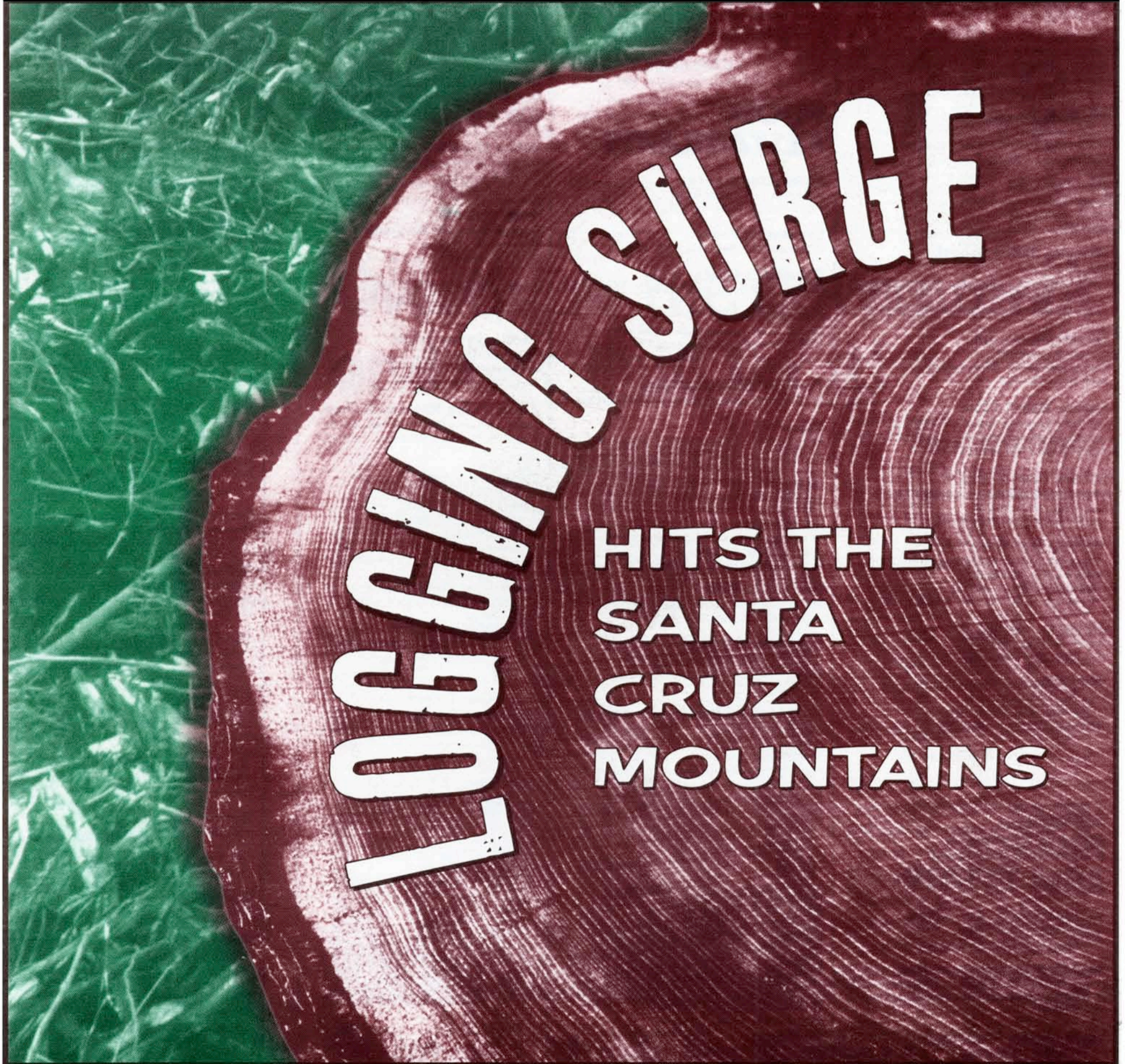


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THE MONTHLY PLANET

OCTOBER 1993 • VOLUME NINE • NUMBER FIVE



THE MONTHLY PLANET

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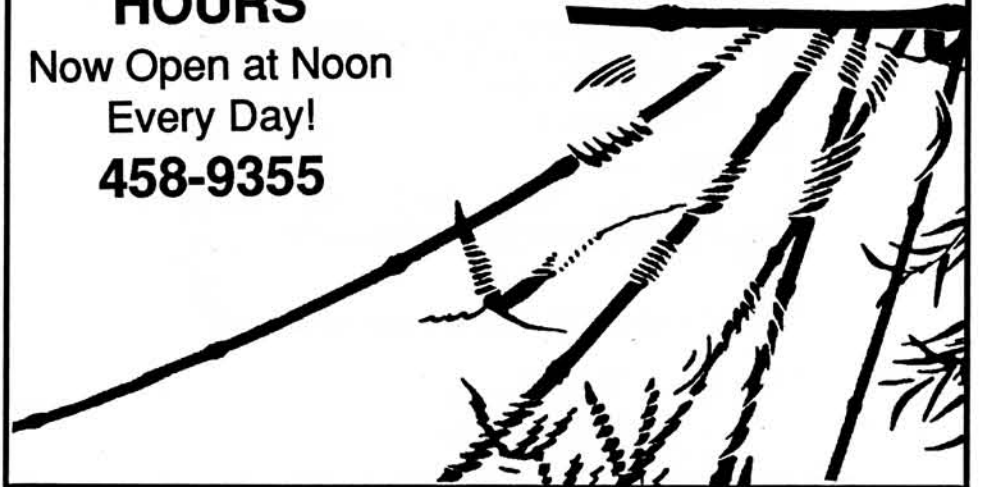
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 Display ad deadline: Friday, Dec. 3rd, 5 p.m.
 Calendar item deadline: Friday, Dec. 3rd, 5 p.m. (no phone calls, please)

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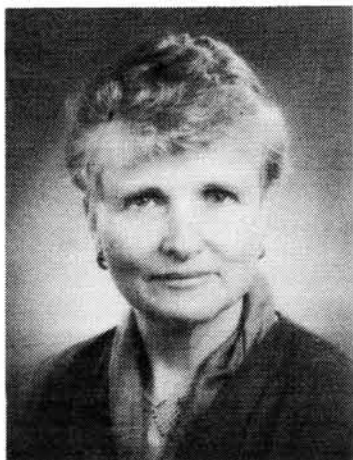
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Fall is a time of new beginnings. Families return home from vacations. Children return to school. The busy schedule of classes, committees and political action resumes with new energy restored by a summer of a more relaxed routine. Fall can also be a time of re-evaluation and introversion. As the leaves begin to drop from the trees, we may begin to look again at what is really important to each of us. Who are we? In what ways do we wish to grow? Where do we wish to challenge ourselves? What old business needs to be addressed anew and new and different solutions found? What relationships are in need of repair, attention or renovation? Before our schedules become too full, Fall is a good time to consider what is really important to each

of us. Fall can be a time to begin to find alternatives which can change our lives and those of individuals we love. I enjoy helping individuals consider changes that are possible in their lives.

Joan Forest is a licensed marriage, family and child therapist who has studied at the Jung Institute in Switzerland and who works at Redwood Therapy Center, 6005 Highway 9, Felton, a peaceful 15-minute drive from Scotts Valley, Santa Cruz, and accessible to all locations in the San Lorenzo Valley. She offers a sliding fee scale and takes insurance. Joan will be starting a Dream Group, Monday evening, Oct. 25. Call Joan at 335-4210 for individual appointments or for information about her work.

NO TO NAFTA

NAFTA is a free ticket for giant California food-producing corporations to move to Mexico. Some have already moved their plants, leaving thousands of their California workers unemployed. In Mexico they buy up the land from poor Mexican farmers for a song. They employ Mexican workers for as little as four dollars a day. They use pesticides that are outlawed in the United States on their crops and use polluted water to irrigate. They overuse the underground water supply and thus deplete it.

NAFTA is a human and ecological disaster and must be stopped by our legislators.

Zena Druckman
Santa Cruz

WHILE CLINTON DROPS BOMBS, THE US DECAYS

As we write this, the radio booms with President Clinton explaining why he is 'tomahawking' Iraq, in revenge for some supposed attempted murder of former President Bush...but in reality, for the enjoyment of blowing up babies from a few miles away?

President Clinton seems certain that blowing up billions of dollars of military junk upon the helpless non-combatants of Iraq is prudent fiscal policy. I hate to suggest that this man I voted for has lost it.

Now we are being asked to go along with the destruction of the community colleges in California (127,000 students lost in the last year from stiff fee hikes); the near collapse of the State University system; the immediate firing (or retirement) of 10,000 teachers at the University of California, and loss of classes accordingly, meaning that there will be very few of our non-rich youth graduating, a huge percentage of our young and finest minds being turned to flipping burgers for a dead-end career, while we all watch the impending collapse of our fire departments, police,

sheriffs, and criminal justice system — does any elected official dare say that bombing Iraq to bits is destroying America?

Does any elected official say that the Pentagon rules the White House and Congress, and must be brought back to sanity?

Who in Congress dares speak against more nuclear testing, and stop it?

What will we do if and when the Chernobyl disaster hits America at the two nuclear facilities built just like it — Hanford, WA and Savannah, GA? As the North wind blows past my home as we write this, will it be bringing radioactive fallout from Hanford to Santa Cruz, or bringing fresh air? Who cares to close these deadly nuclear facilities?

Who knows, when purchasing foods from the Chernobyl-irradiated Scandinavian nations, that we are irradiating ourselves?

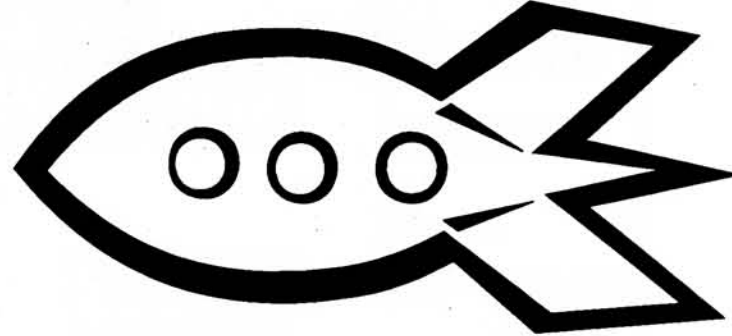
When the 8.0 earthquake scheduled for the San Francisco Bay Area hits the Concord Naval Munitions Depot with its thousands of nukes mixed up with hundreds of thousands of non-nuke explosives, what will happen if they go off like the Depot blew up during WW II? Supposing the nukes (or their radiation) are dumped into the adjacent San

Francisco Bay, contaminating it and the Pacific Ocean, destroying our fish crops for eternity; or expelled into the Jet Stream, irradiating America's croplands and cities? Who cares to get Congress to stop this madness?

It seems clear that we are under the thoughtless control of the rich, who lack any concept of common decency or love of mankind, and can only conceive ways to plunder the Federal and State Treasuries, bankrupt our nation, destroy our education system, and plunge us into the Dark Ages again.

