoretically enough to give every person on the planet a fatal case of lung cancer.

In the event of an accident, such as

that which occurred January 28, 1986 when the space shuttle Challenger exploded 73 seconds after takeoff, the amount of plutonium released into the atmosphere could cause a catastrophic disaster.

NASA asserts that the alloy of iridium capsules that house the plutonium are invincible up to 2000 pounds of pressure per square inch. However, a Department of Energy analysis report for the missions that Grossman obtained under the 1985 Freedom of Information Act cited the "most critical" accidents as occurring on the launch pad, generating pressures up to 10 times greater than the 2000 psi that NASA says its capsules can withstand.

NASA also maintains that there is no alternative for the plutonium which it

says is absolutely necessary to generate electricity on board the space probes and to keep instrumentation warm. But according to professor of nuclear physics at City University of New York, Michio Kaku, solar-generated power through long-lived batteries and solar cells would be possible on board the probes even as far away from the sun as Jupiter. (Source: *The Nation* 2-23-88)

—CF

Bullfrog Croaks

Bullfrog County, the brainchild of Nevada's 1987 State Legislature, has been declared legally dead—or at least unconstitutional. That was the ruling handed down in district court by Judge David

Zenoff, a former Nevada state Supreme Court justice, after less than 30 minutes of oral arguments.

Legislators had drafted the state's 18th county from an unpopulated 144-square mile segment of Nye County, in an effort to give the state control of substantial federal funds available if a proposed high-level nuclear waste disposal site is commissioned at Yucca Mountain. Two other sites under consideration are in Hanford, Washington, and Deaf Smith County, Texas, though the Nevada mountain is the likely choice.

Nye County, which stands to lose revenue should Bullfrog County remain on the books, challenged its constitutionality citing among other things, Bullfrog County's inability to provide representative government. Some organizers of the upcoming March Test Site Action had planned to put to the touchstone this lack of judicial jurisdiction by staging a civil resistance there. Bullfrog County covered the southwest portion of the Nevada Test Site where weapons research and development is conducted.

It is not certain whether the Legislative Commission will appeal the ruling, but as far as Nye County District Attorney Phil Dunleavy is concerned: "Bullfrog County is dead and it should be."

(Sources: *New York Times* 2-13-88; *Los Angeles Times* 2-12-88).

—CL

It's Not Nice to Fool Mother Nature

The U.S. Army and Shell Oil Co. agreed last month to spend up to \$1 billion to clean up what is considered one of the most contaminated waste sites in the world. The abandoned arsenal and waste site is so contaminated that the Army has fenced off one portion of the disposal area and "fires off gas guns to frighten away wildlife."

The Rocky Mountain Arsenal in Denver, Colorado had been used for 38 years by the Army as a production center and storage site for chemical weapons such as mustard and nerve gas. Beginning in the 1950s, the Army leased land to private companies that manufactured toxic pesticides, including two chemicals produced by Shell that were banned by the Environmental Protection Agency after they were found to cause cancer in humans.


Now the poisonous chemicals have turned up in nearby drinking water wells.

According to Shell spokesperson Gary Dillard, "It's important to note that the disposal practices being employed were believed to be the best at the time. People anticipated that Mother Nature would be much more forgiving, and I think that's where the mistake was made."

(Sources: *Los Angeles Times* 2-2-88; *New York Times* 2-2-88)

—CF

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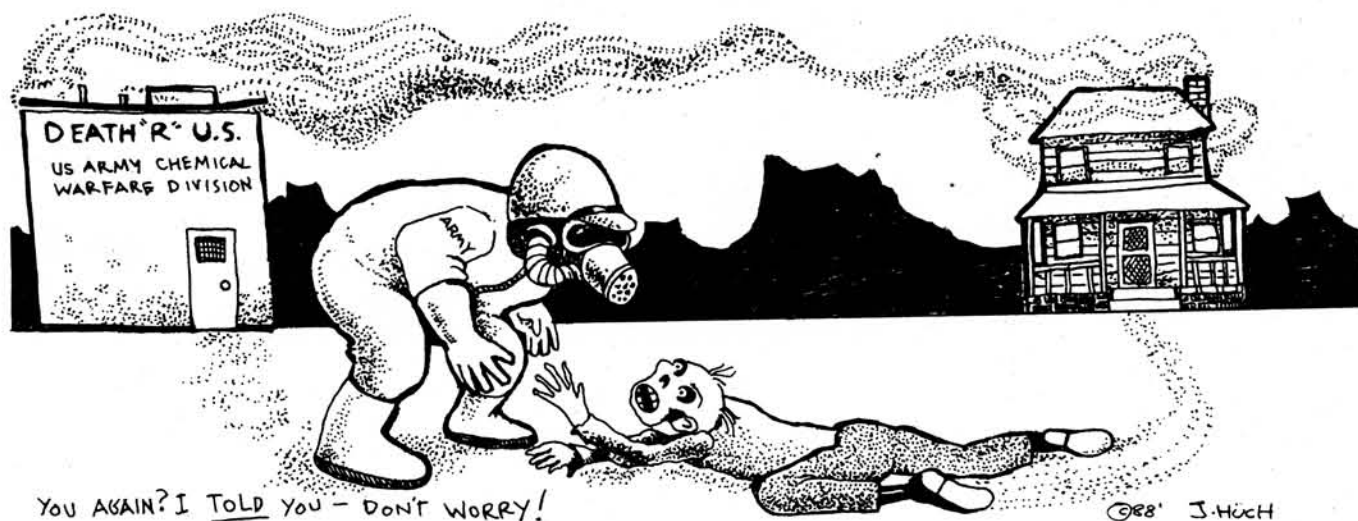


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Hot Flashes



Studying the Links

Last month Sen. Edward M. Kennedy made public a letter he had received from Dr. James B. Wyngaarden, director of the National Institutes of Health, saying that an 18-month study had been quietly started in December to assess possible links between cancer deaths and nuclear plant emissions.

The study is a response by federal health officials to high incidences of leukemia occurring in residents around the Pilgrim power plant in Massachusetts and in several plants in the United Kingdom.

In the letter Dr. Wyngaarden stated that the leukemia findings "have led us to initiate a large-scale evaluation of cancer deaths occurring among persons living near the over 100 reactors operating in the United States."

(Sources: *Los Angeles Times* 2-6-88; *New York Times* 2-5-88)

—CF

"No Cause for Concern"

A Washington-based environmental group, The Foundation on Economic Trends, had effectively blocked the construction of an Army germ warfare laboratory in 1985. Now, after conducting a 2½-year environmental impact study, the group is threatening to sue the Army once again if construction of the lab in Utah is continued.

The organization believes the Army's planned laboratory to be "grossly inadequate" in terms of public health and safety. The Foundation on Economic Trends claims that the Army has not dealt with some major safety issues such as emergency procedures, medical evacuations and the possibility of terrorism or sabotage. The group also said that the Army plans to rely on immunizations to protect lab employees when many of the pathogens to be used have no known vaccine.

The Army counters that the test facility, located at 70 miles southwest

of Salt Lake City at the Dugway Proving Ground, would be completely safe and that there would be no problem with live deadly microorganisms leaking into the environment. "From an analysis of all possible modes of release, it is concluded that events causing disruption of control, and circumstances favoring release of hazardous biological materials, are of such low probabilities that they present no cause for concern," an Army impact assessment states.

The United States has signed a 1972 international accord which bans the development of biological agents for offensive purposes, but the Pentagon maintains it must test live "biological materials" for defensive reasons.

(Source: *New York Times* 2-7-88)

—CF

Pat Robertson's Cuban Missile Crisis

Republican candidate and former television evangelist Pat Robertson made allegations last month that the Soviet Union is hiding intermediate-range nuclear missiles in caves in Cuba. Robertson believes that the missiles, which he claims are pointed at the U.S., were brought in to Cuba by the Soviets on submarines or other transport vessels.

The White House, the Defense Department and the Republican party have denounced Robertson's claims, Vice President George Bush saying in a radio interview that Robertson's allegations are "outrageous" and "designed to scare the American people."

Robertson cites his source as David Sullivan, top aide to Sen. Jesse Helms who has been vehemently fighting the U.S.-Soviet INF treaty. Helms has introduced an amendment to the treaty requiring U.S. inspection of the former missile sites in Cuba.

(Source: *New York Times* 2-16-88; *Los Angeles Time* 2-16-88)

—CF

Recycling Pays

Last month the Reagan Administration decided to shut down and "mothball" the controversial N Reactor at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation in Washington state which makes plutonium for nuclear weapons.

The 25-year-old reactor had been inoperative since December 1986 when it was shut down due to unsafe and aging equipment. The plant's design resembles that of the Chernobyl reactor.

Central to the decision to discontinue operation of the facility was the question of where the administration would obtain weapons grade plutonium once the plant was permanently closed. The federal government believes there is enough plutonium available through alternative sources, such as recycling the warheads dismantled under the INF treaty signed with the Soviet Union last December, to meet the nation's needs for the foreseeable future.

(Sources: *New York Times* 2-17-88; *Los Angeles Times* 2-17-88)

—CF

Not In My Backyard!

A long-awaited pact between California and Arizona to provide disposal for low-level radioactive waste (LLW) has been caught up in a snarl of political brouhaha within the between the two states.

The proposal calls for both states to dump their LLW at a California desert site for the next 30 years, at which time California would have the option to continue taking the waste, or to turn the responsibility of disposal over to Arizona. Current federal legislation dictates that states form regional compacts with one state providing a disposal site for the other's LLW. By 1992, states which fail to account for their disposal will face harsh penalties and fines.

After four years of deliberation the pact was ratified by the California Legislature, and Gov. Deukmejian signed it, expecting Arizona to do the same. However, the Arizona Legislature claims that they were

not consulted on the matter, and that it was Gov. Evan Mecham—who faces impeachment proceedings and a May 17th recall election—who had agreed to the measure.

Top lawmakers from both states including Arizona Senate Majority Leader Robert Usdane, and California Assemblyman Steve Peace who authored the proposal, met in California in an attempt to reach an agreement. But the mission of goodwill quickly soured as negotiating teams each accused the other of opportunism. "I don't believe they really want to have any facility in Arizona," Peace's chief aide said.

Usdane denied charges that Arizona is trying to freeload, and he countered that in terms of the pact, Arizona could be forced to bear a disproportionate disposal burden because California's annual LLW is more than five times that of Arizona. Furthermore, Arizona fears that California will try to squeeze more revenue from the disposal site by accepting other states into the compact, whose waste would then be passed along to Arizona in the event of a turnover.

Arizona has already ratified a pact with South Dakota, a nominal producer of LLW, and should it fail to do so with California, North Dakota may take its place. But Senator Usdane is quick to pledge that "both California and Arizona have every desire to work out their problems."

(Source: *Los Angeles Times* 2-5-88)

—CL



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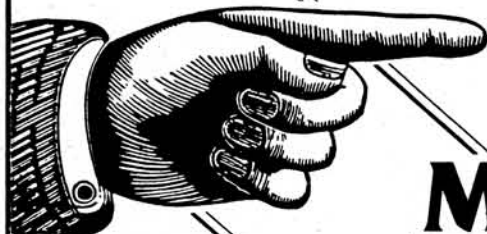


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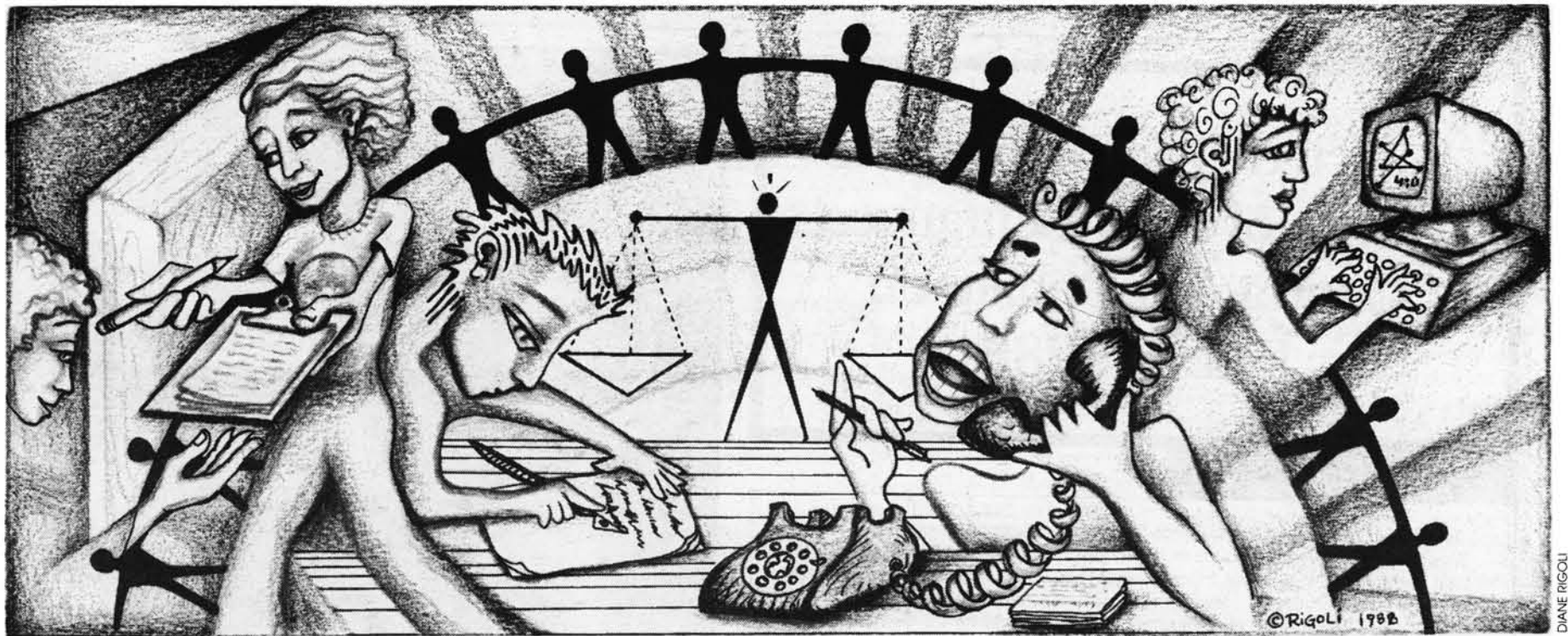


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Inside the Movement



The Union Makes Us Strong

Terry Teitelbaum

People who work for peace know how to make things happen. When a group of staff members, largely from Nuclear Weapons Freeze chapters around the country, met at the national Freeze conference in 1986 to discuss issues particular to their jobs, it resulted in the formation of the Union of Peace Professionals (UPP).

As these peace workers talked about their love of the work and their desire to keep doing it, they also shared common feelings of being undercompensated and unappreciated. They also felt pressures—from family, from society and from themselves—to someday get a "real job."

At this historic meeting, these peace workers realized their power as dedicated professionals who know how to get things done. If they believed they could end the nuclear arms race, why couldn't they accomplish an easier but still challenging goal to form a union with the express purpose of improving their working conditions and developing their careers in peace work?