How many of us know how to find non-irradiated water and food when these patriarchal oligarchs allow nukes to blow by carelessness or while in a drunken rage?

In "The Cost Of Conscience" article by Pete Shanks, (June 1993 *Monthly Planet*), he says, "The state religion of America is, of course, consumerism." I'd rephrase that: the Religion of America is Death. Worshipping consumer products is not what is going on, but the worship of the president, Congress, Pentagon, state governor, and legislators is — since WW II they have ruled without question while destroying innocent peoples around the world and setting nuclear weapons/power plant time bombs to



irradiate America and the world for hundreds of thousands of years to come, without question or doubt by taxpayers asleep in the pews.

Ernest and Lilly Reguas
Santa Cruz

FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT IS OUT OF CONTROL

The tactics used by Federal Marshals and other law enforcement agencies for both Ruby Ridge, Idaho and Waco, Texas were so similar to the tactics used by the German Gestapo under Hitler that it is almost impossible to differentiate between the two.

The killing of Mr. Weaver's 14-year-old son Sammy who was shot in the back by machine gun fire while fleeing to the Weaver cabin.

The killing of Mr. Weaver's wife Vicki shot in the head while holding her baby.

There is only one way to describe this and that is pre-meditated cold-blooded murder.

And now the Attorney General Janet Reno says she's going to order an investigation into this affair.

Isn't Janet Reno, the attorney general, the one who ordered the final solution in which over 60 people perished in a fiery inferno? Isn't this kind of like asking the Gestapo to investigate itself? The New World Order is still alive and breathing fire!

Thorald Castor
Santa Cruz

WRITE TO THE PLANET!

Send your typed, double-spaced (or legibly written) letters to *The Monthly Planet*, Box 8463, Santa Cruz, CA 95061 or fax them to (408) 429-8889. We reserve the right to edit letters for brevity and clarity.

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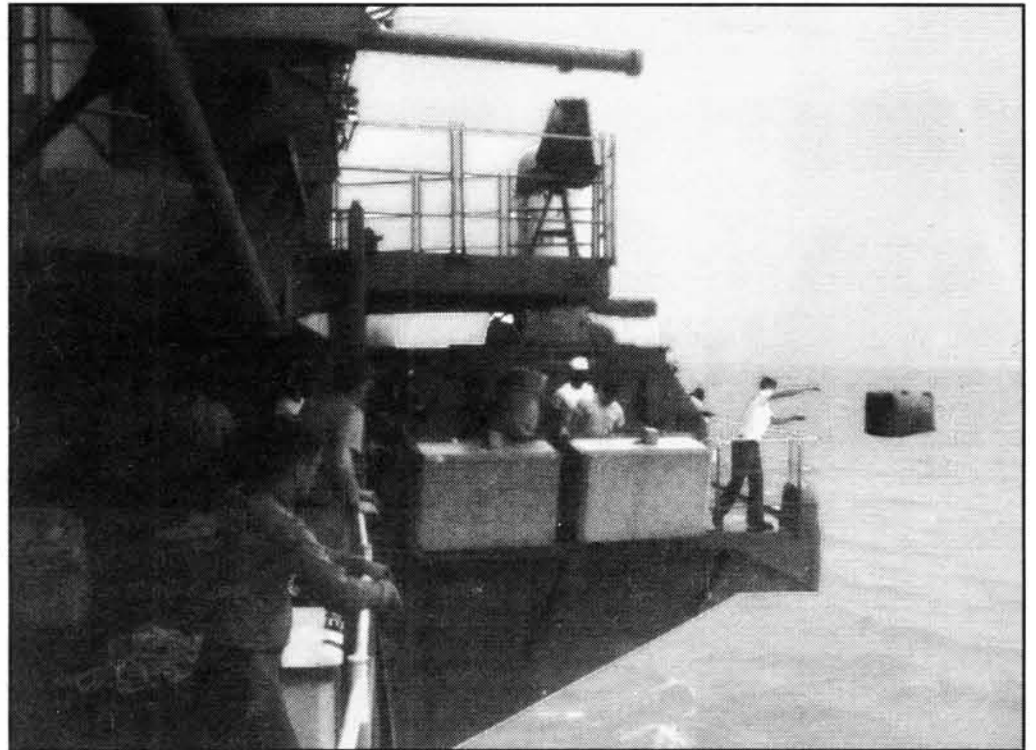
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Environmental Objector Released from the Brig

by Erik Larsen



JASON GIRARD

Garbage is dumped overboard daily by Navy ships. This photo was taken by Navy veteran Jason Girard while on the USS *Abraham Lincoln*.

Aaron Ahearn, the Navy sailor convicted of unauthorized absence and missing a troop movement for refusing to throw garbage into the ocean, is out of prison. On September 13 Ahearn was released early for good behavior after serving 27 days in the Navy prison facility at Treasure Island Naval Station, located in the middle of the San Francisco Bay. He now waits for a discharge from the Navy and is assigned to a temporary holding unit until a military review board determines whether to grant Ahearn a general or an other-then-honorable discharge.

The unusually light treatment for the Santa Cruz resident, who last April blew the whistle on the Navy's practice of dumping 65,000 tons of trash into the ocean each year, was the result of a carefully planned strategy by San Francisco attorney Robert Rivkin. Ahearn could have received a maximum of six months in prison and a bad conduct discharge had he launched a courtroom defense blasting the Navy for destroying the ocean environment.

Instead, he pled guilty to charges of AWOL and purposefully left out from court martial proceedings any reference to the environment. The court martial, which focused on Aaron's character, included video testimony of Ona Tigue, 23, whose baby Ahearn saved by administering CPR to the child on a Santa Cruz beach while he was AWOL.

"I'm pleased with the outcome of the trial. I have to give a lot of credit to my lawyer for helping me out. I would have liked to have had a chance to address the issues about the environment, but that's all right," says Ahearn. "I plan to do plenty of speaking to high schools and surf clubs when I get out of the Navy."

In an interview with *The Monthly Planet*, Ahearn describes prison as uneventful. An average day for Ahearn began at 5 am and ended at 9:30 pm. During the day prisoners are assigned work duties, such as laundry detail or cleaning the brig, for eight to ten hours a day. Meals are served in a cafeteria three times a day and after dinner prisoners are allowed three and a half hours of free time in which they can read, write letters, watch TV, lift weights, play ping pong or hang out on their beds.

The freshly painted cinder block facility surrounded by barbed wire rarely holds more than 30 prisoners, who live in a dormitory setting. Although there is no threat of violence or gang activity the eerie feeling of always being watched plays on a person's mind, says Ahearn. Prisoners are told they have no control over their movements from the minute they are checked into the facility. Disobeying orders can result in privileges taken away, extra work duty

or solitary confinement.

Kathleen Van Velsor, the executive director of Coastal Advocates, a Monterey-based environmental group and one of Ahearn's many supporters, objects to Ahearn's punishment. "The conservation community owes a debt to Aaron Ahearn for shedding a new light on the US Navy's practice of polluting the oceans. No one should be put in prison for refusing to trash the ocean," says Van Velsor.

Van Velsor says it's interesting that Ahearn was jailed on Treasure Island, where Navy barges can be seen chugging out under the Golden Gate to dump their loads of toxic dredge material near the Farallon Islands. Coastal Advocates, which has monitored the dumping since April, reports an average daily volume of 10,000 cubic yards of toxic mud, equivalent to 1,000 dump truck loads, is currently dredged from the Alameda Naval Air Station and Supply Center. Aerial reconnaissance of the dumping shows that most of the dredge materials remain suspended in the water column, creating a plume of toxic muds estimated at one and one half miles long.

"When I get out of the Navy people will get a chance to hear my story and make up their own minds."

Francisco Bay and Estuary researchers.

"The same dredge materials are also suspected of containing radioisotopes in above-normal levels associated with operations of nuclear submarines and the decontamination of naval vessels used in the 1950s atomic bomb testing in the Pacific," says Van Velsor, who has put the Navy on notice by filing a lawsuit to stop the dredging.

Ahearn, who celebrated his twenty-first birthday in the brig, says he had heard about ocean dumping before he joined the Navy, but he didn't take it seriously until he was ordered to do it himself. In 1991, after graduating from high school, Ahearn joined the Navy to be a welder. But when he was assigned to the Alameda-based USS *Abraham Lincoln*, the world's largest nuclear powered aircraft carrier, he was given janitorial duties: cleaning staterooms, unclogging toi-

lets, diverting raw sewage into the ocean and throwing garbage out at sea.

For Ahearn, a surfer who grew up in the environmentally conscious seaside community of Santa Cruz, following orders to throw as much as 200 bags of garbage a day into the ocean became too much to bear. He tried going through his chain of command, consulting a Navy chaplain for help, attempting to photograph the dumping of trash, and requesting a transfer to a non-polluting job. But each time a barrier of authority blocked him and he was told to get back to work. When his ship pulled into port in February he left the Navy for a two and a half month unauthorized absence to examine his options.

Just before returning to his ship in April, Ahearn went public and blew the whistle on the Navy's dumping practices. His story received international media attention, including the CBS *Evening News* in which Dan Rather made the now famous quote "This case will forever change naval history."

In response, Navy public affairs officers said the Navy is obeying all naval regulations and branded Ahearn a liar, saying he deserted his ship only to see his girlfriend. But news organizations, skeptical of the Navy's reasoning, have run lengthy feature articles about the Navy's dumping habits. Navy public affairs officials have since stopped answering questions about ocean dumping and now simply continue to state that Ahearn's unauthorized absence has nothing to do with environmental objections.

Asked about the Navy's counterattack, Ahearn replied: "The only thing I have to say about that is that I'm a surfer who loves the ocean and will continue to campaign for the environment. When I get out of the Navy people will get a chance to hear my story and make up their own minds." ■

The Aaron Ahearn Fund is maintaining an environmental support network to focus attention on ocean dumping. Funds are needed for a national speaking tour to support the right of military personnel to seek discharge from the military as environmental objectors. Contributions for this campaign can be sent to the Resource Center for Nonviolence, c/o Aaron Ahearn Fund, 515 Broadway, Santa Cruz, CA 95060; (408) 423-1626. Tax-deductible contributions can be to the Eschaton Foundation/Environmental Education.

Erik Larsen is a Marine Corps Veteran and a student majoring in Community Studies at UCSC. During the Gulf War he was adopted by Amnesty International as a prisoner of conscience after the Marine Corps threatened him with the death penalty for refusing to deploy for desert training.

China's Nuclear Test Breaks Yearlong Moratorium

SHELLY D'AMOUR

China has conducted its first underground nuclear test in over a year, and the Clinton administration stands poised to consider whether the United States will resume its nuclear testing program.