In practical terms, unionization of peace workers means that their efforts will be more effective. This is good news for the disarmament movement. When a worker's needs for job security, fair compensation and professional development as well as health benefits and pension plans are met, he or she will be a better worker. She or he will feel more commitment to an organization which shows a commitment to keeping him or her on the job. Successful businesses, union and non-union alike, have known this basic fact for years.

Opportunities such as training and exchange programs can help workers hone their skills—again making them better workers. And knowledge that they can excel in their field and perhaps gain promotion provides pride and incentive for workers to achieve excellence. It's

about time we expected and acknowledged excellence in peace work. Just because the peace movement doesn't have access to the same resources as the military doesn't mean it can't do the very best with what it has and continue to strive for better.

Union workers have a say in what determines such excellence as well as fair compensation and benefits. They share in setting the standards for employment and promotion in their profession. And this also means more effective workers. There is great motivational value in feeling ownership of an organization for

will become available. For example, if paid staff members express that they need more money to feel fairly compensated and the organization just doesn't have the money, the board and staff can work together on a plan to raise more money or reallocate money to meet this need. It may take years to accomplish this within one organization, but the board's commitment to make it happen will often be enough to keep staff members working at a lower wage until this comes about.

Another apprehension some have about a union for peace workers is that

The Union of Peace Professionals is well on its way to helping peace workers take themselves seriously as professionals and to expect others to do so as well.

which you are working.

Many board members and even some staff members, especially fundraising staff, who first hear about a union for peace workers feel threatened and express fears. Most of these fears are about unmet demands from staff members. "We're already paying them all we can afford! How can we afford full health benefits?" These are valid concerns. But that's not what the union is about. The union makes it possible for staff to work with boards (or whatever the decision-making body for the organization is) to set fair standards, based on the organization's resources. It also creates an atmosphere where board members can revise their attitudes about paid staff and make their well-being a priority.

When treating peace workers fairly and developing them professionally becomes an organizational priority, the board will find that gradually the resources to compensate them accordingly

it would set up an adversarial and perhaps hostile relationship between boards (as employers) and staff (as employees). What a union sets up, however, is a negotiating process. Those who make employment policies have different but not necessarily incompatible concerns from those who are employed. Basically, without a union, those who make decisions about hiring, firing and paying have the power while the workers can either accept these policies or move on.

To be fair, many peace organizations do provide for much staff input into employment policies. In many cases, staff members are part of collective decision-making bodies who determine all policies for an organization. But what the union provides is a formal structure for staff and employee negotiation on working conditions, compensation, and professional development. And the potential for hostile conflict is actually lower

when there is a formal structure and everyone knows the rules of the game. Such process will create a more stable peace movement with satisfied workers. It is also an excellent model for peace-making on any level—organizational, national or international.

Finally, the Union of Peace Professionals breaks through the isolation many peace workers feel when they work long hours for low pay, wondering if anyone notices, cares or appreciates it. It provides a communication forum for peace workers all over the country to share skills, ideas, gripes and support. Networking with other professionals in one's field promotes skill development and boosts morale—again, making better peace workers.

The UPP is well on its way to helping peace workers take themselves seriously as professionals and to expect others to do so as well. At the 1987 SANE/FREEZE National Congress, the UPP voted unanimously to affiliate with the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union, authorizing that union to act as a bargaining agent for the UPP.

Those involved in movements for social change need to take a hard look at how they treat themselves and others who have dedicated their lives to peace work. Formation of the UPP is one of the most positive and practical steps in the direction of increasing overall effectiveness of peace movement efforts, while promoting social justice in its own backyard.

The union makes us strong.

Terry Teitelbaum is executive director of the Santa Cruz County Nuclear Weapons Freeze and a card-carrying member of the Union of Peace Professionals.

For more information on the Union of Peace Professionals, contact Chris Pelly, 7147 Oak Ridge Rd., Falls Church, VA 22042 (703) 849-0918

Feature

Selected Quotes from the House of Representatives Contra Aid Debate on Feb. 3, 1988

"Well, there are about 65,000 people that have cycled through groups like Witness for Peace down there in Nicaragua that have so fallen in love with that communist regime, so much so that they will stand there and tell you they are not communists... I wonder who is listening, the Ortega brothers, the other seven communist commandantes in the fascist junta down there? I hope all those networking nuns down there, and everybody down there, I hope they are all listening..."

—Rep. Robert Dornan (R-Orange County)

"I must comment on the hypocrisy of the administration's claim that it is concerned with the promotion of democracy in the Western Hemisphere. I believe the administration is anti-communist; but it is not pro-democracy."

—Walter E. Fauntroy (D-D.C.; non-voting delegate)

"Now, every anti-communist thrust is not pro-democracy... the fascist/racist regime of South Africa is one of the most anti-communist in the world—but it is also one of the most anti-democratic. A foreign policy which supports whatever is anti-communist often ends up also supporting what is anti-democratic—and that is part of our problem in Nicaragua. The U.S. government has backed the most brutal totalitarian rulers there for the past 100 years, financially and militarily.... The Contras are related to the last barbaric dictatorship there, the anti-communist Somoza regime which, of course, our government supported."

—Rep. Gus Savage (D-IL)



Another kind of aid: Children of San José de Bocay line up to receive educational supplies and athletic equipment from the Santa Cruz team. Photo taken July 25, 1987, eight days after a Contra attack in which 30 people died.



Nicaraguan government soldier wounded by a Contra land mine near El Cua, encountered by a six-person Santa Cruz team which delivered athletic equipment to the war zone.

"So the bottom line is that the Soviets would like to put us in a difficult position on the soft underbelly of America, the Mexican-American border, and the thing that concerns me the most is that 13-year-old son of mine and the sons of other Americans who are going to have to go down there and defend our southern flank... just think about the young American boys in four or five years that are going to have to go down there and fight to do the job we are not doing now by supporting the Contras."

—Rep. Dan Burton (R-IN)

"By the way, those of you who talk about democracy, when you talk about free elections, do you want them like we have in Paraguay, or do you want them like we have in Chile, or do you want them like we have in Mexico where we know two years before the elections are held who the winner is going to be? Is that the type of election reform that we want in Central America, in Nicaragua?"

—Rep. Albert G. Bustamante (D-TX)

"I find it very disturbing that people have continually all day long on this floor equated strength with military power and then tried to lay history on to that, because anybody that looks at history at all knows the nations that relied upon the military for their main strength always failed... the thing that is wrong and that has put us in a negotiating position of weakness in Central America is support of a Contra policy based on overthrowing another government and its right to self-determination... How in the world can we stand on this floor and say the strength of America is based on supporting the Contra military overthrow of another government?"

—Rep. Michael E. Lowry (D-WA)

Legislative Update

Contra Aid Battle Takes Bizarre Turn

by Shelly D'Amour

The struggle over who will set U.S. policy on Nicaragua, and what that policy will consist of, continues as Congress gears up for another major vote on Contra aid on March 3.

On February 3, the House narrowly defeated President Reagan's request for \$36.25 million in aid to the Nicaraguan Contras, including \$3.6 million in military assistance. A fragile coalition of moderates and liberals joined forces to defeat the measure 219-211. In order to persuade politically moderate and "swing" members of Congress to go against the administration's request, House Speaker Jim Wright (D-TX) promised them an opportunity to vote on an alternative package that would not include direct military assistance.

The so-called "Democratic alternative" package provides for a total of \$30.8 million to be distributed by the Department of Defense (DOD) over a four-month period. This includes \$14.5 million in food, clothing and medical supplies to the Contras; \$1.4 million in assistance to the Miskito Indians on Nicaragua's Atlantic coast, to be distributed by an international voluntary agency; and \$14.5 million in aid to children who are victims of the war, half

of which must be spent inside Nicaragua and half of which is to be allocated to children living in refugee camps in neighboring countries, also to be distributed by an international voluntary agency. The bill also provides \$250,000 for spare parts and batteries for the Contras' communications equipment as well as an addition-

the Nicaraguan government and the Contras should achieve a cease-fire by June 30, then responsibility for distribution of funds for food, clothing and medical supplies would shift from the DOD to an international agency such as the Red Cross. If there is no cease-fire by June 1, and the House Intelligence Committee

clothing, medicine, trucks, helicopters and training. Furthermore, the plan stipulates that if no cease-fire is in effect after 45 days, and the president determines the Nicaraguan government is at fault, then the president may request an expedited vote on military aid. This last point contradicts an earlier agreement reached in December between House leadership and the administration, in which the president agreed he would not seek military aid again in 1988 after the February 3 vote.

The vote on the House alternative package was originally scheduled for February 25, but was postponed for several reasons. Liberal members, deluged with calls and letters from their anti-Contra aid constituents, complained that the vote was being pushed through too quickly. Hard-line conservatives have declared they will not support the Democratic package. It is clear that without the support of House liberals, the Wright alternative plan will not succeed. On the surface, it would seem a simple matter of anti-Contra forces in the House hanging together and voting it down. However, there is another agenda at work here.

continued on page 16

Liberal members of Congress find themselves presented with a classic dilemma in ethics and politics: to what extent does one compromise one's values, given a choice between evils?

al \$20 million, to be placed in an insurance fund to replace Contra planes shot down by the Nicaraguan army. The distribution of funds is to be overseen by the U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO) and the House and Senate Intelligence Committees. Finally, the plan forbids any transfer of weapons to the Contras from existing stockpiles, as well as any unused military funds which had been previously appropriated.

According to the terms of this plan, if

determines this is the fault of the Nicaraguan government, then the Speaker of the House will be directed to request of Congress additional funding for the Contras.

The Reagan Administration plans to submit its own proposal for \$22.5 million in aid, to be distributed by the CIA over a two-month period. The administration's plan also includes \$14 million for children who are victims of the war, with the remainder going to the Contras for food,

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Legislative Update

Contra Aid Battle

continued from page 15

Moderates and many "swing" members have pledged not to vote for any military aid package as long as there was an alternative that they could support. The fact of the matter is that there simply are not enough votes to put an end to all forms of Contra aid. If the Wright proposal is defeated, it is almost certain that a military aid package will be approved in Congress within the coming months. If military aid to the Contras is appropriated, it will spell disaster for the already fragile state of the Guatemalan peace accord, and doom any prospects for a cease-fire between the Sandinistas and the Contras.

Liberal members of Congress, then, stand in a pivotal position. Mired in a political catch-22, they find themselves presented with a classic dilemma in ethics and politics: to what extent does one compromise one's values, given a choice between evils? To vote for the Wright proposal will not only make it possible for the Contras to continue their war of aggression against Nicaragua, but also violate the terms of the Arias peace plan which requested that nations refrain from funding insurgency groups; and in any case, there is still no guarantee that military aid will not be requested and appropriated at a later date. To vote against the proposal is to virtually assure the imminent passage of some kind of military aid package.

National organizations which are working to bring an end to the war in Nicaragua are also in a quandary over how to formulate a public position on this issue. Among groups such as Witness for Peace, the

Pledge of Resistance, the Coalition for a New Foreign Policy, the Friends Committee on National Legislation, and the Nicaraguan Network, a loose consensus exists on the following points: first, all groups stand firm in their continued opposition to all forms of Contra aid; second, they recognize that a majority of the House is still unable or unwilling to support an alternative U.S. policy towards Nicaragua; third, they acknowledge the complexity of this vote both in the short term and in its implications for long-term prospects

for peace in Central America. Finally, national organizations are appealing to members of Congress to vote their conscience on how best to block military aid to the Contras, preserve Nicaraguan lives and work toward a peaceful solution to the war in Central America. Groups are also redoubling their pressures on sympathetic members of Congress to formulate a consistent, alternative policy in the region and to work to build a consensus on that policy among their congressional colleagues.

Action: At press time we don't know how our local congressional representa-

tives will vote. We encourage Freeze supporters everywhere to take into consideration the complexity of this issue when evaluating the vote of your representatives. Following the March 3rd vote, continue to encourage your representatives to work against military aid, and all forms of aid, to the Contras and to support peaceful solutions to the war in Central America.

Budget

The Pentagon has submitted a \$299

This final Reagan defense budget evidences a desire to insure that the MX missile and Star Wars will outlive his presidency.

billion budget request for the Department of Defense for fiscal year 1989. The figure represents a slight increase over this year's budget (\$289 billion) but not enough to account for inflation. This is the first time since Reagan became president that a significant annual increase has not been built into the military budget. The departure of Caspar Weinberger as Secretary of Defense, the precarious nature of the U.S. economy, and the imminent close of the Reagan years are all factors that have contributed to the formulation of a more fiscally conservative budget for the military.

Congress has been experimenting with a two-year budget process by gradually incorporating the process into several of the federal budget categories, including the military. In such a two-year process, Congress would set the spending limits for various programs for two years at a time. In alternate years, Congress would only debate funding for certain specific, controversial items, leaving the majority of the budget intact. In the case of the military, the overall budget figure and what might be considered the "noncontroversial" items, such as conventional military programs, would be set for a two-year period. Funding for individual nuclear weapons programs, as well as any other controversial item, would be pulled from the budget and debated on an annual basis.

Local representative Leon Panetta (D-Monterey) has authored a two-year budget resolution every year since 1977. This year's bill, H.R. 22, has been co-sponsored by 37 members of the House, and is gradually gaining momentum as Congress becomes increasingly bogged down each year with the budget process.

The House Armed Services Committee is scheduled to begin looking at the Pentagon budget on April 18. Senate action on the budget will be delayed until consideration of the INF treaty is completed.

This, the final Reagan defense budget, evidences a desire on the part of the pres-



Hotlines

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

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(reports on testing activities at the Nevada Test Site)
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Central American Legislative Hotline
(Coalition for a New Foreign Policy)
202-543-0664

Friends Committee on National Legislation
202-547-4343

Nicaragua Network
202-223-NICA

Nuclear Arms Control Hotline
(Council For A Liveable World)
202-543-0006

Pledge of Resistance/ERN
(Central America legislation)
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S.O.S. — Save Outer Space Alert
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Washington Office On Africa
202-546-0408

Witness For Peace
(reports on the Contra war)
202-797-1531

Movement Support Hotline
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202-614-6422

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Senator Alan Cranston
United States Senate
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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)

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.

ident to insure that his pet programs—specifically, the MX missile and Star Wars—will outlive his presidency.

MX Missile

The administration is requesting \$1.7 billion for the MX program, including \$837 million for research and development on the Rail Garrison basing mode. In 1985 Congress limited deployment to 50 MX missiles in existing Minuteman silos. The administration would like to have 100 missiles, but must come up with a less vulnerable basing mode before Congress

Legislative Update



will consider deploying them. The Rail Garrison basing mode would deploy MX missiles on trains which would be kept at Warren Airforce Base in Wyoming, but moved out during times of international crisis, presumably so they would be more difficult to locate and destroy. Congressional critics have dubbed the program

"Amtrak-pack." Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci has stated that he would like to see all 100 missiles eventually deployed on trains, but has decided not to push Congress to adopt the basing mode until the next administration is in place.