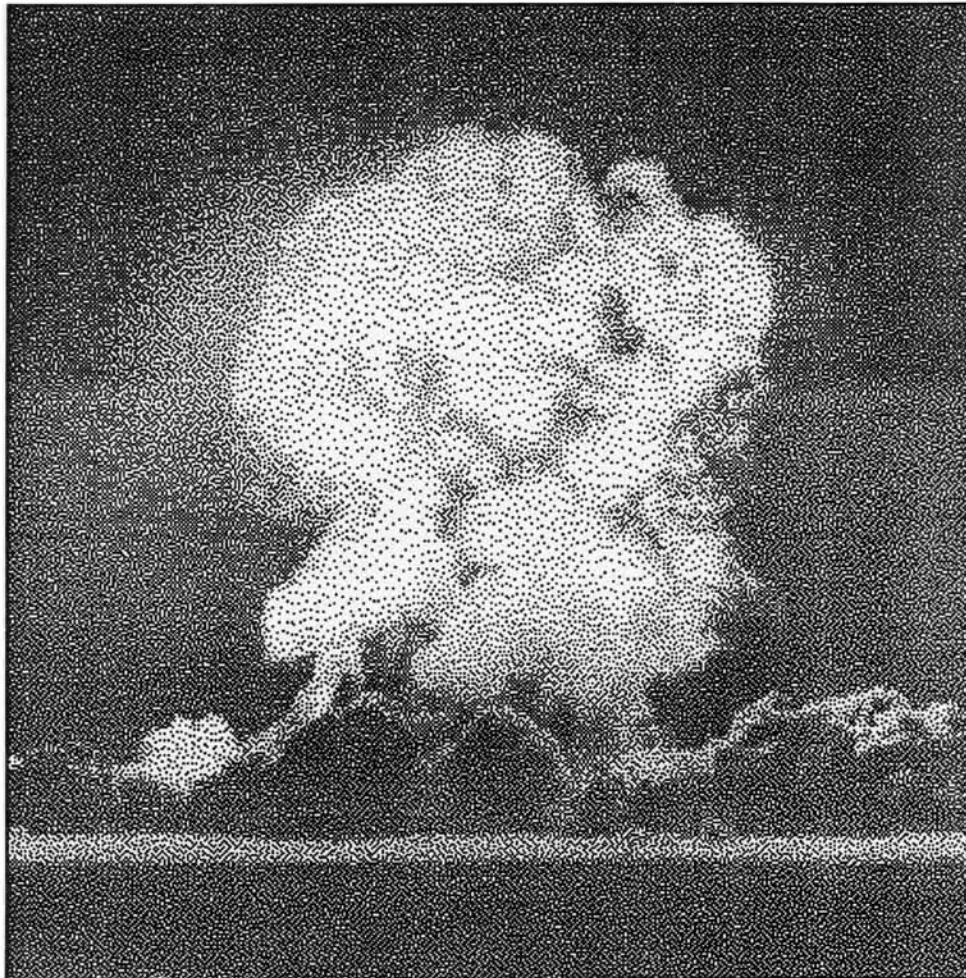
On October 4, China exploded an 80- to 90-kiloton nuclear weapon at its Lop Nor facility in northwestern China. About a week prior to the test, China informed the United States that it intended to break the international testing moratorium, which had been unofficially observed by all the nuclear powers since October 1992.

The Clinton administration's response to China's announcement was ambiguous. Although the administration stated that it would not seek an immediate resumption of the US nuclear testing program, the president issued a directive to the Department of Energy to prepare the Nevada Test Site for potential future tests. President Clinton is scheduled to meet with Chinese President Jiang Zemin in Seattle on November 20 and is expected to take up this issue at that meeting. Ironically, when former President Bush — who opposed the testing moratorium — signed it into law, he was persuaded by the argument that the test ban would be short-lived, since — his advisors assured — China would almost certainly test.

Last October, Congress enacted a nine-month moratorium on underground nuclear weapons testing, to be followed by up to 15 tests over a three-year period, and then a permanent ban in 1996. On June 29, President Clinton, under intense pressure from the arms control community, agreed to extend the moratorium through September 1994, provided that the other nuclear powers also did not resume testing.

China's decision to resume testing now jeopardizes continuation of the fragile moratorium, as other countries consider following suit. A conservative French government commission recently recommended that France resume its testing program in the South Pacific at some point within a year's time. Also, the British government began pressuring the US to allow Britain to resume its testing program at the Nevada Test Site.

Further testing on the part of China or any other nation could provoke a collapse of the international moratorium,



A nighttime nuclear blast at the Nevada Test Site on March 22, 1955.

and prove disastrous toward efforts to achieve a Comprehensive Test Ban (CTB) Treaty, as well as other non-proliferation goals.

On October 7th, 24 senators co-signed a letter to President Clinton, urging the president to refrain from resuming US nuclear testing, and to begin working immediately toward a CTB. The "Dear Colleague" letter was circulated by Senators Carl Levine (D-MI), James Exon (D-NE), and Mark Hatfield (R-OR). California Senators Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein did NOT sign-on to this letter. A similar effort is under way in the House, led by Rep. Mike Kopetski (D-OR), who has taken on a key leadership role in recent years around testing issues. Also, Senator John Glenn (D-OH) is circulating a letter for co-signers, urging the National Assembly of France to continue to support the moratorium on testing.

Although candidate Bill Clinton pledged verbal support to the idea of a testing moratorium and eventual

Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, President Bill Clinton has had to be lobbied intensively on this issue. It is imperative that arms control advocates keep the pressure on. Otherwise, one of the greatest opportunities for real arms control in over 40 years will slip through the fingers of the international community.

ACTION: 1) Contact Senators Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein and ask them why they did not sign-on the Levine-Exon-Hatfield letter. Urge them to take a public position against resuming US nuclear testing and to exercise leadership in the Senate around this issue. 2) Contact Anthony Lake, assistant to the president for national security affairs, and the president's advisor on testing. Urge him to support a continued US moratorium on testing, and to begin negotiations on a comprehensive test ban. Write him in care of the White House, Washington, DC 20506. 3) Write to Chinese Ambassador Li Daoyu, expressing your concerns over China's decision to test. Address: Embassy of the People's

Republic of China, 2300 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20008.

MILITARY SPENDING BILLS

Congress is winding up its deliberations on military spending bills for the fiscal year 1994, which began October 1. The main focus of arms control efforts this year has been targeted toward the Trident II (D-5) missile production, and the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization (BMDO), formerly known as the SDI office (Star Wars). Almost all amendments aimed at reducing funding for these items were rejected.

House Armed Services Chair Ron Dellums (D-CA) and Rep. Peter DeFazio (D-OR) sponsored an amendment to cut funding for Star Wars from \$3 billion to \$1.5 billion, with the savings slated to go toward reducing the deficit. That amendment went down to defeat by a vote of 160-272. Rep. Patricia Schroeder (D-CO) sponsored an amendment to reduce Star Wars funding to \$2.8 billion, but that also was defeated 202-227. Rep. Elizabeth Furse (D-OR) did succeed in achieving a minor cut in the program of \$150 million. In the Senate, Senator Jim Sasser (D-TN) gained support for his amendment to reduce Star Wars funding by \$400 million, with a bare majority vote of 50-48.

Two attempts were made by Reps. Dellums, Scott Klug (R-WI), and Tim Penny (D-MN) to end procurement of Trident II missiles as of October 1st of this year, but both amendments went down to sizable defeat. Rep. Neil Abercrombie (D-HI) attempted a similar amendment that proposed to cap missile procurement at the end of next year, but that effort was likewise rejected.

ACTION: If you live in California's 17th congressional district, contact Rep. Sam Farr (D) and thank him for supporting all efforts to cut funding for Star Wars and Trident II missile production. As a newly elected representative, he needs to hear your concerns and receive support for voting well.

CENTRAL AMERICA

The Senate has completed consideration of the 1994 Foreign Aid Appropriations bill. Several key items of interest on Central America were debated.

First, on Nicaragua. The Senate attached restrictive language to a pack-

age of Economic Support Funds for Nicaragua; imposing the following conditions on release of the aid: 1) that there be full and independent investigation into a May 23rd incident in Managua, in which an arms cache was uncovered, and documents were found which suggested the existence of a terrorist/kidnapping ring; 2) that Nicaragua enact legislation guaranteeing civilian control of the armed forces; 3) that Nicaragua ensure civilian control of the police, separating the police from the military; 4) that recommendations made by the Tripartite Commission regarding human rights violations be implemented in a timely fashion; 5) that there be an effective reform of the Nicaraguan judicial system. An additional provision calling for the prompt resolution of expropriation claims was initially adopted into this language but later dropped by the conference committee. The appropriations bill ultimately passed by a vote of 88 to 10.

Congress also attached a summary of its concerns regarding aid to El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras to the appropriations bill. The report called on the Clinton Administration to refrain from releasing further military assistance to El Salvador, and expressed concern over the slow pace of voter registration in that country. The report on Guatemala called for the transfer of military funds, which are currently sitting in the pipeline, into a fund which would be used to implement future peace accords. Finally, the congressional report urges that the government of Honduras work to establish an independent civilian police force which is separate from the military.

CALIFORNIA STATE BALLOT PROPOSITIONS

Several important initiatives will appear on the November 2nd California state ballot:

PROPOSITION 174: The school voucher initiative. Would provide \$2,600 in educational vouchers for each pupil in grades kindergarten through twelve, which parents could redeem at a public or private school of their choosing. On its surface, this may sound like a good idea that provides parents an opportunity to choose the best educational setting for their child. However, many educational analysts point out that passage of Prop. 174 will result in a real decline in the quality of education for California's school-aged children.

A key argument for this position lies in the fact that the standards that are set for public and private schools in California are vastly different. Public schools are required to hire credentialed teachers, to adhere to state-mandated curriculum requirements, and to provide equal access to education to all segments of society. Private schools are under no such obligations. Under the terms of

Prop. 174, any school with 25 or more students would become eligible to receive publicly financed vouchers. This includes private schools with particular religious, political or philosophical points of view. Schools receiving vouchers would be permitted to refuse enrollment of students based on gender, religion, disability, or any other factor that did not involve race, ethnicity or national origin.

In its analysis, the Friends Committee on National Legislation, a Quaker-based legislative lobby organization, points out that over time, such a system would result in a "two-tiered school system, one for the haves, and one for the have-nots." Private schools will not be required to limit their tuition to the amount of the vouchers. Therefore, even with public financing, many private schools will still be financially out of reach for working and middle-class parents, not to mention the poor. As the Friends Committee points out, the voucher program will draw resources away from the public schools, resulting in an increasingly inferior or public school system that will be left to the children of poor and working-class parents. Those who stand to gain the most from this program are the well-to-do, who are already in a position to finance their children's education. This initiative is a bad deal for California's school children.

PROPOSITION 172 AND MEASURE P: The Half-Cent Sales Tax. The half-cent sales tax was initially imposed in 1991 as a temporary measure to offset the looming budget crisis. This year's budget crisis witnessed the governor pulling \$2.6 billion in property tax revenues away from local governments and into the state coffers. The funds from Prop 172 will be earmarked for "public safety" services such as local fire and police protection.

Measure P is a back-up measure that will appear on the Santa Cruz County ballot only. Measure P states that "if and only if" Prop. 172 doesn't pass statewide, then Santa Cruz County would continue the half-cent tax within the county as a way of maintaining existing public safety services.