The remainder of the \$1.7 billion would be spent on construction of 12 MX mis-

siles, 8 of which would be set aside for future deployment, and 4 "spares" for testing purposes. Currently, 38 MX missiles are deployed in silos at the Warren Airforce Base.

Star Wars

The administration is requesting \$5 billion for the Star Wars program. The figure represents a 27 percent increase over last year's funding level of almost \$4 billion, making it the largest individual item in the military budget. Congress makes a lot of noise each year about freezing or cutting Star Wars spending, but it doesn't ever seem to happen. It will be interesting to see if the Democrats will act a little more assertively on this issue now that Reagan is leaving office.

Campaign Funding

Senate Democrats lost their eighth attempt to bring to a vote a bill that would set limits on campaign financing. The bill would impose voluntary limits on candidates for national office. The measure would lower the ceiling on political action committee (PAC) contributions (currently at \$5000 per candidate), and calculate overall spending limits for candidates based on their home state's voting age population. It would also provide incentives such as lower postal rates and lower TV rates as well as provide limited public funds for those who voluntarily comply.

The Republican minority, with the exception of two senators, argued that incumbents in a political race have the advantage and that challengers must out-spend them in order to win. The Republicans have conducted a filibuster against the legislation every time it was about to come up for a vote. Senator Mitch McConnell of Texas said that Republicans would never agree to the restrictions, adding "we didn't do it today. We won't do it tomorrow. We won't do it ever."

Senate Majority Leader Robert Byrd (D-W.VA), clearly frustrated by Republican maneuvering on the issue, dispatched Senate police to physically compel 46 Republican senators to attend Senate sessions unless personally excused by him. The tactic had not been employed by a Senate majority leader since 1942. Said Byrd, "there is no point in having an easy, gentlemanly filibuster back in the cloakrooms. Let's have it right out here on the Senate floor where the American people can see it."

Since Byrd was unable to garner the necessary 60 votes to invoke cloture and cut off the debate, the issue of campaign spending reform was laid to rest again for the time being. However, Democrats vowed to make it a central theme in upcoming Senate races this fall.

Shelly D'Amour is the legislative editor of The Monthly Planet.

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Cover Theme

STAR WARS VS. COMMON SENSE

AN INFORMAL, NON-TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

by Ralph Chernoff

On March 23 the world will observe the fifth anniversary of the Star Wars Age, for it was on that date in 1983 that President Reagan stunned the world with a TV speech proclaiming his intention to develop a space-based missile defense which would, in his words, "render nuclear weapons impotent and obsolete." He called it the "Strategic Defense Initiative," but Senator Inouye promptly dubbed it "Star Wars," a name which stuck, much to the disgust of the White House and other "SDI" aficionados.

The Speech

The political intent of the Star Wars speech was obvious. The Nuclear Freeze movement was sweeping the country. As many as one million people filled Central Park for a Freeze rally the previous June. In August, a House resolution calling for a freeze lost by just two votes. The American Catholic bishops were working on a pastoral letter which would say that nuclear war was "morally unjustifiable" for any purpose. In Europe, the Green/Freeze movement threatened the plan to deploy new U.S. missiles there. On a more "practical" level, unemployment still stood at 9.7 percent, and it was clear that Star Wars, whatever else it might do, would turn on government spending as never before, and thereby, maybe, produce some new jobs.

But if Reagan expected the speech to ease his political troubles, he must have been rudely shocked by its reception.



Public reaction ran the gamut from bewilderment to derision to downright horror, with approval only from the wilder fringes of the military-industrial complex. The Star Wars speech may also have been an attempt to reassure a public badly frightened by Reagan's "Evil Empire" speech two weeks earlier; the promise of a miraculous technical fix for nuclear war would, it was hoped, reconcile the American people to the dismal prospect of an indefinitely prolonged cold war with the Russians. If that was its purpose, then it failed in this regard as well; the implied claim that such marvelously versatile weaponry would be used only as a shield — but never as a sword — against the Evil Empire could not be taken seriously.

The genesis of the Star Wars speech is bizarre even by Reagan Administration standards. The fascinating (and sometimes appalling) story can be found in an article by Gregg Herken (of UC Santa Cruz) in the October 1987 *Bulletin of the Atomic*



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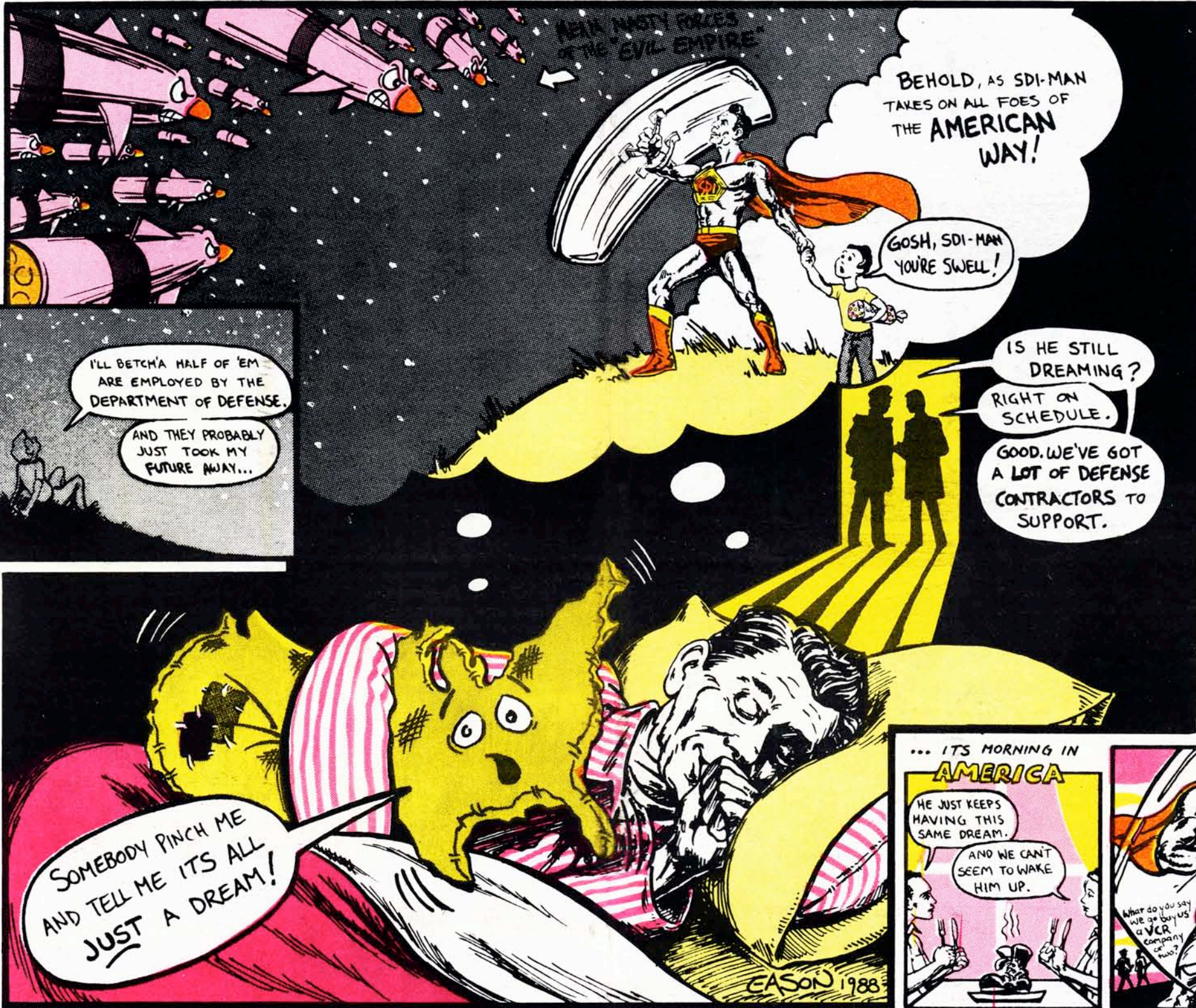
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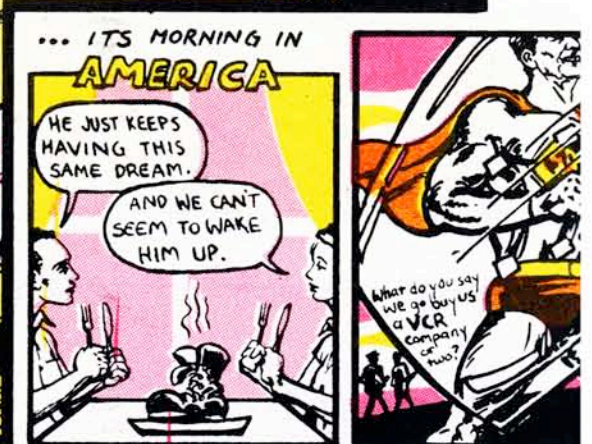
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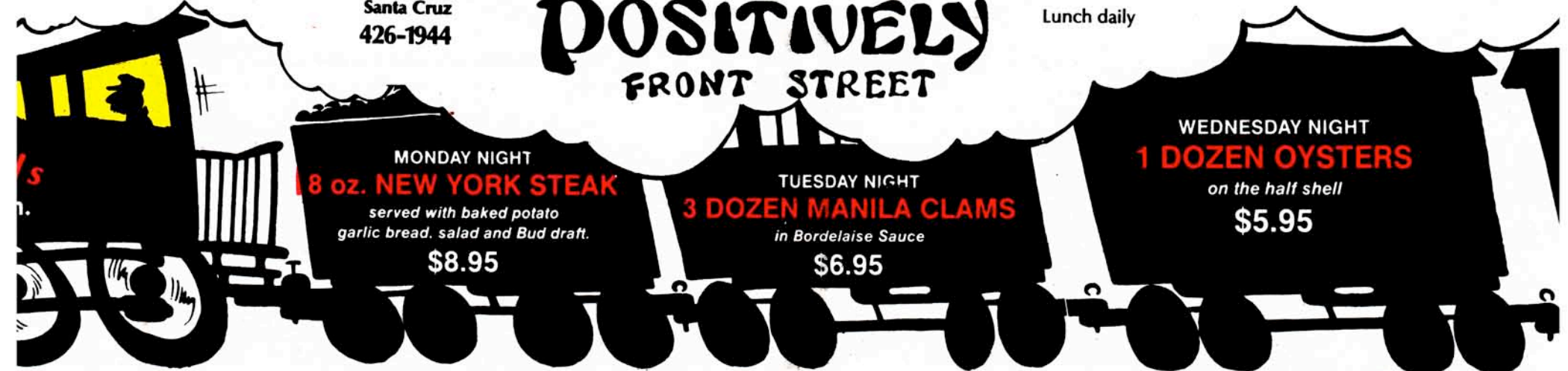
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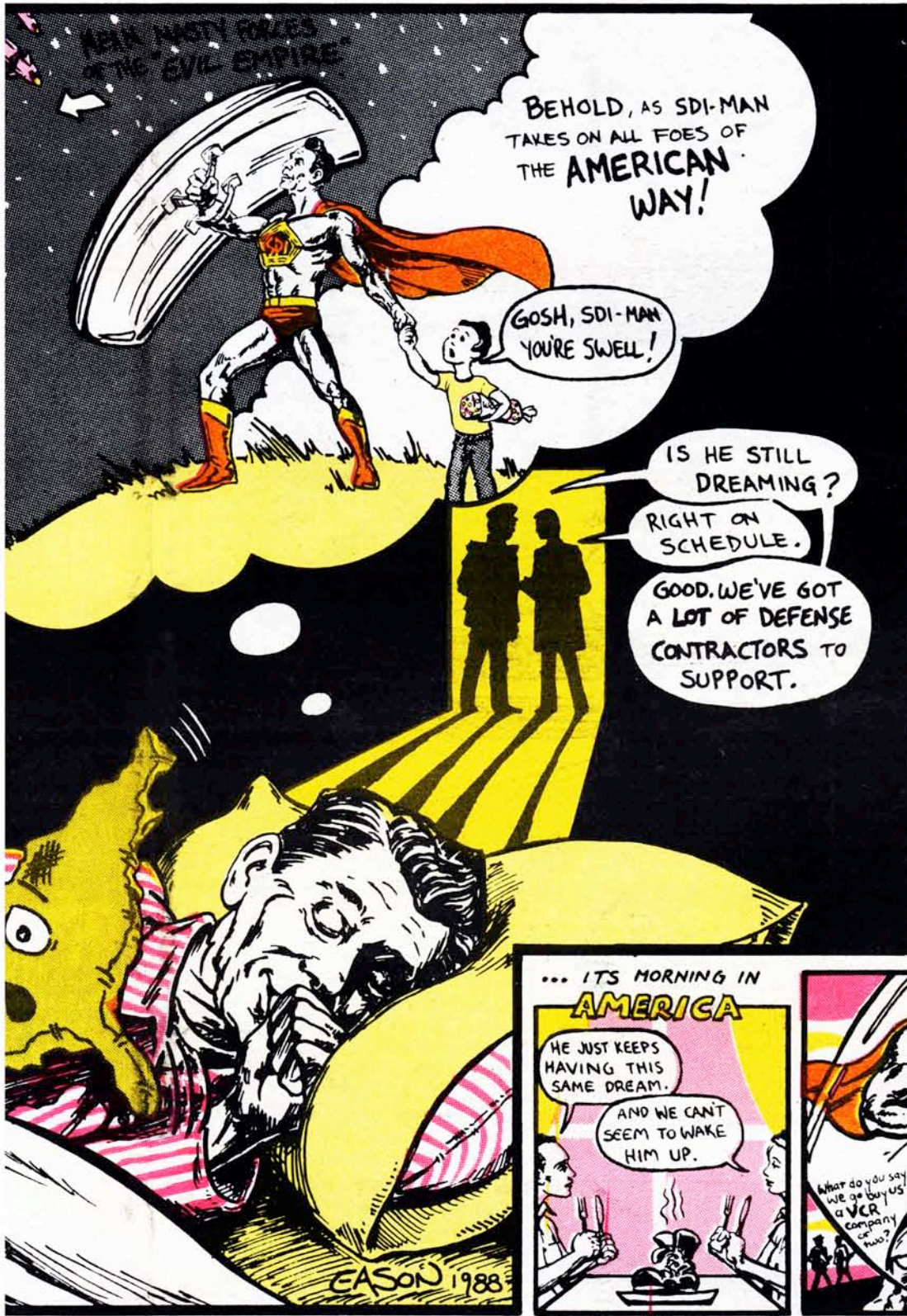
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Cover Theme



Scientists. Suffice it to say here that while Edward Teller, as is well known, played a leading role, such familiar Reagan Administration figures as McFarlane and Poin-dexter played important parts, too. So did Reagan's "kitchen cabinet," an odd collection of cowboy-booted millionaires (including beer baron Joseph Coors). Among those *not* consulted were Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger, the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Presidential Science Adviser George Keyworth. As the veteran scientist-arms control authority Herbert York put it, it was "an instance of exceedingly expensive technological exuberance sold privately to an uninformed leadership by a tiny minority in-group of especially privileged advisers."