A key issue here that has not received a lot of public play is the fact that if Proposition 172 (or Measure P) does NOT pass, then local government will begin to cut existing social service programs in order to maintain adequate police and fire protection. For Santa Cruz County, the picture for health and human service programs will be bleak if neither Prop. 172 or Measure P doesn't pass. A vote for Prop. 172, and for Measure P, is as much a vote to keep essential safety-net social service programs in place as it is a vote to maintain police and fire protection. ■

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

China's decision to resume testing now jeopardizes continuation of the fragile moratorium, as other countries consider following suit.

CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON
The White House, Washington DC 20500
(202) 456-1414

SENATOR BARBARA BOXER
112 Hart Senate Office Bldg., Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-3553

SENATOR DIANNE FEINSTEIN
367 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.,
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-3841 / (415) 433-1333

CONGRESSMEMBER SAM FARR
1216 Longworth House Office Bldg.,
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-2861 / (408) 429-1976
(17th congressional district)

CONGRESSMEMBER NORMAN MINETTA
2350 Rayburn House Office Bldg.,
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-2631 / (408) 984-6045
(15th congressional district)

HOUSE MEMBERS
U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-2131 (switchboard)

SENATORS
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-3121 (switchboard)

WHITE HOUSE
(202) 456-1111 (comment line)
(202) 456-2461 (public fax line)
(202) 456-1414 (switchboard)

SQUEEZE THE DAY

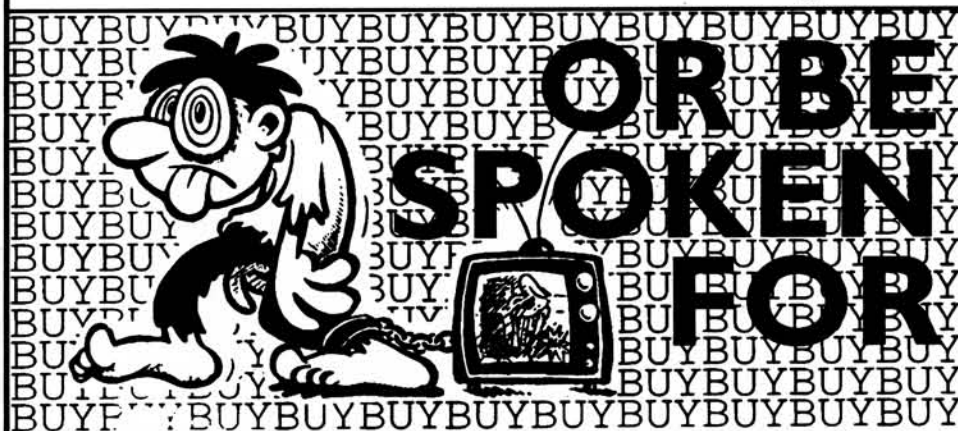


FREE COFFEE 7-10 AM
UNTIL NOV. 4TH
1 CUP PER PERSON, PER DAY

GOURMET VEGAN CUISINE
& JUICE BAR
7AM-4PM CLOSED TUES.
605 FRONT ST.
459-0620

Dear Congressman Fubar,
I am writing this email to ask you to reconsider your position on the environment bill which you voted against ...

SPEAK UP



JOIN THE ELECTRONIC DEMOCRACY

CRUZIO

- electronic mail
- electronic conferences
- community databases

Speak to a live person
423-1162

Dial in with your computer
423-9995

Logging alert! While a dramatic logging increase in the Santa Cruz Mountains has lined the pockets of many landowners and loggers, it has also raised the ire of thousands of local residents. Some have taken to the streets with petitions demanding changes in existing laws, and hundreds have complained to regulatory agencies. These actions have forced county and state lawmakers to scramble.

Residents have reason to be upset. There is considerable evidence that the Santa Cruz Mountains are falling prey to North Coast timber mills, as they search beyond their own badly depleted forest lands for greener pastures.

For years, North Coast mills have used public forest lands to compensate for over-harvesting their own lands. Now because that avenue has been curtailed by federal restrictions, these mills are targeting smaller private holdings of forest land, such as the 118,000 acres in the Santa Cruz Mountains.

According to a recently released report, in 1990 (the last year for which figures are available) harvest rate exceeded growth rate by 37.7 percent on forest lands owned by timber companies in the North Coast region. This report was done by the California Department of Forestry (CDF).

Louis Blumberg, assistant regional director of the Wilderness Society, said that these numbers are conservative because not all timber companies participated in the study, and that those "not reporting are more likely those who have been most aggressively logging their lands." Still, the results show that over-harvesting has worsened over the past 12 years. (An earlier CDF report showed that harvest rate exceeded growth rate by 22 percent between 1978 and 1985.)

The earlier report also predicted that logging would have to "increase dramatically" for decades on smaller private holdings of forest land, to compensate for severe over-harvesting on corporate timberland, and that "active log purchasing by some sawmills will lead many owners to harvest their timber, especially during periods of cyclical high demand and high prices." In the Santa Cruz Mountains, 87 percent of the forest land is owned by private non-corporate interests.

One obstacle that has kept timber companies from logging small private tracts of forest land is the expense. Preparing several timber harvest plans for groups of small acreage is less cost-effective than preparing one plan for a large acreage. Hauling the logs to distant mills is also expensive. Other obstacles include landowners' unwillingness to log, and environmental restrictions.

To make small privately owned lots more accessible to logging, the timber industry has used its influence on the Board of Forestry to remove some of these obstacles. Appointed by the governor, the nine-member Board of Forestry is the policy-making branch of the CDF. Three of the nine members officially represent the timber industry, one represents the range and livestock industry, and the remaining five members officially represent the public.

The board (and to a lesser extent CDF) is "increasingly perceived as overly sympathetic to the corporate goals behind industrial forestry actions and insensitive to the public resource obligations of industrial landowners," according to Dr. Robert Hrubec, a consultant to CDF.

The board has changed the language to take the teeth out of many of the Forest Practice Rules, whose original intent was to protect the public's resources while ensuring sustained timber production. The board has also created numerous "exemptions" to existing rules, "relieving the burden" of environmental review from the timber land owner, and, of course, from the timber industry.

Logging exemptions are used to ravage over a million acres of California forestland each year. Exemption logging operations provide a way for landowners to harvest land without submitting a Timber Harvest Plan, which is the normal avenue required by the Forest Practice Act, and which satisfies the requirements of the

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Unlike a Timber Harvest Plan, exemptions require no environmental review, no public notice and little or no waiting. In short, exemptions make it easy and inexpensive to harvest trees, without regard for forest preservation.

There are several different types of exemptions. Some have acreage restrictions, and others do not. The two exemptions commonly applied for in the Santa Cruz area have three-acre limits:

- The *conversion exemption*, designed to convert forest land to a "non-timber growing use," provides a mechanism for landowners to clear-cut up to three acres on any sized parcel.

- The *three-acre exemption* allows the landowner to selectively harvest a three-acre parcel of timberland; that is, take only 60 percent of the trees over 18 inches in diameter.

Results could be devastating. For example, on Fern Flat Road above Aptos, 14 three-acre exemptions and conversions have been filed since March, resulting in a patchwork of logged-out areas above Valencia Creek. Because the cumulative effects of three-acre exemptions are not considered, the overall threat to the area, which has a history of landslides and earthquake damage, remains undetermined.

The Modified Timber Harvest Plan exempts owners of 100 acres or less from having to submit a cumulative impact report (a key part of a Timber Harvest Plan), as long as certain steps are followed. This exemption is likely to have a devastating effect on the Santa Cruz Mountains, according to Terry Terhaar of the Planning and Conservation League, who sees it as a substantial weakening of the timber harvest review process.

Another type of exemption has no acreage limitation. Commonly known as the "dead, dying, and diseased" exemption, it allows landowners to remove 10 percent of the volume per acre in trees every year. This exemption has aided North Coast mills in depleting their own timberland, while avoiding the expense and environmental scrutiny of a Timber Harvest Plan.

More acres are cut under this type of exemption each year than under the Timber Harvest Plan. According to the Mendocino Environmental Center in Ukiah, exemptions as large as 69,025 acres have been filed in the Redding area. In Mendocino County alone last year, 78,647 acres were logged under exemptions, and of those, 65,202 acres belong to Louisiana-Pacific.

According to Jim Steele of the State Department of Fish and Game, a landowner could use this exemption to remove all the trees on the property in ten years, depending on the definition of "diseased" and "dying."

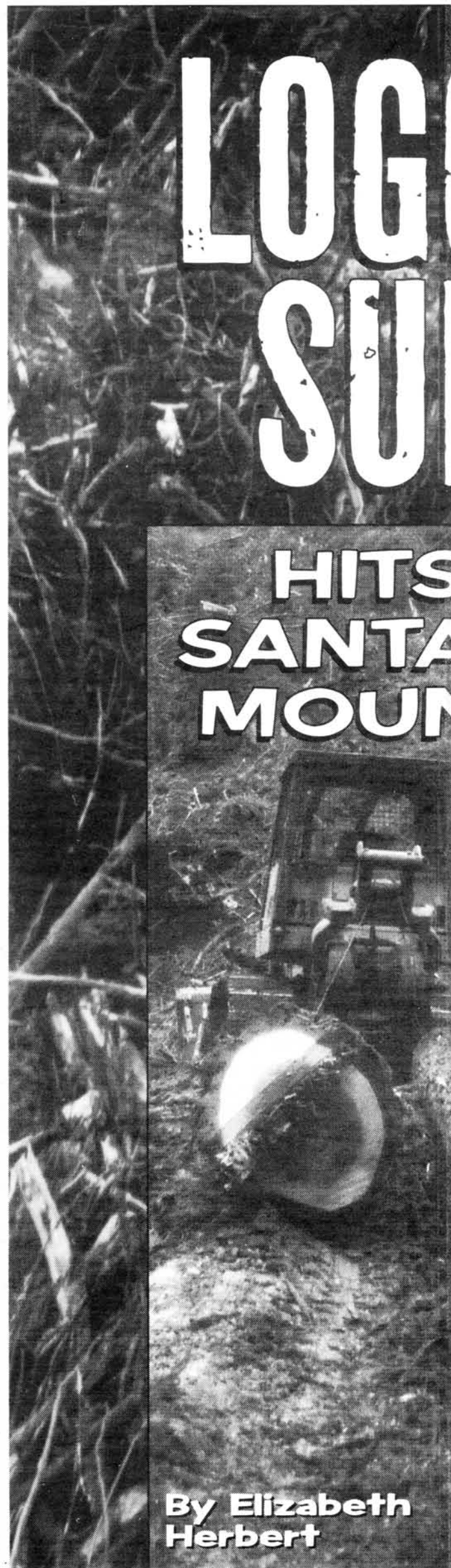
Ross Johnson, administrator of forest practices for CDF in Sacramento, said that some imprudent foresters have claimed that every tree is dying or diseased, and that the definition of these terms needs to be clarified by the Board of Forestry.

Last month, the first legal challenge to exemption logging in California was filed in Mendocino County by the Greenwood Watershed Association. It obtained a restraining order to halt logging by Louisiana-Pacific on a 1,380-acre "dead, dying, and diseased" exemption, directly upstream from the town of Elk's wells. Attorney Susan Brandt-Hawley has asked the superior court to rule on the applicability of the California Environmental Protection Act (CEQA) to exemptions.

Although logging activity on private land is regulated almost entirely by the CDF, the county has jurisdiction over operations on three acres or less. Complaints have flooded both the local CDF office and the county Planning Department, starting last spring.

"Even when neighbors point out legitimate violations, CDF is reluctant to inspect, and even more reluctant to cite the timber operator for violations," says Dave Workman, whose neighborhood in Aptos is patchworked with three-acre conversions. He and other neighbors have complained about clear-cutting, harvesting beyond marked boundaries, tree theft on neighboring parcels, fraudulent notices, erosion control violations, and stream pollution.

Existing county ordinances have been ineffective in controlling these abuses, in part because the county was not notified before exemption operations began. By the



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LOGGING SURGE

HITS THE SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS

So far this year, the CDF office in Felton has received timber harvest plans for 6,731 acres, compared to a 1992 year-end total of 2,657 acres.

By Elizabeth Herbert

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PHOTO BY JODI FREDIANI

LOGGING BIG CREEK

THE SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS

So far this year, the CDF office in Felton has received timber harvest plans for 6,731 acres, compared to a 1992 year-end total of 2,657 acres.

PHOTO BY JODI FREDIANI

time the county inspectors arrived at the scene, the damage was already done.

David Soho, a resource manager for CDF in Felton, said in June that "Prices now are bringing in landowners who weren't thinking about harvesting before. For a landowner, this is a good time to sell." This year, mills have paid as much as \$1.00 per board foot for redwood, compared to between 20 to 40 cents per board foot two years ago, and 55 cents per board foot last year. This can translate into a sizable profit for both the logger and the landowner. According to Dave Hope, county resource planner, 100,000 board feet of timber was cut from one three-acre conversion.

The price increase has commonly been blamed on environmental pressures and closure of public lands, resulting in reduced timber supply. But soaring timber prices cannot be attributed to the effort to save the old growth forests and the spotted owl, according to Stephen M. Meyer, director of MIT's Project on Environmental Politics and Policy: "The price jump is due mostly to bad weather that harmed the timber harvest in the South, a new tariff on Canadian lumber that reduced US imports, and a surge in post-recession construction." Russ Henly, forester with CDF in Sacramento, said that rebuilding after Hurricane Andrew has also significantly increased demand for California timber products.

The price increase has in fact caused a dramatic increase in logging in the Santa Cruz Mountains in 1993. So far this year, the CDF office in Felton has received timber harvest plans for 6,731 acres, compared to a 1992 year-end total of 2,657 acres. This is by far the highest total received any year since the office began tracking the figures in 1975. The Felton CDF office has also received 92 exemption applications to date, another record. Hope estimates that at least 20 million board feet of timber will be cut this year in the county, the highest amount since the numbers have been recorded.

Bud McCrary of locally owned and operated Big Creek Lumber notes that three North Coast mills have begun harvesting in the Santa Cruz Mountains in the last four years, including Preston (who sells to Simpson Timber in Arcata), Redwood Empire, and Sequoia Forest Industries. He estimates that Big Creek Lumber mills an average of about 40 percent of the timber harvested in the Santa Cruz Mountains.

Still, Dave Hope is not worried about an influx of timber companies into Santa Cruz County because "we don't really have that much timber." Besides, he says, "Most people here don't want to log their property."

Compared to other regions of the state where large-scale clear-cutting is commonplace, the Southern Subdistrict (which includes the Santa Cruz Mountains) has relatively strict timber harvest rules. These tighter rules have led many residents to become complacent in their belief that local forests are immune to the threat of over-harvesting. There is a common misconception that clear-cutting is not allowed in the Santa Cruz Mountains. But according to Terry Terhaar, "Clear-cutting is allowed on three-acre conversion exemptions, and it's also allowed on half-acre sections within some timber harvest plans."

Santa Cruz County has no control over how many board feet can be harvested within its watersheds, resulting in continuing debate over what constitutes sustainable harvesting.

Big Creek Lumber has come under fire from local environmentalists for cutting irreplaceable old growth trees near Butano Creek. McCrary, co-owner of Big Creek, refers to old growth trees as "overly mature." Dean Rimerman, a member of Friends of Butano Creek, responds that "Old growth trees may be 'overly-mature' from a tree-farming science perspective, but these trees are older than their science, and they shouldn't be cutting them."

Local timber interests have worked hard to assure Santa Cruz residents that timber harvesting done here is sustainable. McCrary claims that if the selective harvest rules are administered properly, local forests will be sustained in perpetuity, because the growth rate of redwoods is so fast. Hope says that the county is well within sustainability, estimating that the current harvest rate is

from 25 percent to 50 percent of the growth rate.

But Jodi Frediani, chair of the local Sierra Club Forestry Task Force, notes that "the selection method does not lead to sustainable harvesting, because 60 percent of the biggest trees can be taken every ten years. With each successive cut, the average tree gets smaller and smaller, until you are left with a thicket instead of a forest."

The State Board of Forestry held two public hearings in Sacramento to address the problem of three-acre exemptions statewide. Neighborhood watchdog groups from all over the state testified about abuses similar to those reported in Santa Cruz. At the October 5 hearing in Sacramento, representatives from Santa Cruz neighborhood groups presented a petition signed by over 2,000 California residents, mostly from Santa Cruz County, demanding that the three-acre exemptions be repealed in favor of the more stringent Timber Harvest Plan.

Unfortunately, the Board of Forestry's response to the public's testimony has made the situation worse. They have proposed yet another exemption, this one for up to five acres, that allows a landowner to remove 10 percent of the 'merchantable' trees with no environmental review, no guidance from a professional forester, and no limit on the number of times they can harvest.

The board's amendments have made minor improvements in the laws, in exchange for adding bigger loopholes. "The board doesn't give up anything without taking something in return," according to Terhaar. For example, a new amendment proposes that a registered professional forester inspect one type of exemption. But another amendment proposes lifting previous restrictions on adjoining exemptions.

Although three-acre exemptions may not present the biggest threat to forest resources in the county, their abuse has spotlighted a conflict over property rights and land use in forested areas. On the one hand, traditional property rights advocates see restrictions on logging as interfering with their basic right to use their lands for economic purposes. "You can't tell people what they can do on their own property" is an argument commonly heard in the Fern Flat Road area. On the other hand, neighboring property owners point out that their property rights are violated when the environment of the neighborhood is degraded.

Recognizing the crisis, the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors voted on October 26 to pass an emergency ordinance, placing an immediate moratorium on three-acre logging exemptions in the county, until effective county regulations can be put in place. The vote was 4-1 (Beautz, Keeley, Patton, and Symons for; Belgard against). "We need specific guidelines so that people who want to harvest trees legitimately can do so, and those who want to operate illegitimately are stopped," said Second District Supervisor Walt Symons.

The moratorium on three-acre exemptions will give the county Planning Department until December 7 to put some teeth into local ordinances to compensate for loopholes in the state laws. Fifth District Supervisor Fred Keeley remarked that by adopting the moratorium, "We've essentially pre-empted the state in this regard, which is kind of a nice feeling once in a while." ■

Elizabeth Herbert is a freelance writer who lives in the mountains above Aptos.

Sierra Club Workshop November 6

A workshop entitled "Logging in Santa Cruz County — Can Our Forests Survive," sponsored by the Santa Cruz Regional Group of the Sierra Club, will focus on practical ways to preserve local forests. Featured are addresses by environmental attorney Sharon Duggan, Supervisors Fred Keeley and Gary Patton, local environmental experts Don Alley, Dr. Robert Curry, Steven Singer, Dr. Fred McPherson, and Dr. Robert Hrubes. Celia and Peter Scott of Friends of Grey Whale Ranch and other neighborhood activists will present a panel discussion. Various environmental groups will host information tables.

The workshop will be held Saturday, November 6, from 8:30 am to 4:45 pm at the First Congregational Church, 900 High St., Santa Cruz. Call Dan Dickmeyer at 425-8159 for details.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

How Clinton's Plan Compares with Single Payer

BY
JUDY LESLIE

ILLUSTRATION BY
COLIN WILLIAMS

Bill and Hillary Clinton have brought health care reform to the top of this nation's agenda. On September 22, President Clinton introduced his plan for a health care system based on the principles of security, simplicity, choice, quality, savings and responsibility. His plan promises *comprehensive* benefits for *all* Americans without any new taxes, except a cigarette tax.

But Clinton's proposal is not the only one on the table. Let's compare Clinton's plan to a bill titled The American Health Security Act, introduced into Congress by Senator Paul Wellstone and Representative Jim McDermott in March 1993. This bill, which currently has 93 co-sponsors, would implement a Canadian-style single payer system.

In a such a system the 1,500 or so private insurance companies now administering much of our health care system would be replaced by one public, not-for-profit insurance "company" per state. The system would be financed by a progressive income tax and a payroll tax, eliminating the role of health insurance premiums, out-of-pocket costs, co-payments and deductibles. In each state, the one public insurance "company" — the single payer — would negotiate with health care providers and pharmaceutical companies to determine prices for all covered services and drugs. To summarize the McDermott bill, everybody pays into a public insurance fund according to their ability to pay; individuals receive services from the health care providers of their choice; and providers are reimbursed by the public insurance fund. (Because President Clinton, six months later, decided to call *his* proposal The American Health Security Act, I will refer to the original American Health Security Act as the McDermott bill.)

Summarizing the Clinton program, *The New York Times* wrote: "The heart of the Clinton plan is a proposal to establish huge consumer groups, known as regional health alliances that would buy care from competing networks of doctors, hospitals and insurance companies." Each health alliance would be required to offer at least three types of plans ranked in increasing order of out-of-pocket costs to the individual: an HMO (health

maintenance organization) option, a "combination" HMO/fee-for-service option, and a straight fee-for-service option. All individuals would be required to enroll in a health plan and all employers would be required to contribute to the health insurance premiums of all their employees. The current method of financing health care costs — premiums, out-of-pocket costs, co-payments, and deductibles — would be maintained and extra revenues would be raised by a cigarette tax and by cut-backs in other federal programs such as Medicaid and Medicare.

Both the Clinton plan and the McDermott bill plan to extend coverage to the approximately 37 million Americans who are currently uninsured. Both plans would mandate a comprehensive benefits package, although the McDermott bill calls for a more comprehensive package with less "phasing-in" time. Without reforming the current health care system, providing *more* services to *more* people will certainly cost *more* money. And given that health care costs are already absorbing 14 percent of our gross domestic product (GDP), reaching 20 percent by the year 2000 under the current rate of increase, everybody on all sides of the debate understands the need to reduce costs.

The cost of health care in the US — in terms of percentage of GDP or in terms of cost per capita — is almost twice that of other industrialized countries, countries which have *lower* infant mortality rates, *longer* life expectancies and which, unlike the US, provide *universal* coverage. In Canada, the annual average number of

hospital days per person is 50 percent higher than in the US, the number of physician visits 22 percent higher. So, US costs are not higher because we provide better care for more people or because we over-utilize our system.