The Idea and the Reality

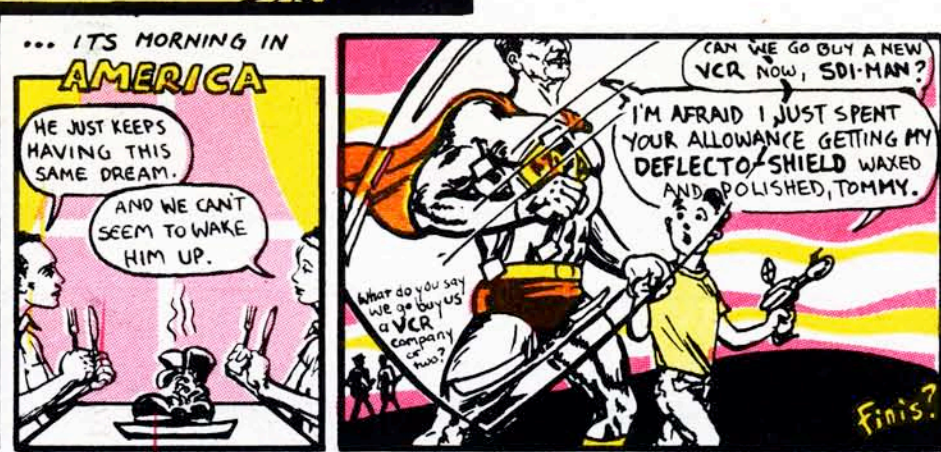
The Star Wars idea, the idea of a space-based missile defense, can be traced back to Air Force projects begun in the 1950s but dropped in the early '60s. The development of very high-power lasers in the mid-sixties revived interest in the idea. The earlier anti-ballistic missile (ABM) systems were ground-based and used (or *hoped* to use) missiles to knock down nuclear warheads as they re-entered the atmosphere a few tens of miles above their targets. Both we and the Russians tried to build these systems in the late '60s, but it soon became evident, even to many of the original ABM enthusiasts, that it would never work. You just don't have enough time to destroy all those incoming warheads in the last few seconds of their flight, and you can't use lasers because, powerful as they are, most

of their energy would be soaked up by the air or scattered by clouds before it got to the targeted warhead.

So why not put your high-power laser on a spacecraft which can fly right over a Soviet ICBM silo? Then you can zap the missile as soon as it rises above the atmosphere. And if that satellite misses the missile, one of your other satellites can maybe zap the warheads as they zip through space at about eight kilometers per second. There'll be an awful lot of warheads and an awful lot of space to cover, so you'll need lots of satellites. Also, they may be up there for years waiting for an attack, which means that the Soviets will have years to find and destroy them, while our satellites, of course, will have only a few fleeting minutes to find and destroy *their* quarry.

So there are a few problems. Maybe if we could wait until the attack starts and then pop up our star wars battle ships in time to get within range of the Soviet booster before it lets go of its load of dozens of warheads and decoys (Oh, didn't I tell you about the decoys?). Maybe we could use an X-ray laser.

A what? At this point, dear reader, a short (and, I hope, painless) digression on lasers is necessary. Lasers come in all colors including some colors we can't even see. The ones we can see (sometimes) are powered ("pumped") by chemical reactions. Very high-power lasers require, of course, very large amounts of fuel, which would make it very hard to pop-up such a laser fast enough to get those Soviet boosters. But there is—according to Doctor Teller—another kind of laser which shoots invisible X-rays. It would be pumped by the most concentrated power source known, a nuclear bomb. A fairly small bomb (100 kilotons, according to one report) would do it. That would be light enough to pop-up, but there's a fairly obvious problem here; the bomb would pump the laser all right, but the laser wouldn't survive the experience. It would be a one shot deal, which would seem to be a very inefficient way to knock out Soviet missiles. But Dr. Teller and his scientific progeny at the Livermore Lab have an ingenious solution to that problem too; the bomb will pump not just one, but several dozen lasers, each pointed



DAVE EASON

continued on page 20

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Cover Theme

STAR WARS VS. COMMON SENSE

AN INFORMAL, NON-TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

continued from page 19

(with exquisite accuracy) at a different target.

Although the X-ray laser is not the only "directed energy weapon" competing for big Pentagon bucks in the Star Wars sweepstakes, it is clear that it was the main impetus for the Star Wars speech and program. This is not because there is good experimental (or even theoretical) evidence that it will work, but simply because Dr. Teller had done such a thorough snow job on Ronald Reagan. But Dr. Teller as been snowing presidents since Eisenhower, so snowing Reagan, whose grasp of matters scientific is about on a par with his grasp of others matters (the activities of his closest advisers, for example), was probably not too difficult.

The initial skepticism of the scientific community regarding the feasibility of Star Wars continues to grow. Not only has there been little visible progress, but it has become more and more clear that claims of dazzling breakthroughs have been grossly exaggerated, and that forecasts of future progress were wildly optimistic. All sorts of "expert committees" have sat in judgment of Star Wars since the speech, and all reasonably independent panels have returned unfavorable verdicts. The only favorable reports have been those commissioned by the White House itself. The latest major study, published in July 1987, was sponsored by the American Physical Society. It is generally considered the most authoritative and thorough to date. And the most critical. It held that "Most crucial elements required for a directed energy weapon system need improvements of several orders of magnitude." It also pointed out that it may be fairly easy for the Soviets to counter Star Wars.

In addition to these generally unfavorable technical assessments, support for Star Wars has been seriously damaged by disclosures of false or misleading progress reports. The most notorious of these concerns the X-ray laser project at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. In April 1985, Edward Teller dramatically announced a "breakthrough": a laser pumped by an underground nuclear explosion had emitted X-rays a million times brighter than any previously observed. Using that good news, Teller persuaded Reagan to nearly double the project's funding. But in November, news stories by journalists Robert Scheer and Jeffrey Smith said that Livermore and Los Alamos scientists had told the authors that the test was invalid, and that they, the scientists, had repeatedly warned the project director, Lowell Wood, of this fact. In November, Roy Woodruff, a senior Livermore scientist, resigned from his position in the X-ray laser project in order to disassociate himself from Teller and Wood's false reports to Washington. In

late 1987 Woodruff publicly repeated his criticism when it was leaked to the press. Other Livermore scientists have since publicly criticized the gross overselling of the X-ray laser, and all report that they have been punished and harassed for their temerity. However, all these scientists make clear that they object only to the dishonest reporting of experimental results, not to the X-ray laser or Star Wars itself.

Star Wars and Arms Control

One of the problems of discussing Star Wars is that one tends—as the reader may have noticed—to get bogged down in technical details. Indeed, Star Wars-mongers make effective use of this phenomenon in snowing the public, just as Dr. Teller snowed Reagan. But the question of Star Wars doesn't turn on the exact brightness of X-ray lasers. Nor, for that matter, whether Dr. Teller and associates lied about it. These aren't important. The important thing is to ask the right question in the first place.

Suppose, dear reader, you're Ronald Reagan. Or Mikhail Gorbachev. You want to prevent nuclear war. At any rate, you say you do and we'll take you at your word. Obviously, you have to get rid of nuclear weapons, because if you leave them lying around indefinitely, nuclear war is inevitable (it is amazing, by the way, how many "experts" on nuclear war fail to grasp this absolutely elementary point). There are two ways to do this: 1) you can wait till the missiles and warheads start flying through space, and then rely on your Star Wars weapons to destroy them all in less than half an hour; or 2) you can negotiate an agreement to eliminate nuclear weapons in an orderly manner over a period of months or years. Which method do you choose? The second, of course. Unless you're Ronald Reagan. Why? Because it's technically easier. There's some technology involved in verifying such an agreement, but you don't have to be a Nobel prize winner to see that the tech-



CHRISTOPHER PALERMO

times over.

Consider, for example, what happened when the Russians tried to build an anti-ballistic missile defense (ABM) in the late Sixties. We "mirved" our missiles; i.e., put several warheads on each missile in order to overwhelm that defense. Since we too were building an ABM system, and mirving, the Russians mirved. But we both saw—even in the midst of the Vietnam

The promise of a miraculous technical fix for nuclear war would, it was hoped, reconcile the American people to the dismal prospect of an indefinitely prolonged cold war with the Russians.

nology of arms control is easier, safer and much, much cheaper than that of Star Wars. In fact, it already exists.

Would it be possible, however, to pursue both options simultaneously? No, it would not. As soon as one side threatens the other's nukes, the other side builds them up in order to maintain its ability to deter an attack by the first side. And it doesn't matter *how* you threaten, whether by a first strike, which destroys nukes on the ground, or by Star Wars, which destroys them in space; the result is the same. And if you doubt the ability of either superpower to build up its nukes, consider the fact that each side already has enough to wipe out the other about 20

War and the invasion of Czechoslovakia—that this wasn't making much sense. So, in a brief moment of lucidity, we slowed down the arms race long enough to negotiate SALT I and the ABM treaty in 1972. Our national leaders, first LBJ and Kosygin, then Nixon and Brezhnev, none of whom are usually thought of as pacifists, had finally realized that ABM systems and arms control agreements are mutually incompatible.

The ABM treaty quite explicitly bans Star Wars. Which is not surprising since, as we saw above, the concept was already well known at the time. In fact, the Nixon Administration acknowledged the ban when it submitted the treaty to the Senate

for ratification. Yet the Reagan Administration insists that the treaty doesn't ban Star Wars, and has put forth a "broad interpretation" of the treaty to support its claim. But the present Senate, which is just now debating ratification of the INF treaty, isn't buying it; and the senators are pointedly asking the White House for assurances that it won't try to reinterpret the INF treaty, too, some day.

More to the point, the Russians aren't buying it. With the minor exception of the INF treaty, Star Wars has blocked all progress on arms control in three successive Reagan-Gorbachev summits, and will—barring a miracle—do so again at the final one this summer in Moscow. Indeed, one wonders sometimes whether the real purpose of Star Wars might not be simply to avoid arms control agreements.

An even more sinister purpose for Star Wars might be to enable a first strike. Suppose you had a Star Wars system which you thought was pretty good (if you didn't think so, why did you build it in the first place?), and you see that your enemy is building up nuclear forces in order to overwhelm your Star Wars defense. Since you can't afford to keep building up your Star Wars system (the one you've just built has already ruined your economy), you might conclude that your best move would be to launch a first strike. Indeed, why wait? A quick first strike would thin out the enemy's retaliatory response, thus giving your Star Wars system its best chance to absorb it, while waiting gives your enemy a better chance to saturate and overwhelm it. So you gamble. And

Cover Theme

you lose.

If this nightmarish scenario should ever come to pass, the sincerity of President Reagan's professions that the intent of Star Wars is to save us from nuclear annihilation will be a matter of supreme irrelevance.

The present status of the Star Wars program is uncertain. In the scientific theater, it's a flop, but in the political theater of the absurd, it's still hanging in there. Its budget continues to grow (3.5 billion for Fiscal Year '88) despite the fact that the total Pentagon budget is down. And it is certainly alive and well enough to stop START, the proposed 50 percent arms reduction treaty. It may, unfortunately, be too late to prevent that from happening, and we will then have to wait for the next administration for further arms control progress. In that all-too-likely case, we must do whatever we can to support the presidential candidate who makes that tragically missed opportunity the keynote of his campaign.

Ralph Chernoff is a staff writer of The Monthly Planet.

GAO Probes Claims of X-ray Laser

According to a Feb. 24 *San Jose Mercury News* article, a General Accounting Office (GAO) probe has confirmed Livermore Lab physicist Roy Woodruff's charges that Edward Teller and the lab's management grossly oversold Washington on the progress of the X-ray laser project. The classified report of the probe also confirms Woodruff's claim that lab director Roger Batzel blocked his attempt to send letters to Washington to correct these misrepresentations. The X-ray laser, according to Star Wars enthusiasts, may be the best bet for knocking out Soviet missiles in space (see cover story). The probe was asked for by Rep. George Brown, a California Democrat, long a critic of Star Wars, and the main source, apparently, for the article.

The GAO is an investigative agency of Congress, not the executive branch, and is often used to probe alleged misbehavior by the federal government or its contractors. The Livermore Lab is operated by the University of California under a contract with the federal Department of Energy.

Woodruff's claim has been independently corroborated by several other physicists involved in the X-ray laser project, including George Miller and Ray Kidder of Livermore, and Donald Kerr, former director of the Los Alamos National Laboratory. The article puts X-ray laser funding at \$70 million, but another source put the project's 1987 budget request at \$300 million.

—Ralph Chernoff

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Feature

Anti-Nuclear Civil Disobedience Increased 60% in 1987

The number of arrests for anti-nuclear civil disobedience in the United States and Canada increased in 1987 by nearly 60 percent over recent years, to a total of over 5,300. Statistics compiled annually by the *Nuclear Resister* newsletter show that the current figure equals the record number of arrests reported in 1983, the year of the Euromissile deployment and massive demonstrations in the United States and Europe.