The Clinton plan misses this point. As noted in *The New York Times*, "the heart of the Clinton strategy for holding down medical spending is forcing people to become acutely aware of the true cost of their health care," by, for example, forcing most people into an HMO where the choice of doctors is limited. The fee-for-service option is reserved for those who can afford to pay significantly more out-of-pocket costs to buy the freedom to choose their own doctor. Moreover, *whether* HMOs save money is debatable — one study by Boston University School of Public Health showed that health costs actually rose faster in states with higher HMO enrollment — but the way HMOs try to save money is clear: HMOs, on the average, employ one MD per 800 enrollees, whereas for the nation as a whole the physician to population ratio is 1:400. In August *The New York Times* reported that "a nationwide study [financed by the federal government] of more than 17,000 patients has found widespread dissatisfaction with HMOs," adding that "a 1992 government-financed study of elderly Medicare patients also reported that HMO members were less likely to rate their health plans as excellent as to how well the care was explained, how long they had to wait both for appointments and in the office, and how thorough the treatment was."

Clinton's strategy is a blatant example of "blaming the victim," and furthermore, does not address the real reasons health care costs are escalating in our country. Addressing the real reasons would mean confronting the American Medical Association, the pharmaceutical industry, and the health insurance industry. Apparently, President Clinton does not believe this approach would be politically expedient.

Our costs are higher than any other industrialized nation because the private health insurance industry creates a costly, not to mention unnecessary, barrier between patients and health care providers. The administrative cost of the single payer system in Canada is 11

percent of the total health care costs, whereas the administrative cost of our private health insurance industry is 24 percent. In February 1993, the General Accounting Office estimated that replacing the 1,500 or so private insurance companies with a single payer would save \$67 billion annually. Clinton's plan does not take advantage of these savings. In fact, Clinton's plan, via the regional health alliances, adds another costly and unnecessary barrier between patients and health care providers.

A second primary contribution to escalating US health care costs is the fees charged by physicians and drug companies. The mean income of a self-insured physician in the US is about six times the typical US family income; it is twice the income of physicians in Canada. Primary care physicians actually have very similar incomes in the US and Canada, but the US is saturated with highly paid specialists (80 percent in the US compared to 50 percent in Canada). According to a *Newsweek* editorial, the CEO's of the largest pharmaceutical companies earn an average of \$6.6 million a year. Once again, the McDermott bill addresses these cost issues directly. In a single payer plan: The government negotiates fees with health care providers and drug companies, ensuring that medical charges will stay in line with prices in the rest of the economy.

Clinton's feelings about such price regulation seem to be evolving. On September 2nd he stated that price controls on health care providers and drug companies was not under consideration, though the administration had considered explicit price controls in the spring.

One of Clinton's six principles is "choice." In McDermott's bill, "choice" means that any American can go to any licensed health care provider to receive medically necessary and preventative services. In the Clinton plan, "choice" means you can choose between various plans provided by your regional health alliance, and, unless you can afford to choose the fee-for-service option, you "choose" an HMO which will dictate which doctors you can see.

Another one of Clinton's six principles is "quality," but his plan maintains the current multi-tier system which encourages health care providers to check what insurance plan you have before deciding what care you'll receive. The quality of your care depends on how you are labeled. This multi-tier aspect of Clinton's plan prompted a doctor from the California Physician Alliance to call the plan "institutionalized apartheid."

The Clinton proposal also maintains a system which is mostly paid for by premiums and out-of-pocket payments, "maintaining the most regressive system

of health care funding in the developed world," according to *The Nation*. *The Nation* also notes that the head of the Hospital Corporation of America, who earned \$127 million last year, pays the same premiums to cover himself and his family as his average employee, who makes \$23,000 a year.

The debate on health care did not end with President Clinton's speech on September 22, 1993. It began.

Referring to single payer advocates, *The New York Times* said: "They are the guerrilla fighters of the health-care debate...they are organizing the provinces." Senator Wellstone, addressing these guerrilla fighters at a single payer forum in San Francisco on October 24, advocated a two-pronged approach: Continue lobbying for the single payer bill and continue pushing for major amendments to the Clinton plan. Recently, single payer supporters from the House of Representatives, including 17th District Representative Sam Farr, were successful in improving the language in Clinton's proposal regarding states' option to implement a single payer system. The White House, according to *The Washington Post*, "agreed to eliminate three hurdles that it previously said states [which wanted to implement a single payer system] would be required to overcome." In California, groups including the California Physicians Alliance,

Neighbor to Neighbor, and the Congress of California Seniors plan to submit a ballot initiative to institute a state single payer system. If approved, they will be working to gather 1.1 million signatures between January 1, 1994 and April 20, 1994 to qualify the initiative for the November 1994 ballot. ■

In Santa Cruz County, the Campaign for Single Payer Health Care, representing 200 individuals and a large handful of organizations, is actively putting pressure on both the media - to give single payer more attention - and on Senators Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein, who have yet to co-sponsor the single payer bill. Also planned is a series of educational forums with Sam Farr's office. The first forum, scheduled for December 4, will have Jim McDermott, author of the single payer bill, on the speakers'

panel. The next general meeting will be on November 11, 7 pm, at the SEIU office, 517-B Mission St., Santa Cruz. The main topic that evening will be a state ballot initiative. For more information about how to become involved with the local campaign call 427-3965.

Judy Leslie is the co-coordinator of the Campaign for Single Payer Health Care and a physics graduate student at UCSC.

In California, activist groups plan to submit a ballot initiative to institute a state single payer system.

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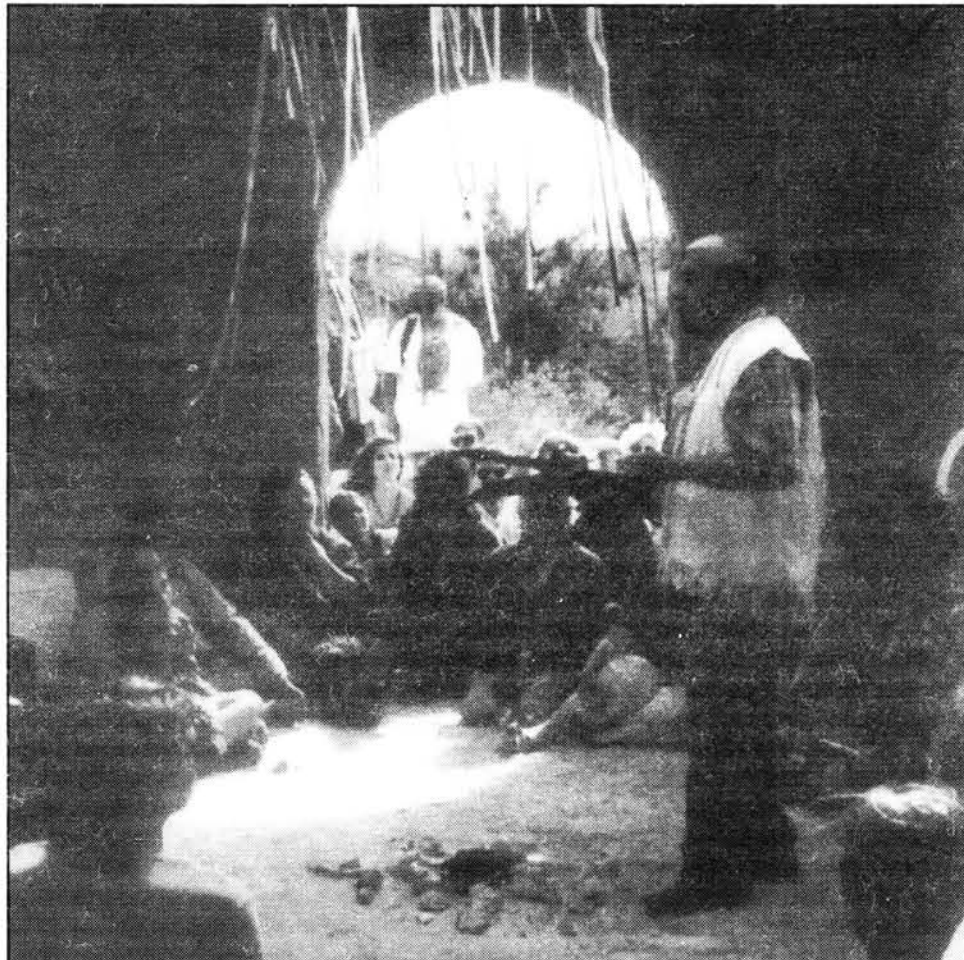
JENNIFER VIERECK

From October 9th through the 11th, approximately 100 people gathered for the weekend at Cactus Springs, Nevada near the nuclear test site. They came at the request of Corbin Harney, spiritual leader of the Western Shoshone. Unlike previous test site protests, which have been marked by crowds of thousands, creative street theater and hundreds of arrests, this smaller group was primarily spiritual in focus, and led by Native Americans. Two days of sunrise ceremonies, sweat lodges, nonviolence trainings and informal meetings culminated in a rally, prayer and direct action on Monday, October 11, Indigenous Peoples' Day. Six women and seven men were arrested for entering the test site; all were released within the hour.

The activist encampment was located on land purchased by the Foundation for a Compassionate Society and deeded to the Western Shoshone National Council at a ceremony one year before. This was done to symbolize the return of the land to its rightful stewards (as upheld in the Treaty of Ruby Valley between the Western Shoshone and the United States in 1863) and to provide a base of operations near the test site that would be free of government harassment. On several acres that were retained by the Foundation, a Goddess Temple had been constructed over the last year, and was dedicated by Shamaan Ochuam, a spiritual leader from Austin, Texas, at the conclusion of test site activities.

Although no nuclear tests have been conducted in Nevada this year, many people came out of concern that the US would resume testing again. ("Conventional" explosive weapons testing has continued at the site.) Following the Chinese nuclear test on October 4th, President Clinton had immediately ordered the Department of Energy (DOE) to prepare for a possible resumption of testing. This year, funds for testing were included in the \$350 million budgeted for defense programs within the DOE's Nevada Operations Office. DOE spokesperson Chris West said that the two shafts being prepared for underground nuclear blasts when the present moratorium began a year ago could be ready for detonation by the end of 1993.

"If we were to start today to do a test in one of those holes, [nuclear] devices would have to be brought in and mated with a diagnostics package. All of that would have to go down the hole, and then we would have to back-fill the hole," West said on October 5th. "We could be ready to do a test in the not-too-distant future, around the first of the year."



JENNIFER VIERECK

Western Shoshone spiritual leader Corbin Harney conducts prayer during the temple dedication.

The week before, in a speech at the United Nations, Clinton had reiterated his campaign pledge of achieving a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty by 1996. It was with this common vision that activists from around the US, Europe, Asia, and many Native American nations came together in Nevada.

WHY INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY?