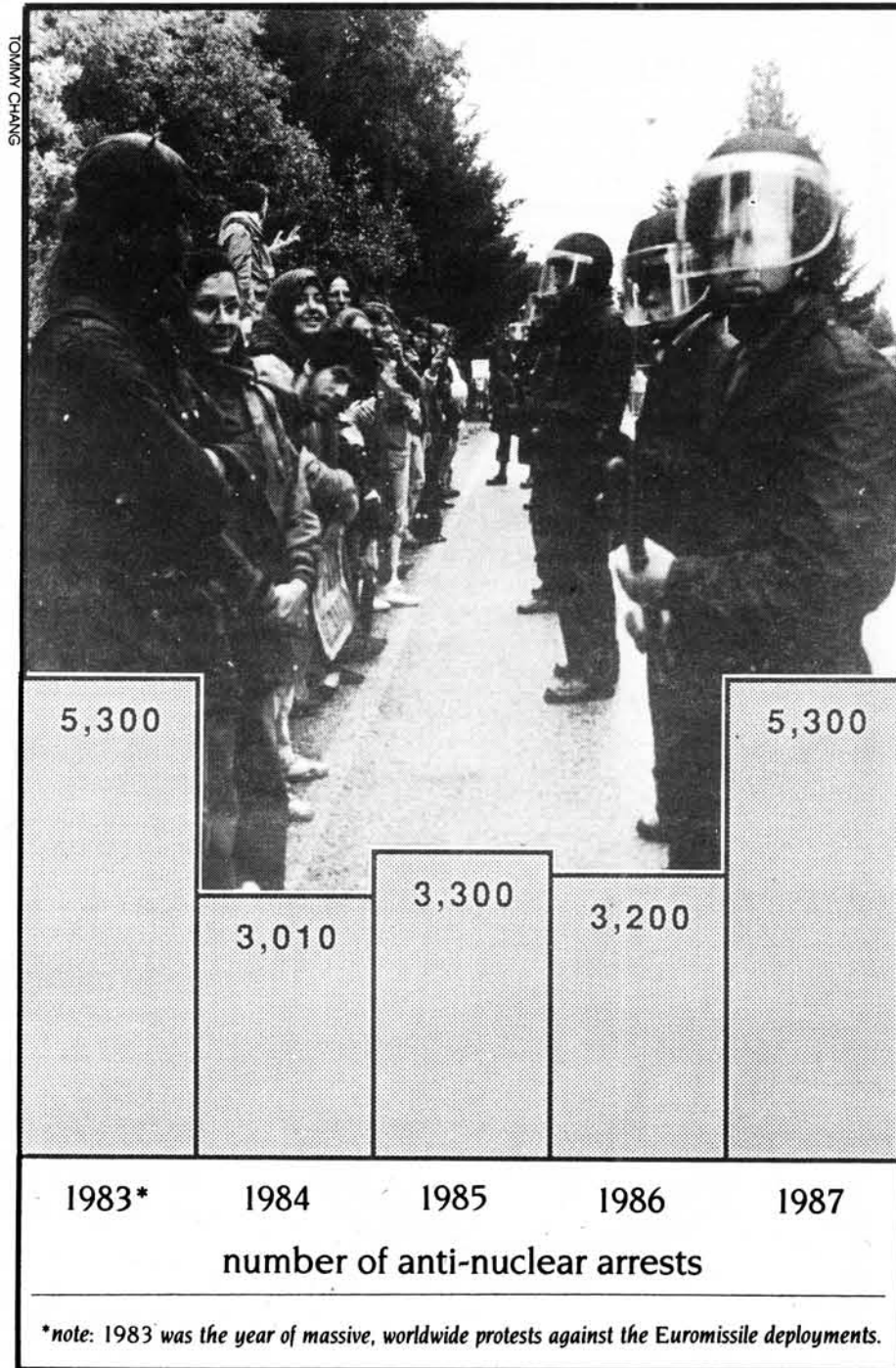
"These numbers give notice that a substantial, growing part of the peace movement is committed to risking arrest through nonviolent direct action as a means to achieve nuclear disarmament," observes Felice Cohen-Joppa, co-editor of *the Nuclear Resister*. Most of the arrests were weapons-related and occurred at military facilities, war contractors and federal offices. About 400 of the total were of people protesting nuclear power, uranium mining and related projects.

As a consequence of these arrests, over 120 people served or are serving prison sentences ranging from two weeks to 17 years. Hundreds more served lesser sentences.

Action groups all across the continent, some in loose alliance with others, but for the most part acting independently, engaged in over 180 separate actions in 1987 at more than 70 different sites. (Of total arrests, 95 were reported from Canada, during nine actions at three sites.)

With motivations ranging from religious faith to pragmatic politics, the spirit of such actions likewise ranges from prayerful to joyous, somber to even humorous. Some are boisterous and aimed to disrupt "business as usual." Most actions are symbolic, while some, notably those actions inspired by the Plowshares movement, take pains to avoid human harm while physically damaging nuclear weapons components or their deployment systems. Some groups advocate Gandhian principles of nonviolence, while for others nonviolence is a tactical choice.

This vibrant diversity has converged



on the Nevada nuclear testing site, where nearly half (2,515) of all the 1987 arrests occurred. Religious resisters and secular peace activists risk arrest at the gates, while backpackers infiltrate the test site to delay nuclear tests by their presence near ground zero. All contributed to make the Nevada Test Site a national center for nonviolent direct action.

By the end of April, with over 600 cases pending just since January 1, the Nye County, Nevada, district attorney was forced to adopt a new policy: arrest followed by dismissal of charges for all but those activists arrested deep inside the test boundaries.

Two weeks later, during the largest civil disobedience action of 1987, 746 citations were issued on Mother's Day (May 10) at the test site.

1988 promises to see even more Americans traveling to the remote desert test site as public pressure builds for a comprehensive test ban and greater nuclear arms reduction in the wake of the INF treaty. "Reclaim the Test Site," a major grassroots resistance action organized by the American Peace Test, will bring thousands to the test site to risk arrest March 11-20, 1988.

Also worth noting in 1987 was the federal government's prosecution of the four "Epiphany Plowshares" activists who damaged, with hammers and blood, nuclear and conventional war-fighting aircraft near Philadelphia last January 6. Hung juries refused to convict the four during the first two trials. A third mistrial was declared when the courtroom supporters repeatedly stood and spoke to the jury about nuclear war, foreign intervention, International Law and religious duty—all in violation of a court order forbidding any mention of these topics. Finally, an unprecedented fourth trial resulted in convictions for the federal government.

For more information, contact the Nuclear Resister newsletter, P.O. Box 43383, Tucson, AZ 85733. Subscriptions are \$15 for 10 issues.

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Direct Action Notes

Reclaiming the Test Site

Noel Sturgeon

The Nevada Test Site. Acres and acres of stark, beautiful desert defined by its hidden, hellish core: the pock-marked sites of nuclear tests, the deep labyrinth of tunnels drilled into the earth at great expense to hold exploding nuclear warheads. Whenever I've gone to the test site, what's struck me is the jarring contradiction between what can be seen and felt—the incredible arc of the sky, the inventive plants, the utter quiet of the desert—and what cannot be seen and felt—the earnest preparations for nuclear destruction, the silent radiation, the ab-

stract reasoning which calculates how many millions of deaths are worth the "defense" of our "national security."

and the covert depths of our country's policies—greed, hierarchy, intervention, genocide. Nonviolent action at the test

physical and symbolic, lend themselves to the dynamic of nonviolent action, the effort to shift the relations of power built on claims to truth and the passive obedience of citizens. To fill the empty desert with people willing to risk arrest, to undergo physical discomfort, to pay the expenses of such a trip, to actively resist government policies they don't consent to, changes the test site from a valueless piece of federal real estate to a precious symbol of the fragility of life on Earth and the power of democracy in action. The test site becomes land worth fighting for, worth a nonviolent contest over the resources wasted on testing that could be

The Nevada Test Site is a metaphor for American politics representing the difference between what we celebrate on the surface and the covert depths of our country's policies.

The Nevada Test Site is a metaphor for American politics that impels activism, representing the difference between what we celebrate on the surface—openness, freedom, equality, compassion—

site is compelling because it attempts to make the invisible visible, to bring the unthinkable present to our collective consciousness.

The qualities of the landscape, both

continued on page 24

Stop First Strike Mobilizes for Test Site Action

Stop First Strike/Santa Cruz, which organized the successful nonviolent shutdown of Lockheed's Trident II missile plant on Empire Grade last October, has begun mobilizing Santa Cruz County residents to blockade and occupy the Nevada Test Site in March. Stop First Strike (SFS) recently formed a Test Ban Action Project to work in cooperation with American Peace Test, the national sponsor of a massive action planned for March 11-20 at the facility which tests all US and British warheads. This action, expected to be the largest ever held at the Nevada site, will be a new step in resistance to nuclear testing.

Stop First Strike is focusing its Nevada Test Site organizing efforts on a set of six-hour long "non-violence preparations" for people considering risking arrest at the huge desert installation. SFS is specifically emphasizing: 1) the role of first-strike missile production and testing, along with warhead testing, in the escalation of the nuclear arms race; and 2) the need for "backcountry" nonviolent resistance actions deep inside test site security zones, to directly impede test site operations.

"People from throughout the country will be converging on the Nevada Test Site next month," said Stop First Strike member Jenny Hiestand. "Stop First Strike is saying that if the government refuses to join with the Soviets in a warhead and missile test ban, then the people themselves will have to stop these preparations for nuclear genocide."

The next planning meeting to coordinate Santa Cruz actions will be held on Monday, March 7, 7:30 p.m., at 515 Broadway, Santa Cruz. All are welcome to attend.

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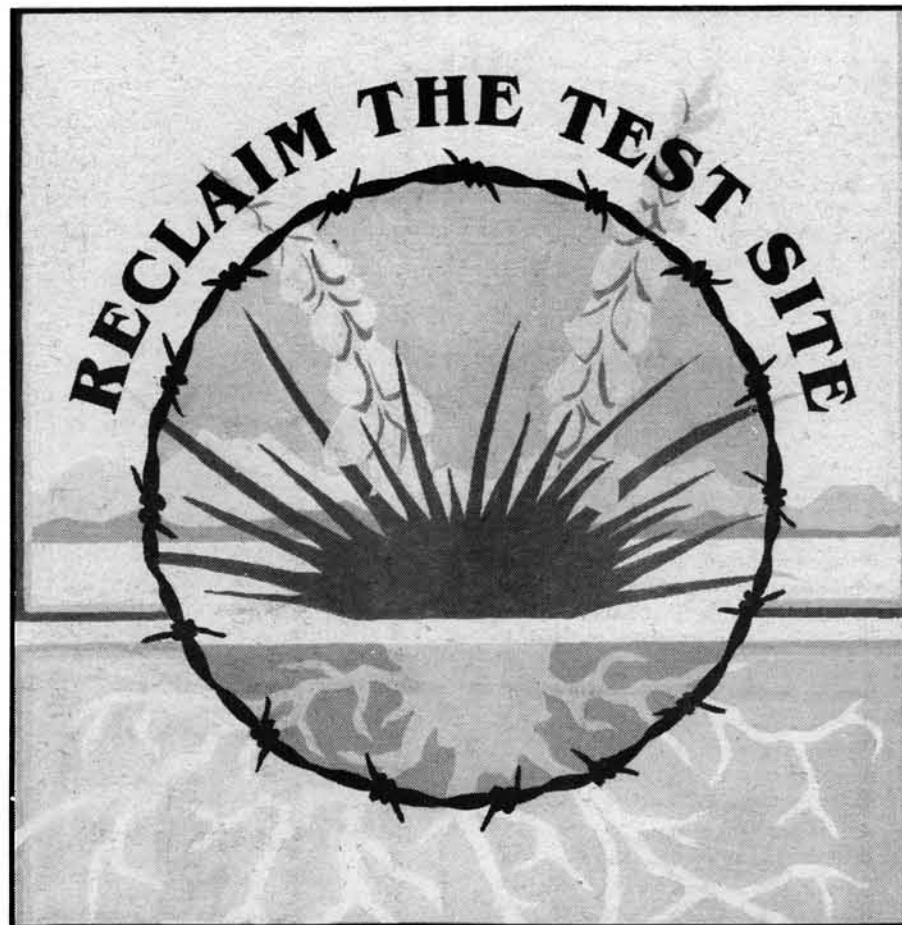
Reclaiming the Test Site

continued from page 23

spent on food, health, transportation and housing.

On March 11 to 20, the American Peace Test has organized a series of demonstrations and civil disobedience actions called "Reclaim the Test Site." The latest in a series of actions organized by APT and other groups at the test site in an effort to get a Comprehensive Test Ban passed, the March Action is expected to surpass by thousands of people the biggest action so far, the Mother's Day Action last May. There were 3,000 people at the test site on Mother's Day; 746 of them were arrested for simple trespass, entering onto test site property. None of these, or anyone else committing civil disobedience since, has been prosecuted. This is because there have been so many arrests for civil disobedience at the test site since August 1985, that the local county officials have refused to continue to pay for the costs of prosecution.

The nonviolent direct action campaign at the Nevada Test Site has had widespread effects. There have been almost weekly actions there for the past year, as well as several larger, well-publicized actions. These have resulted in a lot of



public education about the way nuclear testing encourages the arms race, damages the environment, and wastes federal money. There has been a far-reaching

mobilization of people nationwide willing to engage in civil disobedience, or at least to demonstrate against nuclear weapons. And there has been a changing political environment, a large part of which is the result of pressure from the peace movement, which has produced the INF treaty and makes a Comprehensive Test Ban a political possibility.

The theme of reclaiming the land is the product of a growing feeling that before the arms race and the injustices which stem from it are halted, ordinary people are going to have to take back the "public" lands of the military bases, the test sites, and the research laboratories. In the March Action, "reclaiming the land" is

manifested in two ways: the Peace Camp and the "occupations."

The Peace Camp, right next to the front gate of the Nevada Test Site, has had at least one resident for over a year now; it will swell to the hundreds for the Action. A miniature community will form for the duration of the Action, complete with kitchen, medical facilities, entertainment, and a political structure built on the participatory democracy of the affinity groups. The Peace Camp will be the constructive moment of the Action, the pale reflection of the kind of society that could be possible without militarism.

The moments of protest and resistance will be multiple. The large beginning rally on the 12th, a Youth Day rally on the 13th, a Saint Patrick's Day rally on the 17th, and the Student Day rally on the 20th will all be times when people will collectively show their desire for a Comprehensive Test Ban and an end to the arms race. Throughout the week, there will also be civil disobedience. Much of this will probably involve stepping over the property line at the front gate. But for the first time, APT is emphasizing the tactic of occupation, the attempt to create places on the test site that activists will "reclaim" for peaceful purposes. This occupation will take many forms, depending on what each affinity group wants to do, ranging from brief "symbolic" occupations just inside the fence, to extended "backcountry" treks far inside the test site with the aim of disrupting testing operations.

The March Action will not turn the desert into a place of peace by itself. But it will be one more step, and an important one, towards restoring integrity to American politics. Eventually, after many non-violence struggles, there will be no underground hell in our political terrain.

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.



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Local "Reclaim the Test Site" Events

The local organizing for the March Action is being handled by two groups, which are coordinating their efforts. One is the local Nuclear Weapons Freeze, which is coordinating transportation, scheduling nonviolent preparations, and providing information. The other is the Test Ban Action Project, which meets weekly to set up outreach efforts, fundraise, and form affinity groups. Everyone is welcome to participate in these meetings. EVERYONE WHO GOES TO THE ACTION IS ASKED TO ATTEND A NONVIOLENT PREPARATION BEFOREHAND.

—For information, transportation, and nonviolent preparations, call 458-9975.

—Next *Test Ban Action Project* meeting: March 7th, 7:30 p.m., 515 Broadway.

—Next *nonviolent preparation* is March 5th. Call 458-9975 to sign up.

—An update specifically on *backcountry actions* will take place at 5:30 p.m., March 7th, 515 Broadway.

—An *Action Update* (for people who have already had nonviolence preparations but would like information on the March Action and/or to form an affinity group) will take place on March 4, 7 p.m., at 515 Broadway.

—A *Potluck Gathering* and *last minute affinity group formation* for everyone in Santa Cruz that is planning to go to the Test Site will take place on March 6th, from 1 to 4 p.m., at 303 Walnut, upstairs.

—There will be a *Send-off Rally* and press conference on Thursday, March 10, from 6 to 7 p.m. at the County Building. If you can't go to the Test Site but support a Comprehensive Test Ban, show up to give a rousing send-off to those who are going.

Direct Action Notes

"Reclaim the Test Site" Transportation Information

"Reclaim the Test Site," expected to be the largest direct action against nuclear testing ever at the Nevada Test Site, will take place March 11-20. Here is some information on how to get there:

Buses

The Freeze has chartered four buses from Santa Cruz. One is a Green Tortoise—with room to sleep laying down. The cost is \$70 round trip—however, we have a sliding scale from \$50 to \$100 for bus tickets on the Tortoise so that people who can afford to pay will subsidize those who can't afford the full cost. We also have chartered regular buses—nice comfortable ones, but you can't lie down on them. The cost for these is \$38 round trip with a sliding scale of \$5 to \$50. All buses will leave at approximately 7 pm on Thursday, March 10, from the County Building in Santa Cruz. It's about an 11-hour trip—we'll arrive in Las Vegas about 7 am on Saturday, and then go on to the Peace Camp outside the test site. These buses will be back from Nevada on the afternoon of Sunday, March 13.

Some people will stay overnight in Las Vegas, while others will camp out at the test site on Friday night in the Peace Camp. Orientations about the action will occur both at the test site and at a location in Las Vegas. Strategy planning meetings will occur at the Peace Camp. Bus transportation from Vegas to the site will be available on Saturday morning.

To reserve a seat on a bus, please send the Freeze your money right away. Indicate whether you want a seat on the Tortoise or the conventional buses, and whether you plan to sleep at the Peace Camp or stay in Las Vegas. Make checks payable to Nuclear Weapons Freeze, and mail them to 320-G Cedar St., Santa Cruz, 95060. **Your seat cannot be reserved until we get your money.**

Flight Information

There are two flights on PSA from San Jose to Las Vegas—one leaves at 6:30 am and the other at 8:30 am on Friday, March 11. The early one arrives at 8:44 am and the later one at 11:10 am. There is one flight on America West on Friday, leaving San Jose at 9:25 am and arriving in Vegas in 10:35 am. Cost is \$118 round trip—there is no advance purchase requirement, but there is no guarantee of that price until you buy the ticket. Call your travel agent now. (These quotes are likely to rise over time.) Ask your travel agent about the return flight that meets your needs. The American Peace Test will provide airport pick-up for all participants who contact them in advance—call (072) 363-7780 or (702) 363-7875.

Carpooling

There is a rideboard in the Nuclear Freeze office (320-G Cedar St.) with information on rides needed and rides available by car. Stop by or call if you want to give or get a ride.

Housing in Nevada

There will be a peace camp at the test site, where most people will be staying. Bring everything you need to camp, including food and water. For sleeping bag space in Las Vegas, call the American Peace Test immediately: (702) 363-7780 or (702) 363-7785. There are also relatively inexpensive motels in Las Vegas.

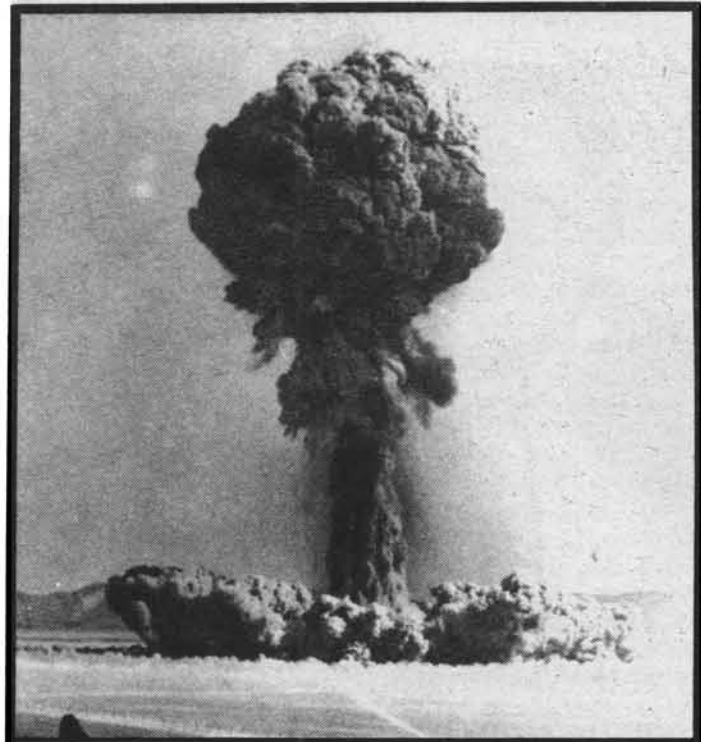
And so may our demonstrations of non-violence be as the water, gentle and powerful.

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—Lao Tzu



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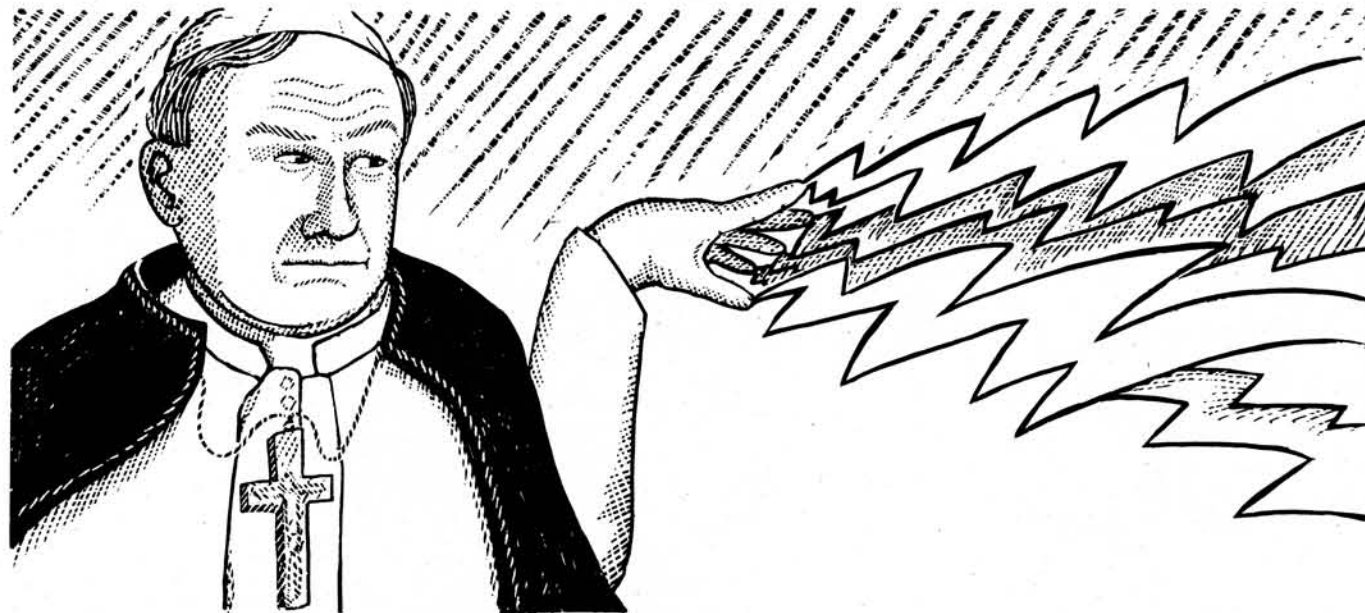
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Planet Watch by Ralph Chernoff



on March 2, one wonders why Kohl bothered to visit Washington in mid-February. Maybe he got a frequent flier bonus.

Pope Blasts Superpowers

Pope John Paul II has accused the superpowers of oppression of the poor countries of the Third World by imposing on them imperialist "structures of sin." In the encyclical, "The Social Concerns of the Church," the Pope puts the blame for the widening gap between rich and poor nations primarily on wasteful superpower military spending, "an unacceptably exaggerated concern for security..." He also points to "the all-consuming desire for profit" and "the thirst for power," the former applying, presumably, to capitalism and the latter to communism. The encyclical names no names, whether of nations or blocs, but uses the deliberately vague language of Vatican documents to accuse by means of an "if the shoe fits" form of implication.

Nevertheless, specific criticisms seem to be aimed more at rich capitalist countries than at communist regimes. The encyclical singles out the international trade system, the world monetary and financial system, and (presumably inappropriate) "technology transfer," as causing hardship and slow economic growth in the Third World.

Bonn and Washington: Diplomatic Doubletalk

West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl must have left a lot of journalists very confused after his Feb. 19 visit to Washington. The Feb. 20 *San Jose Mercury News* reported "Kohl, U.S. differ on arms plan," but the *Los Angeles Times* said "Reagan, Kohl Agree on Tactical Missiles," while the *New York Times* said "U.S. and Bonn Agree on Arms Talks." This sounds like it's two to one for agreement, until you read all three articles very carefully and dis-

cover that all Mr. Kohl agreed to do was to talk about short-range (tactical) missiles; he and Reagan do not agree about them.

Reagan wants Kohl to agree to allow the Pentagon to "modernize" its tactical nukes in West Germany, which means to increase their range and/or yield. But Kohl has no intention of doing this because he doesn't want to revive the political turmoil caused by the Pershing 2 deployment in his country. Furthermore, the Soviets have been wooing Bonn with an offer to junk all short-range missiles plus a cut in their Warsaw Pact armies

(see last month's "Planet Watch"). Since all longer-range missiles are already banned by the INF treaty, this would make all of Europe east of France a nuclear free zone.

Kohl has rejected this offer, although it was generally well received in West Germany. The Reagan Administration vehemently opposes the Soviet deal. "We don't think it's proper to discuss short-range nuclear weapons together with conventional weapons," murmured a State Department official disapprovingly.

Since the whole subject will be rehashed at the NATO summit in Brussels

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Planet Watch

The 20,000-word letter is said to have been written by John Paul himself, rather than by a committee, and seems to reflect his personal concerns. A Vatican spokesperson described it as "pessimistic." Speaking of the Church's "ornaments and costly furnishings," he says that, "it could be obligatory to sell these goods" to feed the hungry.

Not surprisingly, the encyclical was not well received by American conservatives who think the Pope should never criticize "our" side. Accusing the Pope of "moral relativism," William Safire caustically suggested that the church sell some of its "immensely valuable real estate," in addition to its "costly furnishings," to benefit the poor.

(Sources: *San Jose Mercury-News* 2-24-88; *New York Times* 2-20-88, 2-21-88)

Pre-summit Meeting in Moscow

Secretary of State Schultz met with Mikhail Gorbachev and Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze on Feb. 22 to work out important details of a treaty reducing long-range nuclear weapons, which they hope to sign at the Moscow summit this May or June. Both Schultz and Shevardnadze separately reported agreement on various procedural matters and verification questions but not on major problems. Responding to a question on whether the

treaty would be ready for signing by summit-time, Shevardnadze said there was a "real chance," while a Schultz aide said "it's more probable than I thought it would be."

Star Wars continues to be the major obstacle. Moscow sticks to its position that the new treaty must include language reaffirming the 1972 ABM treaty banning all ballistic missile defense systems, including space-based systems like Star Wars, while Washington refuses and continues to insist that the ABM treaty permits Star Wars (see cover story).

Another unresolved question is the number of land-based (ICBM) vs. submarine-based (SLBM) missiles each side will be allowed. The U.S. wants to cut Soviet ICBMs (because they have more than we do) while the Soviets want to cut U.S. SLBMs (because...).

The two sides did, however, agree to

prepare agreements verifying the 1974 Threshold Test Ban Treaty for their next pre-summit meeting on March 22. Though never ratified by the Senate, this treaty limiting the yield (size) of underground nuclear tests has been observed by both sides. This means that the Reagan Administration has finally agreed to submit the treaty to the Senate.

(Source: *New York Times* 1-23-88)

"Innocent Passage"

Two U.S. Navy ships were sideswiped last month by ships of the Soviet Navy off the coast of Crimea as they asserted their "right of innocent passage" by violating the 12-mile limit claimed by the U.S.S.R. The incident came just 10 days before Secretary of State Schultz's visit to Moscow to prepare for the next summit (see accompanying "Planet Watch" article).

Most nations claim the 12-mile limit to their territorial waters recognized by the International Law of the Sea Treaty, but the U.S. does not recognize the treaty. The U.S. ships were warned of the violation and ordered to leave before the Soviet ships bumped them. The Soviets protested the "military provocation" but emphasized that it did not want the incident to damage improving relations. U.S. Navy ships often enter the Black Sea on intelligence missions, but rarely violate the 12-mile limit. This violation was specifically authorized by the president, according to the Pentagon.

Recalling the U-2 incident of 1960, Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesperson Gerasimov wryly observed that "If we look back at history, whenever there is a tendency toward improvement in our relations, we see some military provocation."

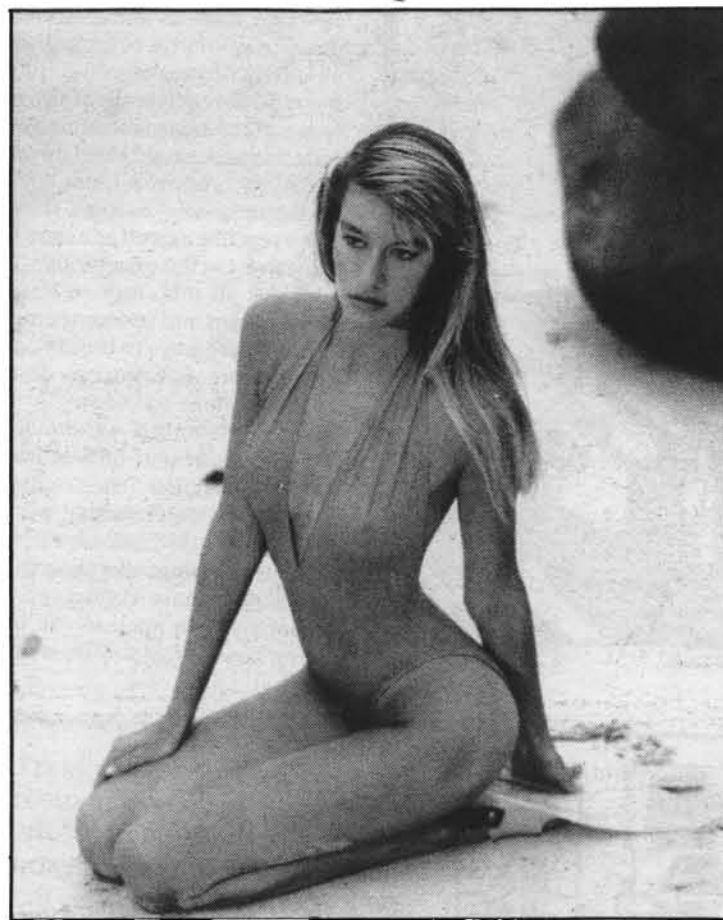
(Source: *New York Times*, 2-13-88, 2-14-88)



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A Closer Look

Hope and Healthy Fear

by Susan Strong

Not so long ago, when President Reagan first began talking about his dream of a Star Wars defense, some critics blamed the Freeze. They said we had scared the public so much that it would grab desperately at any escape, no matter how illusory. Yet today, the public is able to consider a variety of approaches to the nuclear problem. The advent of the Strategic Defense Initiative as a proposal has, in the end, opened up a whole new era of vigorous rethinking. Moreover, the INF treaty's success so far proves that the public's biggest fear is fear of the Soviets, not of their missiles. If the Soviets' behavior seems less threatening to us, tension abates remarkably. With any luck, this process could continue through the upcoming START (Strategic Arms Reduction Talks) negotiations this spring.