Many do not understand the connection between nuclear testing and indigenous peoples' rights. Most of us think the first atomic victims were the citizens of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. But the Mescalero Apache, downwind of the earlier Alamogordo Test, and the Navajo uranium miners who dug the raw materials, were already poisoned when the *Enola Gay* flew over Hiroshima.

In a policy that many refer to as "Nuclear Colonialism," all nuclear-armed nations test their weapons on indigenous peoples and their lands. The United States first tested, not in Maryland or Virginia, but on Pacific islanders. It now tests on the Western Shoshone, Paiute,

and others of Nevada and Utah. Britain has tested on aboriginal Australians, and has since joined the US testing in Nevada. France tested in Algeria and then Tahiti. China tests on Ugyur lands, downwind from Tibet and Kazakhstan. The Russians have tested in areas heavily populated by the Kazakhs and, to the north, on Nenets lands. From mining uranium, through the entire production and testing process, to proposed storage sites for nuclear wastes, native peoples are at far greater risk than others, worldwide.

Corbin Harney had returned from Kazakhstan in mid-September, where he attended the third Global Anti-Nuclear Alliance conference and met with many Kazakhs in their home communities. One out of five children in Kazakhstan is born dead or seriously deformed as a result of nuclear testing. Although the Kazakh site has been shut down for several years, health hazards will abound for untold generations to come. Harney described water that was completely unfit to drink, leaving only imported vodka and soda pop for beverages. Food is being treated with lasers to try to remove radioactivity.

For many Kazakhs, the most serious threat is that after decades of Russian rule their traditional spiritual practices have died out, and they have no path to hope or recovery. In this spirit of cultural and religious revival, a 1994 exchange program is planned for 25 Native Americans of many nations and 25 Kazakh people.

Harney had also traveled to Washington, DC to urge officials at the Chinese Embassy to stop plans for the October 4th nuclear blast. Although his words were apparently no deterrent in the ongoing game of nuclear "chicken," he says that he was seriously and courteously received.

1994: EASTER AT THE TEST SITE

Harney has called for the next gathering at the Nevada Test Site to take place April 1-3, 1994. Encompassing both April Fool's Day and Easter, there should be something for all of us. In addition, should testing resume by that time, the call has gone out for 1,000 people to be prepared to do "back country actions": to enter the test site and physically block the resumption of testing. Preparations and trainings will begin soon.

As I stood in front of the cattle guard at the gate to Mercury (the closed city of test site workers), looking into the same official faces I have met there for years, watching the same red and silver busses approach down that long ribbon of road, I wondered what on Earth over 9,000 employees of a test site complex that does not test could be doing on such a beautiful autumn day. With 3,912 employees at the test site itself, 3,711 in Las Vegas, and another 1,477 scattered from New Mexico to California and the South Pacific, something is going on. What does being "ready" to resume testing really mean?

It was Albert Einstein who said, "We often suffer from a sort of optical delusion. We act as if we are not connected to everything and everybody. We think we can separate ourselves from people who are different. We think that we are not connected to life in all its forms. It is the most painful delusion in the world today."

That thought is the premise of many Native American teachings, and those of other beliefs drawn to the defense of the Earth as well. Nowhere that my feet have taken me has that delusion been so obvious, so frightening, as at the Nevada Test Site. We still have work to do. ■

Jennifer Viereck is the publisher of Between the Lines, the newsletter of Nuremberg Actions, PO Box 13, Boulder Creek, CA 95006; (408) 338-0147.

UNION ORGANIZING: THE SOUTH AFRICAN-CUBAN CONNECTION

On July 31, we were seated on the 10th floor restaurant of Hotel El President in Havana. The temperature was around 90 degrees and the humidity nearly 80 percent. We had tried several times to get together with the large, genial man wearing the African National Congress (ANC) cap, who was not ready to talk to us.

George Nene, 47 years old, leaned slightly forward and asked us to speak loudly when we talk to him.

"I am a little deaf" he explained, "from the beatings." With some questions from us to prod him, he continued that the beatings were at the hands of the South African police in order to try to pry names, meeting places, times and other information about his co-workers from his lips. Since age 13 he has been deeply involved in the struggle against the oppressive apartheid regime of the South African government.

"For me," he said, it all began when police barged into my eighth grade class to arrest my teacher, Mr. Cousa, for teaching politics."

With a shrug of his thick shoulders, Nene asked, "What was politics? We didn't know what was meant by politics. All Mr. Cousa was teaching was what was happening in South Africa." As the police dragged their respected teacher into the yard, the students followed, watching him being abused and shackled by the uniformed men.

As if once again reliving this incident which left such an indelible scar within, Nene passionately recalled the scene. "The students all ran to the car which had brought the police and together they lifted one side of it and turned it over."

"Reinforcements were called. Mr. Cousa was taken to prison. The principal was asked to reprimand the students, but when he spoke to them, he told them that he was in agreement with them, because the police should have come to him and allowed him to handle the matter of what was taught in his school."

Nene explained that Section 29 of the South African penal code states that the police can arrest anyone and deny access to telephone, TV, or lawyer, and isolate that person in a cell. This happened to his teacher, Mr. Cousa.

From this point forward, Nene began mobilizing himself, learning as much as he could about the movement toward equality in South Africa. He read all he could about Nelson Mandela, and in the months and years that followed, he was arrested many times for his association with so-called "subversive" people. It was during these incarcerations that the beatings took place.

He began work after school to help support his family and changed jobs more than 30 times, from one situation to another, mostly doing clerical work or driving heavy vehicles. Each time he left a job, it was by his own volition because he refused to put up with racism. He felt that no one had the right to repress him.

He worked mainly for Coca Cola, which had black workers but all white management. He joined the work-

ers union and through the international union network he communicated with Guatemalan Coca Cola workers, and through them found a communication connection which led to solidarity with Cuban workers. According to Nene, Cuba was very supportive of the labor movement in South Africa.

"MANDELA'S GOALS ARE NOT THE SAME AS OURS. HE HAS ALMOST REACHED HIS GOAL, WHICH IS POLITICAL EQUALITY. WE HAVE MUCH FARTHER TO GO."

Nene's brother worked for the international telephone exchange. Through him, Nene had access to international contacts, and could continue his communication with workers in other countries who were in solidarity with the Coca Cola workers. Nene was elected head of his union. Then, in 1989, SACTU, the South African Trade Union, sent him to a meeting in East Germany.

His affable smile gone for a moment, he remembers, "Oppression was very heavy in South Africa at that time. I learned about the brutality of capitalism against socialism and communism."

ANC has offices around the world and on the way home Nene visited some of them as he traveled through Egypt, Ethiopia, and Sudan. He had a chance to talk to others who shared his feelings, and he developed his concept of international solidarity as he traveled.

Thirty-five thousand Cuban soldiers were sent to Angola to block the rightist South African takeover of that country. Had not the South African army been

stopped, the movement for justice and equality could have been set back, perhaps permanently.

During the decisive battle of Cuito Natale in Angola, Nene monitored the defense. As victory became apparent, Fidel Castro advised negotiation. Nene told us that at that time he had felt that the Angolans could and should obliterate the South African army, then negotiate. Castro, however, argued that it would be better to win the enemy over to their side than to destroy him, and eventually Nene came to share this point of view.

Castro spoke to the revolutionaries after the war was finished. "You should be proud of the living, not regret the dead," Castro told the veterans.

Now Nene is a full-time trade unionist, the national shop steward of soft drink companies in South Africa (Coca Cola). He talks to workers about their struggle.

He came to Cuba at this time, in support of the Cuban workers, during what the Cubans call their "special period" since the breakup of the USSR and the greater restrictions imposed by the United States on Cuba through the dictates of the Torricelli Bill, the so-called Cuban-Democracy Act. He felt this was only fair, since Cubans supported

South African workers through their worst times.

Nene's shop steward in South Africa started the movement for a solidarity flight. Chris Hani, the former leader of the South African Communist Party, flew to Cuba in February to speak to Castro to let him know the plans of South African workers to support Cuban workers. Castro gave his blessings to Chris Hani to organize the solidarity flight. Upon his return to South Africa with this news, the organizing started. ANC, Mandela

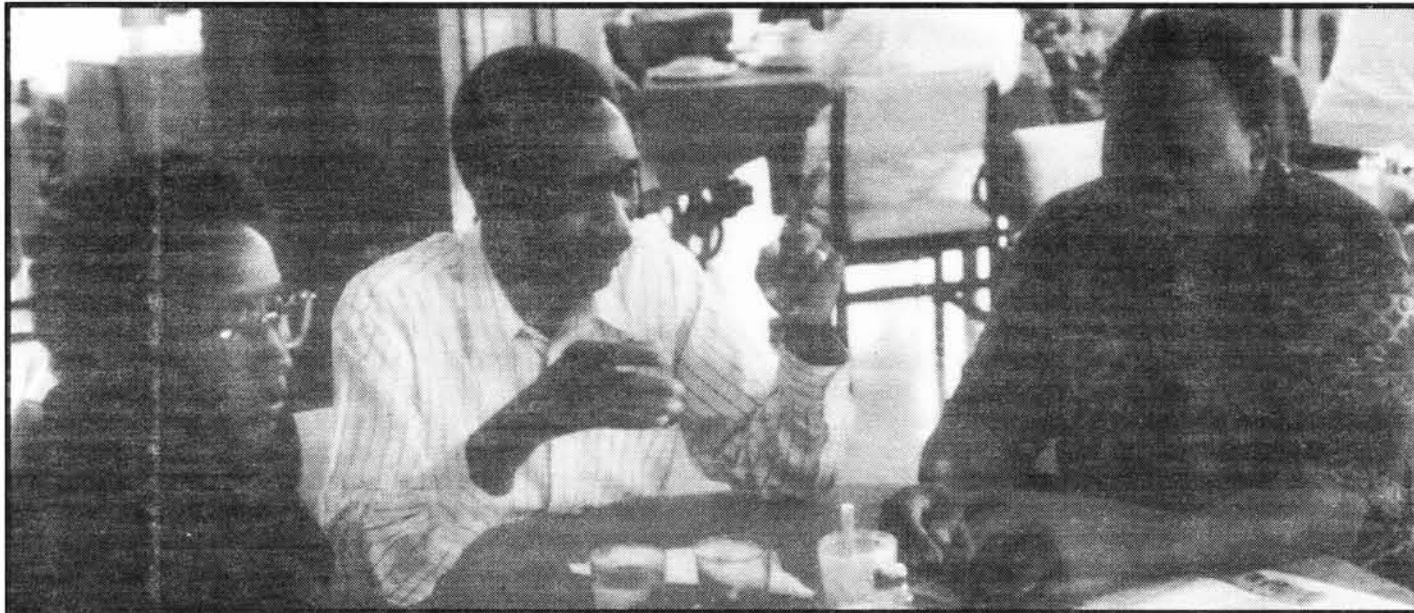
and all interested people were involved.