ELIZABETH WILLIAMS

However, missiles will still exist in great numbers, with more being developed, as long as there is no Comprehensive Test Ban. The continuing problem of fear exists now at a deeper and more general level. That is, what about accidental or unauthorized launch? The remaining appeal of Star Wars to the general public lies here. Nor is the fear of accidental launch unjustified or unrealistic, as Challenger and Chernobyl show. So we still have fear—reasonable, healthy fear. Without such fear, we would be in danger of sinking back into the general level of denial that preceded 1981.

In what is clearly an effort to address this fear and to get support for SDI, Senator Nunn has recently made proposals to set up limited ground-based defenses. Unfortunately, according to Richard Garwin, quoted in *Spacewatch Fortnightly*, "...any defensive deployment would... be a slippery slope, a commitment to something that could be easily distorted."

Whether or not Senator Nunn's alternative defensive solution is appropriate, the current climate of debate about the nuclear problem continues to be an excellent sign. It shows that reasonably scared as we may still be of error and accident, as a people we are continuing to think more flexibly and realistically. Fortunately, we in the peace movement do not yet have to pick a winner to push, even among the many proposals being tossed about for the defense of Europe. There is a time to be reactive as well as a time to take the initiative. Let the experts, ours and theirs, pull out all the stops in speculation a while longer and see what emerges. That is one of the ways to build hope. It is the secret of creative process: don't close off the dreaming too soon.

In the meantime, we should focus our own "will to resist" on Star Wars itself. In the latest *Nuclear Times*, pollster Stanley Greenberg suggests that we zero in on Star Wars in 1988, because it is so vulnerable. His findings also show that the public is now more concerned about the economy than nuclear war. In the short term, however, Star Wars is probably not

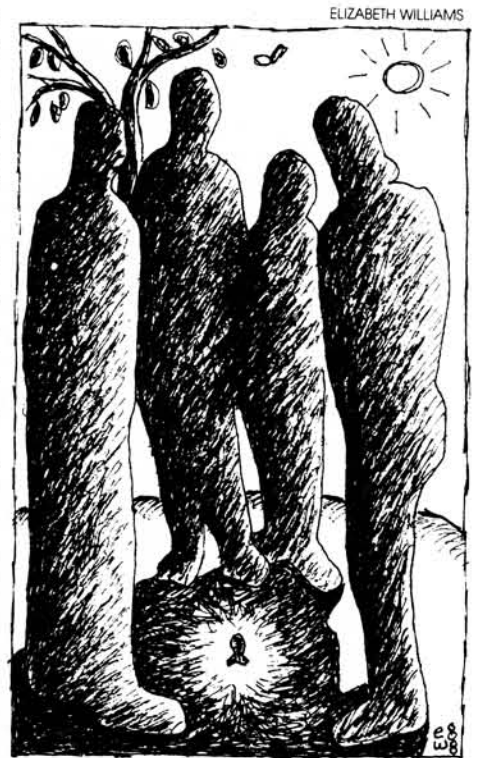
primarily an economic issue. Economic arguments against Star Wars should be used as a secondary line of reasoning. In defense, cost is never the first concern. If we are to make a convincing case against Star Wars, especially in a climate where other alternative forms of defense against accidental launch are being discussed, our best bet is to focus once again on fear.

Fear is visceral. It is *not* a bad thing if it leads to constructive action. And there is much to fear from Star Wars, tactical arguments completely aside. First, the *Christian Science Monitor* reported on January 4, 1988 that if we deploy a Star Wars

Fear is not a bad thing
if it leads to
constructive action.

defense, a commander might have less than 60 seconds in which to decide whether to fire. This is definitely inadequate: the KAL incident, the Soviet "launch on warning" response to the Pershing's seven-minute flight time, and new information about how little *anybody* understood what was happening during the Cuban Missile Crisis shows us how dangerous such lead times are. Moreover, to have such a thoroughly computerized system so far from ground control seems like a stupid way to fight the problem of technical accident, now that we all know such things do occur. In addition, even if Star Wars does not have any literal capability to hit ground targets from space, it does have the potential of accidentally or deliberately destroying significant parts of our satellite communication and reconnaissance system in space, our "eyes and ears."

These are now the things I fear *most* about Star Wars myself. And I also feel enraged at the stupid arrogance of engineers who reassure us that the risks are this or that percent and thus negligible.



ELIZABETH WILLIAMS

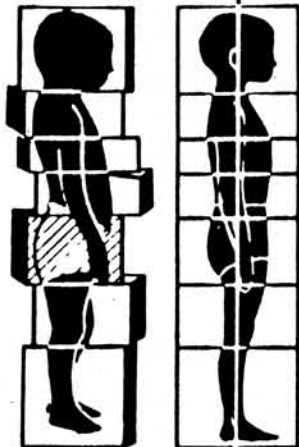
(Right now some of these same people are once *again* planning to put plutonium in orbit for the Jupiter probe in 1989 and 1990, as reported in the January 13th, 1988 issue of *The Nation*.)

The present is not a time to stress tactical arguments. If the Soviets appear to be acting in a non-threatening way, then fear of a defense system whose risks outweigh its benefits will overcome *all* other arguments.

Hope and healthy fear—we need them both to prevent nuclear disaster.

Susan Strong chairs Northern California SANE/FREEZE.

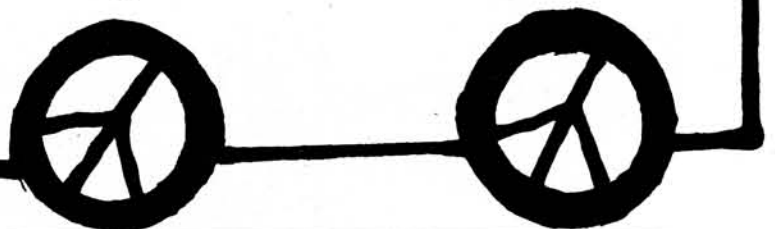
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Planet Poetry

from **WHERE DANGER IS**

by *Ronald A. Lampi*

As the Sun slowly descended the Pacific stairway's final steps, another world's presence was revealed, a shining serenity that spoke of the divine, untouched by the madness now sweeping the self-centered world of humanity, its willful plan of producing hell counterposing all wisdom and beauty.

It was as if the great mother of Memory, the worldwide Ocean, awaiting their troubled eyes, had always been awaiting the myopic eyes of humankind to turn outward again, toward the horizon where the two worlds could meet, bringing the heart nearer the divine encounter to illuminate a vastness of the soul that must be embraced if there was to be understanding, peace.

Memory's call echoed with perpetual rhythm, her grandeur was always present, her unrestrainable fury always latent, her ever-changing beauty a rebuke to the self-serving schemes of humanity, minds crazed with death power packed into warheads.

They had now reached the cliff, and stood upon its rock; the iceplant carpet had been worn bare; but iceplant clung to the rim and hung where the wary never ventured; to the beach, the drop was sheer. They stood upon the very edge of the continent, edge of a world of madness, edge of divine hope.

It was a quiet moment, as the Sun succumbed to the embrace of the Ocean, as the broad, yellow dome of sky followed, slowly fading, fading.

Alison was thinking possible plans; Raymond, his life's failure and helplessness.

A heavy pulsing whirr then shook the air: They turned: Advancing upon them quickly, flying in loose formation, three dark, aggressive craft—military helicopters from distant Fort Ord.

"And there is nowhere to hide," Raymond mused, as they both watched the deafening show, its imposing reminder of power, come, and then, go: The big-bellied choppers veered off to their left.

"We're trapped here, you know that. All of the Valley would pour in.

And if the missiles come, would Santa Cruz survive? What good?

Silicon Valley would be blasted to nothing. I wonder if Fort Ord is targeted..."



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

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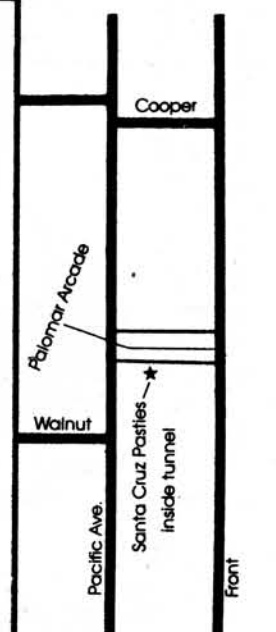
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Feature

Christic Institute Event Sunday, March 20

Monterey Bay participants in the upcoming mass direct action at the Nevada Test Site will not be returning to a sleepy Sunday night in Santa Cruz. Another mass action will be taking place that same night of Sunday, March 20. The doors of the Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium will be wide open to welcome the protesters, their supporters, and all the others to an eye-opening presentation by Sara Nelson, executive director of the Christic Institute.

Founded in 1980 as an interfaith, public interest law firm and policy center, the Washington, D.C.-based Christic Institute has built an impressive record of fighting and winning important social justice cases. These include the Karen Silkwood case, the Greensboro, N.C. Klan/Nazi case, and the Sanctuary case in Brownsville, Texas.

In May of 1986, the Christic Institute undertook its most difficult case yet. It filed a federal racketeering charge under the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) act against 29 individuals involved in the May 30, 1984 bombing of the La Penca, Nicaragua international press conference. Tony Avirgan, an A.B.C. television cameraperson severely injured in the bombing, and his wife, journalist Martha Honey, are the plaintiffs in the case. Among those named as defendants are former chief of CIA operations Theodore Shackley and his deputy Thomas Clines, former Major General Richard Secord, arms dealer and businessman Albert Hakim, and Oliver North's liaison with the Nicaraguan Contras, Robert Owens. The charges against these men were lodged *before* they became well-known during Contragate.

The story does not end here, however. According to Christic Institute general counsel Danial Sheehan's initial affidavit filed in Miami Federal Court, Shackley and company are responsible not only for the La Penca bombing and Contragate, but also for over 25 years of arms dealing, narcotics trafficking, and assassination all over the world. The RICO act, which was originally designed for use against the Mafia, is particularly well suited to prosecuting these kinds of individuals, for it allows the indictment and conviction of those who engage in a systematic pattern of gun running, drug running, and murder. In Miami, the proceedings under Federal Court Judge King are going well — all the defense motions to dismiss the racketeering charges have been thrown out and the Christic Institute has been granted federal subpoena power.

Contribute to the Christic Institute's continuing effort to call those holding public and private power to account. Executive director Sara Nelson's presentation promises to be most provocative.



Sara Nelson

This event at the Santa Cruz Civic, which will include special musical guests and outreach, begins at 7 pm. Admission is \$5-\$15. For tickets and more information, write "Christic Institute, Box 1622, Santa Cruz, CA 95061" or call 688-0524. All proceeds go to the non-profit Christic Institute. (Note: if Sara Nelson is unable to attend, another prominent speaker from the Christic Institute will participate.)

Coming Soon California Peace March '88

Help get the word out to "Vote Peace in '88..."

Regional groups have been formed for coordination of routes and support for the marchers. The starting date will be Saturday, June 11th, 1988 with the march ending in San Francisco on Labor Day, September 5th.

Any persons or groups interested in the ongoing planning of this grassroots event, please send self-addressed, stamped envelope to the address below for an information packet.

Come walk in peace, talk in peace, live in peace....

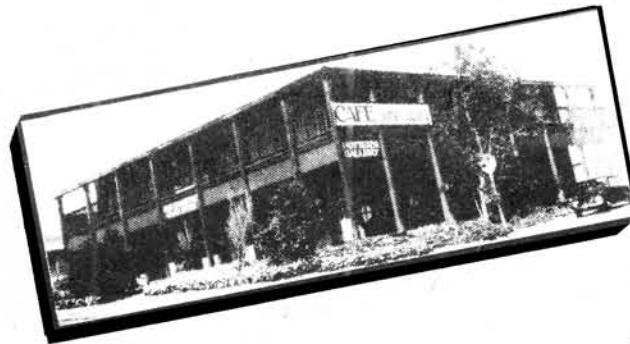
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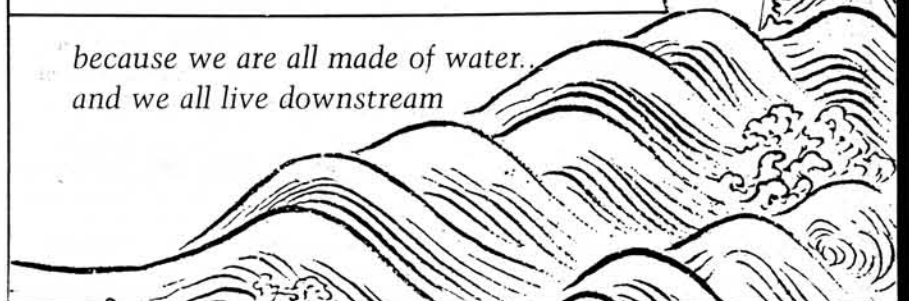
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Community Organizations Index

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
Bob Taren

Amnesty International 688-9170
750 Encino Dr., Aptos 95003
Cheryl Bentley

Aptos Neighbors 688-3460
Box 1732, Aptos 95001
Peter Smithey

Baha'i Faith 688-0221
176 Alta Dr., La Selva Beach 95076
Ann Miller

**Beach Flats Housing Improvement Association/
Vecinos Unidos** 458-3174
206 Raymond St., Santa Cruz 95060
Estaban Reyes

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 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 426-3381
Box 8219, Santa Cruz 95061

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

Christic Institute Public Action Committee 688-0524
Box 1622, Santa Cruz 95061

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

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 423-6445
Box 7763, Santa Cruz 95061
Don Lane

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

Democratic Socialists of America 479-0641
2435 Felt St. #95, Santa Cruz 95062
Gordon Haskell

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

Earth First! 335-7768
Box 344, Santa Cruz 95061
Karen DeBraal

Ecology Action of Santa Cruz 476-8088
Box 1188, Santa Cruz 95061

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

Environmental Council 429-9197
Box 1769, Santa Cruz 95061
Becky Luening

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

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

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

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

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 475-6104
3407 Gross Rd., Santa Cruz 95062
Vickie Powell-Murray

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

Gray Panthers 475-2435
Box 1015, Santa Cruz 95061
Zena Druckman



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

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

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

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

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

Japanese American Citizen League 724-4028
150 Blackburn St., Watsonville 95076

Kolaynu/Santa Cruz New Jewish Agenda 425-4782
219 Peyton St., Santa Cruz 95060
Sally Schwartz

Lavender Reader
Box 7293, Santa Cruz 95061

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

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

Monterey Bay Women's Alliance 475-0251
Box 1155, Capitola 95010
Mary Bryant

The Monthly Planet 429-8755
Box 8463, Santa Cruz 95061
John Govsky

NAACP 426-1957
Box 1433, Santa Cruz 95061

Native American Support Group 479-0327
Box 1996, Aptos 95001
Abalone Walsh

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

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** 722-9638
Box 1160, Watsonville 95076
Betty Emlien

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 426-7251
Box 2325, Aptos 95001
Lucy Kemnitzner

Peacemakers 429-9737
515 Broadway, Santa Cruz 95060
Barry Scott

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 475-3426
320-F Cedar St., Santa Cruz 95060

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

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

San Lorenzo Valley Women's Club 338-6578
Box 574, Ben Lomond 95005
Nancy Macy

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
105 Cooper St., Suite 219, Santa Cruz 95060

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 475-0185
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 425-1769
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
Box 604, Santa Cruz 95061

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

**Union of North American Women for Peace
and Justice in Central America** 458-9743
Box 467, Santa Cruz 95061
Martha Dvenas

United Farmworkers of America 724-1308
406 Main St., Watsonville 95076

**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 425-3759
515 Broadway, Santa Cruz 95060
Deborah Taylor

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

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.

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

We must receive your listing no later than **5 p.m. Tuesday, March 22** for inclusion in the April issue (publication date: Thursday, March 31).

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17- SUNDAY, APRIL 3

Lenten Desert Experience VII. Gathering of Christians, Jews and people of faith to the Nevada Test Site for prayer, vigil and civil disobedience in protest of nuclear weapons testing. Info: (702) 646-4814.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2

Alex de Grassi and Ancient Future perform a special benefit concert for the Nuclear Weapons Freeze. Proceeds will subsidize travel costs for people going to the "Reclaim the Test Site" action at the Nevada Test Site. 9:30 pm, Catalyst, 1011 Pacific Ave. \$10 advance; \$11.50 at the door. Info: 458-9975.

Women and Work: Student presentations. An opportunity to explore various aspects of women and work as studied in Professor Pamela Ruby's Women and Work Course. Bring lunch. Women's Center/Cardiff House, UCSC. Presented by the UCSC Women's Center. Info: 429-2072.

Program on "WILPF, Women's Lives and the Nuclear-Free Pacific Movement" presented by Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. Speaker, Madeline Duckles, of Berkeley WILPF, recently travelled to 10 Pacific nations where she contacted WILPF branches and nuclear-free activist women. 7 pm, Trinity Presbyterian Church Social Hall, Poplar at Melrose. Info: 425-7618.

Test Ban Vigil at the Town Clock in Santa Cruz. Every Wednesday through March 30 there will be a vigil to call for the United States to negotiate with the Soviet Union a Comprehensive Test Ban. This vigil will coincide with about 40 other vigils nationwide including the one at the Nevada Test Site and the De-

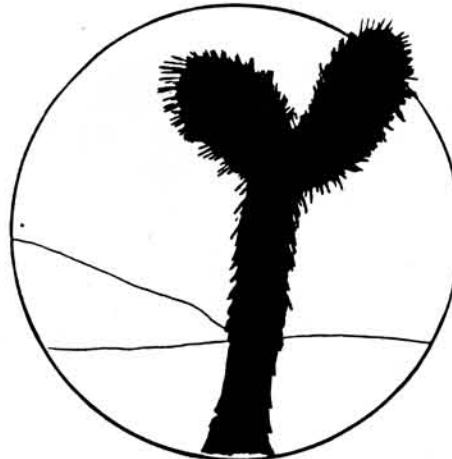
partment of Energy in Washington, D.C., 4-5 pm. Sponsored by the Nevada Desert Experience and the Nuclear Weapons Freeze of Santa Cruz County. Info: 458-9975.

FRIDAY, MARCH 4

Institute for Peace Development Speakers Program: Instituting Peace—The Local Dimension. Prelude speaker: Walter Kassoway, member of the steering committee of Beyond War, Marin. Guest speaker: Sharon Tennison, director, Center for USA-USSR Initiatives, San Francisco. Topic: Changes in the USSR Under Gorbachev. Co-Sponsors: Educators for Social Responsibility-Marin, United Nations Association-Marin, Beyond War-Marin. \$8, \$4 seniors and students. For information on location and time, call (415) 459-5547.

SUNDAY, MARCH 6

UCSC Women's Center reception for the artists of the "Mothers and Daughters Show" on exhibit from February 29 through March 10 at the New Gallery for Women Artists. 4-6 pm, Women's Center/Cardiff House, UCSC.



Gallery hours: 9 am-12 pm, 1-4 pm, weekdays. Info: 429-2072.

"Reclaim the Test Site" Potluck. 1-4 pm, 303 Walnut Ave., Santa Cruz. Sponsored by Test

Ban Action Project. Info: 458-9975.

MONDAY, MARCH 7

"Reclaim the Test Site" Planning Meeting. 7:30 pm, 515 Broadway. Sponsored by Test Ban Action Project. Info: 458-9975.

Corporate Mystery Tour. A de-mystification and protest of the corporations that profit from their involvement in nuclear testing and the arms race. Nonviolent, participatory event tour through the San Francisco financial district, stopping at key corporations to engage in creative protest, theater, ritual, music, etc. 11 am, Embarcadero Fountain, (foot of Market Street), San Francisco. Info: David (415) 641-4095 or Hilary (415) 282-9558.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9

Shop at Westside Community Market to send Santa Cruz activists to "Reclaim the Test Site." Five percent of what you spend at the market (328-A Ingalls Street, Santa Cruz) on this date, will directly support the March 12



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SUNDAY MARCH 13 6pm - 12:30am

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1230 MISSION STREET 429 8505

Peace & Justice Calendar

"Reclaim the Test Site" action, an American Peace Test nonviolent demonstration to demand a Comprehensive Test Ban. Info on transportation for Test Site action: 458-9975.

Test Ban Vigil at the Town Clock. See Wednesday, March 2.

DYNO Dance-a-thon meeting for anyone interested in helping with the recruitment of dancers for Dance Your Nukes Off II. Get involved in the funnest event of the year, and help raise \$30,000 for the Santa Cruz County Nuclear Weapons Freeze. Meeting at 2-4 pm, 320-G Cedar St. Info: 458-9975.

"Activist update"—a new call-in show on **KKUP 91.5 FM** from 10 am to noon every 2nd Wednesday of the month. The first program will be today, with Dr. Sigrid McLaughlin, UCSC, who will discuss the dramatic changes in the Soviet Union and how they may change our policies. There will be a 15-minute news program giving "alternative" news from action publications, information not covered by the mainstream media. Call-in numbers are: 253-0303 and 253-6000. Info: Dan Miller 688-3792.



KAREN STACKPOLE

THURSDAY, MARCH 10
Send-off event for "Reclaim the Test Site" nonviolent direct action to stop nuclear testing at the Nevada Test Site. 6 pm. A caravan of buses and cars will depart from Santa Cruz to transport hundreds of local activists to what is expected to be the largest action at the test site to date. County Government Cen-

ter, 701 Ocean St. Info: 458-9975.

Economic Perestroika in the Soviet Union: Implications for U.S./U.S.S.R. Relations. Academician Abel Aganbegyan, Secretary, Department of Economics, USSR Academy of Sciences and Chief Architect of Economic Reform in the U.S.S.R. Sponsored by the Esalen Institute Soviet-American Exchange Program, Beyond War, Center for Economic Conversion, Physicians for Social Responsibility, and The New Forum. Free; donations to cover expenses appreciated. 8 pm, Kresge Auditorium, Stanford. Info: (415) 723-9060.

FRIDAY, MARCH 11- SUNDAY, MARCH 20
"Reclaim the Test Site"—**American Peace Test nonviolent occupation and blockade at the Nevada Test Site.** The action is planned to last over a week. On Friday, March 11, people will gather at the Peace Camp across from the Test Site for planning, nonviolence preparations, and getting to know each other. Then, on Saturday, March 12, there will be a large legal rally next to the entrance to the site, followed by an opportunity for people to

do civil disobedience, such as blockading the road or walking onto the site. On Sunday, people who are staying for the week will decide how to continue the action until March 20. Everyone, whether they commit civil disobedience or not, is encouraged to participate in a nonviolence preparation. Info: 458-9975. (See box for transportation information.)

SATURDAY, MARCH 12
"The Metaphysics of Liberation: An Evening with Sonia Johnson," peace activist, lecturer, and author of *Going Out of Our Minds: the Metaphysics of Liberation*. Presented by the UCSC Women's Center and co-sponsored by Kresge College, Feminist Studies O.R.A. and Cabrillo College Women's Center. 8 pm, Kresge Town Hall, UCSC. Info: 429-2072.

SUNDAY, MARCH 13
"March and Reclaim the Land." So you wanted to go on the Great Peace March and just didn't have the time? Here we go again! Indian Wells, Nevada—approximately 5 miles from Nevada Test Site. Meet at Indian Wells early in the morning (look for signs). Wear good walking shoes, sunscreen and a good hat. Bring water and a snack and state flags, banners, etc. that are colorful. This is a kickoff for State Peace Marches starting June 11, 1988. Look for the booth at the test site. Info: Lorrien Finley (213) 851-4931.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16
Test Ban Vigil at the Town Clock. See Wednesday, March 2.

FRIDAY, MARCH 18
Video presentations: Central America, Area of Conflict. "House Full of Smoke," a three-part video series. Part I: "El Salvador and the Death Squads." (See March 23 and 26). Sponsors: Salvadoran Medical Relief Foundation, National Lawyers Guild, Latin American Solidarity Committee, Campus Sanctuary (UCSC), Witness for Peace, Pledge of Resistance. \$2-\$5 donation requested. 515 Broadway, 7 pm. Info: 426-4467.



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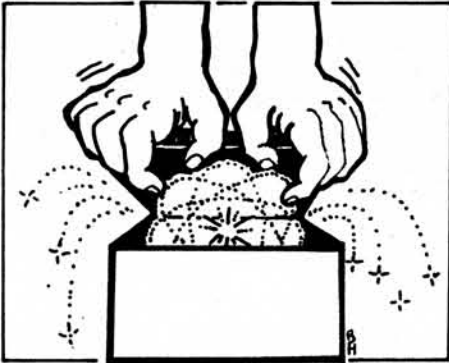


ELLEN IRVING

Peace & Justice Calendar

SATURDAY, MARCH 19

A peace concert featuring Grupo Guazapa, from El Salvador; Camanchaka, Andean music from Chile; Jose Luis Orozco, Latin American musician; and Aileen Vance, Santa Cruz musician. Presented by The Santana Chirino Amaya Refugee Committee in commemoration of the 8th Anniversary of the death of Monsignor Oscar Arnulfo Romero, and in celebration of "Central America Week." All proceeds will benefit UNADES (National Union of Earthquake Victims of El Salvador). 7 pm, Holy Cross Church Hall, 126 High Street. Tickets \$6 advance, \$7 at door. Info: 426-4467.



Bruce Harman

SUNDAY, MARCH 20

Speaker Sara Nelson, executive director of the Christic Institute. Sara Nelson will be welcomed by Santa Cruz Mayor John Laird, who will present Ms. Nelson with a key to the city. Councilmember Jane Weed, honorary chair for this event, will introduce Ms. Nelson to the audience. Ms. Nelson will give a one-hour speech, to be followed by an extended question and answer period. Music, public information, and outreach will round out the event. Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium, 307 Church Street, 7-9 pm. Info: Russell Weed 426-0730 or 688-0524 (message). Note: if Sara Nelson is unable to attend, another prominent Christic Institute speaker will participate. See box.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

Video Presentations: Central America, Area of Conflict. Part 2: "Guatemala: The Indigenous Population." See March 18.

Test Ban Vigil at the Town Clock. See Wednesday, March 2.

THURSDAY, MARCH 24

Ecumenical Service in Commemoration of the Death of Monsignor Oscar Arnulfo Romero. Presented by The Santana Chirino Amaya Refugee Committee in commemoration of the 8th Anniversary of the Death of Monsignor Oscar Arnulfo Romero, and in celebration of "Central America Week." 7 pm, Holy Cross Church Hall, 126 High St. Info: 426-4467.

"Making Connections," an opportunity for local women's organizations and interested individuals to participate in a discussion of topics and issues affecting women in preparation of next year's programming and "Election Year 1988." Presented by UCSC Women's Center. 7 pm, Women's Center/Cardiff House, UCSC. Info: 429-2072.

FRIDAY, MARCH 25

Institute for Peace Development Speakers program. Prelude speaker: Brady Bevis, Marin Peace Conversion commissioner. Guest speaker: Michael Shuman, president of the Center for Innovative Diplomacy, San Francisco. Topic: Municipal Foreign Policies: an Update. Co-sponsors: Educators for Social Responsibility-Marin, United Nations Association-Marin, Local Elected Officials. \$8, \$4 seniors and students. For information on location and time, call (415) 459-5547.

SATURDAY, MARCH 26

Video Presentations: Central America, Area of Conflict. Part 3: "Nicaragua: A People in Search of Peace." See March 18.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30

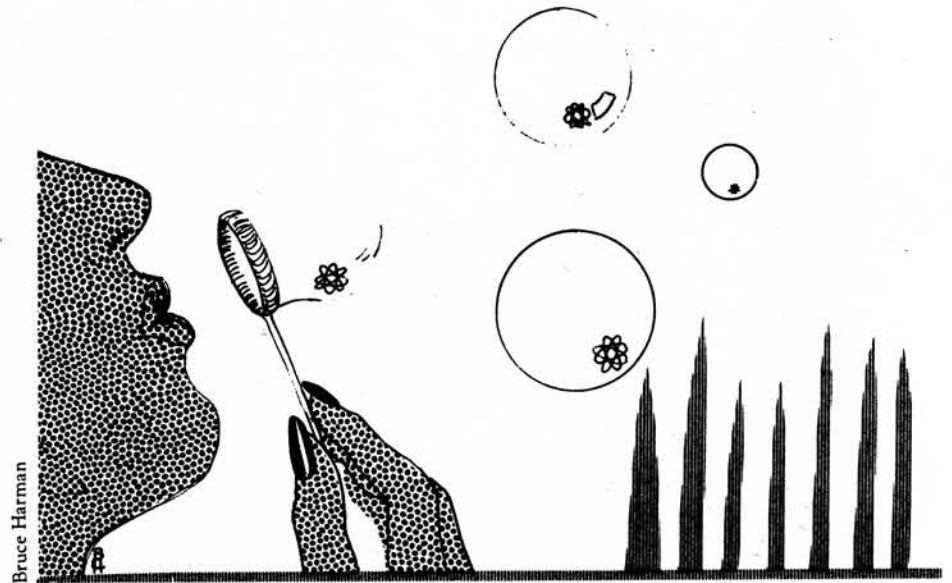
Test Ban Vigil at the Town Clock. See Wednesday, March 2.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 15-
MONDAY, APRIL 18**

Regional Strategy Conference and Nonviolent Resistance Action: Stop First-Strike Nuclear War Preparations. At the University of California, Santa Cruz. Sponsored by: California Alliance to Stop First Strike, Stop First Strike/Santa Cruz, San Jose Peace Center, First Strike Prevention Project, UCSC Lockheed Action Collective. Info: , 297-2299.

SATURDAY, APRIL 30

2nd annual Dance Your Nukes Off! 12-hour dance marathon to benefit the Nuclear Weapons Freeze of Santa Cruz County. Volunteer organizers needed now! Info: 458-9975.



Bruce Harman

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