On April 10th, during the time of preparation for the trip, according to a front-page *New York Times* article of the same date, Chris Hani was gunned down in the driveway of his home as he returned from shopping with his daughter. The assassination by Januzo Jakub Waluz, a violently anti-communist militant, had a devastating effect on the African National Congress, which was at that time negotiating an end to white rule. It also put a damper on the activities to organize for the solidarity trip. People stopped coming to the meetings. The trip to Cuba, which was designed for 180 people, was canceled. The excuses given were: "because of fuel shortages," "not enough plane capacity," etc.

Nene then asked ANC for support for him to travel to Cuba with two comrades from Namibia to represent their support, and was given permission to do so. They tried to arrange for Cuban Airline to land an airplane in the Namibian airport, but that was impossible. The plane had to land next to the highway in Namibia where it picked up its three passengers, one of whom was a woman newscaster who would report on the trip.

"What is your prognosis for apartheid?" we asked.

"ANC is more encouraged than dismayed," he replied cautiously. "Mandela's goals are not the same as ours. He has almost reached his goal, which is political equality. We have much farther to go." ■



LOIS MUHLY/MONTHLY PLANET

SOUTH AFRICAN TRADE UNIONIST GEORGE NENE (CENTER) AND FRIENDS.

Bert and Lois Muhly are Santa Cruz activists currently traveling in Cuba.

Hemp Advocate

Jack Herer Wants an End to Prohibition

Interview by John Govsky

Jack Herer is the author of *The Emperor Wears No Clothes*, a book which documents the often-suppressed history, and potential usefulness, of the marijuana plant. First published in 1985, *The Emperor* has become an underground classic and is the bible of the hemp movement — a movement that seeks to end marijuana prohibition and utilize the weed for everything from paper to clothing to fuel.

Herer was recently in the Santa Cruz area as part of a statewide tour promoting the California Hemp Initiative. He spoke to *The Monthly Planet* following a hemp rally at Cabrillo College on September 27.



DAVID YUSEM

Jack Herer promotes hemp at a Cabrillo College rally on September 27.

MONTHLY PLANET: How did you get involved in the hemp movement? What prompted you to write *The Emperor Wears No Clothes*?

JACK HERER: I got involved with marijuana because in 1969, when I was 30 years old, a young woman I was interested in decided to turn me on. She said to me, "Jack, you've got to smoke some pot 'cause you're really uptight." And, I got so loaded (laughs). She put earphones on me and I could hear music in color. I heard every word. Everything I did was somehow more. It was the most fun I'd ever had.

You know, it was a fun trip. I had the best time I had ever had in my life. We were laughing hysterically and we went into the kitchen, and we had the munchies. The first time I had ever had marijuana munchies. And that was great. I asked her why this stuff was illegal, 'cause, now that I had smoked it I couldn't understand any of this. She said, "I don't know. It's just illegal."

Three years later I'd written a book about pot. How much to pay for lids, pounds and kilos before *High Times* magazine ever existed; it told you how much to pay for lids and pounds and kilos, in LA, San Francisco, Chicago, and New York, for every different grade of weed from 1 to 10. And every different grade had its own specifications. And we wrote it in a coloring book so you could color it in when you were reading this information. That's all I thought there was to pot. And then I found out there had been hemp paper.

After I wrote this book, and the book became a national bestseller in 1973, I met the guy that owned the Heads and Highs store and he said, "You should work with the marijuana initiative." So I thought I'd work with the marijuana initiative...help sales of my books.

MP: Where was this?

JH: In LA, in Van Nuys, at Captain Ed's H and H [Heads and Highs] store.

MP: And this was in 1973.

JH: February or March, 1973. He took me to a meeting

about a month later. Now I was already a famous writer for marijuana, but it never even dawned on me there was something called hemp. I went to this meeting and there was this guy, Michael Aldridge, who knew all about hemp. That at one time hemp had been a source of paper and fiber and fuels and paints and varnishes and medicines and foods. And I thought, well, probably so did lawn trimmings; I didn't put any significance to it. But because I was a writer, and now they were asking me to write for two or three magazines that were around at the time, I started to pick up on this information for future articles.

About a year into picking up on this information we were the central point in the San Fernando Valley — the most active part of Los Angeles for this initiative — Captain Ed's and me. We had learned about hemp for paper, fiber, and fuel, and one night we were stoned and we had this vision that hemp was not just a source but the Number One source on the whole planet of paper, fiber, and fuel. You could make it all! You don't need any of these other plants! And we just, we just went off, you know. And when we came down, it was still true.

MP: What do you mean by "It's the number one source" for paper, fiber and fuel?

JH: Well, it makes more than any other source on Earth. I'll go a step further — It makes more than all the other sources on Earth combined. Which is...I mean if you just say it's the number one source, that's pretty good out of 3 million plants.

MP: So you're saying that if it were legal, it would be the number one source.

JH: Oh yeah, without a doubt, everybody knows that. Hemp is the only resource that grows from the equator to the Arctic Circle, from the desert to the sea. It grows from the mountains, to the valleys. It grows on every

inch of God's Earth that'll grow anything. It'll grow better on loamy and sandy soils than it'll grow on clay soils, but it grows better on clay soils than virtually anything else. You know, it's the only plant that goes down ten feet and digs up the ground for you, and brings up the nutrients through the ground. You've got to be an idiot, if you're a farmer, not to plant pot. Every farmer in America planted pot. Every farmer in America was a pot farmer at one time. To rotate through their fields — it killed all their weeds. If you had a field overgrown with weeds, you planted hemp there one year, and there were no more weeds, and no more weeds would come up.

MP: If hemp has so many positive uses, "Why is it illegal?" is the logical question.

JH: One wonders. At the time smoking marijuana was being made a criminal

act millions of Americans used marijuana regularly as a medicine. It was called cannabis indica, and cannabis extractums, and nobody even knew that marijuana and cannabis were even the same plant. Nobody — no doctors, no government officials — nobody knew.

Through this ignorance, combined with the societal racism of the times, it was possible to have public sentiment in agreement with a law that would take away the poor person of color's recreational drug and leave them with no choice but to buy manufactured alcohol.

MP: So it's been illegal since the thirties?

JH: In the United States.

MP: What's behind the war on drugs now?

JH: All of the pharmaceutical companies are for the Drug Enforcement Agency. Hence all the politicians they pay their money to. Also the beer companies. The company that makes Budweiser is the largest contributor to the Partnership for a Drug-Free America in the country. Budweiser absolutely doesn't want to see pot legal. They predict they'll lose about a third of their business, if hemp is legal. That's real bad. I feel real bad for drug companies...for alcohol companies like Budweiser. Budweiser provides 60 percent of the beer for the United States and they pay for half of the Partnership for a Drug-Free America budget. You think they want a drug-free America? They just want Americans free from drugs that compete with them.

MP: Do you see any change in direction of the drug war with Clinton, or a just a continuation of Bush/Reagan policies?

JH: I think for now it is a continuation of the Bush/Reagan policy. Clinton hasn't done a damn thing yet. In fact some of the things have gotten worse under him. I'm praying — I'm hoping that they become con-

scious. But I'm also planning to beat the SOBs by getting this information out. And I'll tell you, in '94 and '96, a lot of people are going to run for political office. They don't even know they're political today, as we talk. They're going to run for political office all over the state of California and they're going to start winning. When hundreds of thousands of new voters, millions of new voters, go to the polls and vote to legalize cannabis they're also going to vote to throw those politicians out who have been criminalizing the use of hemp, even as a medical balm to the dying.

MP: I hear you have put up a ten thousand dollar challenge. Could you explain that challenge?

JH: Yeah. It says, if you can find proof of any other plant that can provide the paper, fiber, and fuel of hemp, for the whole Earth, I will pay ten thousand dollars. I think my money is quite safe. Even any combination of other plants and herbs combined wouldn't equal the hemp plant.

I was just a pot smoker when I found this out, but I got mad. Mad that hemp was the number one source of paper, fiber, fuel, and we've outlawed it. Even the schools, our places of truth and learning, do not portray accurate facts for parents and students to base their decisions about legality and illegality on.

MP: You've been traveling around the state talking about a legalization initiative. Could you explain what this state initiative would do if it made it on the ballot and passed?

JH: Yeah. Within California, it would be legal to grow pot - grow hemp; I'd rather call it hemp - for paper, fiber, fuel, medicine; and you would be allowed to grow it personally, for personal use, in private. You'd be able to grow the equivalent of what you'd need to make a hundred ounces a year for yourself. After a hundred ounces, if you still wanted to grow, you'd have to be filed, and become a grower under the California wine industry model. Under the California wine industry model you would pay about fifty dollars a year to grow unlimited amounts. And you would have the same right as Gallo to market your product. Every half ounce sold would have a \$10 tax on it. It differs a little from the wine model at that point. But, within reason. But you wouldn't pay anything for the pot you have at home. You'd have a hundred ounces at home that are non-taxable. That's enough to get anybody by.

MP: Is there any organized opposition to the initiative?

JH: No, I've never seen anything organized. The NORML (National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws) people in Northern California, out of San Francisco and the Bay Area, would prefer not to do an initiative. They would prefer to see it made legal through the legislature, and, to put restrictions on personal freedoms, so you'd still be a criminal. I've pretty much divorced myself from NORML. They probably mean well, but I'm not willing to make a deal with politicians, other than a deal on my terms, and my

terms are for total legalization.

I find it absolutely abhorrent that I went through school and did not know that it was useful for anything, let alone the best medicine, the best food, the best way to dissolve the plaque and cholesterol in your arteries. Everybody in my family has died from their arteries being filled up, and the food that cures that the best on Earth is illegal. I find that pretty...pretty raunchy. I don't trust the government to change its position. I don't trust the government in any way. They've had this information. We've given it to politicians. They say, "Well, when you make it popular, we'll come out for it." Well, that might be the politicians' point of view. My point of view is to vote the bastards out. Or try to.

MP: Recently in Santa Cruz the medical marijuana initiative overwhelmingly passed the voters here when it was on the ballot.

JH: By 77 percent!

MP: Do you see that as the beginnings of a movement that dovetails with an overall decriminalization or legalization movement? How does the medical marijuana movement fit into all this?

JH: The medical marijuana movement is part of it. We've made the initiative to make it re-legalized, for paper, fiber, fuel, medicine, food, and for personal use in private. It's comprehensive. It's comprehensive so we don't have to lie about it anymore.

Four hundred and nineteen thousand Americans died this year from tobacco.

Not a single American died from smoking marijuana or the accumulated effects of smoking marijuana. There is only one way Americans have died from smoking marijuana: They've been shot by their policemen.

Tell your readers to come join the initiative. Come join work on the petition drive and be part of the movement putting an end to this stupidity. ■

John Govsky is the editor of The Monthly Planet.

The Many Uses of Hemp

• Stems for fabric, paper and commercial use: Hemp is dried and broken down into two parts: threadlike fibers and bits of "hurd," or pulp. Each of these products has its own distinct applications:

The fiber strands are spun into thread, which is either made into rope or woven into durable, high quality textiles and made into clothing, sails, fine linens and fabrics of all types and textures.

The fragments of dried stalk that remain are hurds, which are 77% cellulose and can be made into dioxin-free paper, non-toxic paints and sealants, construction materials, plastics, and much more. Hemp is the best source of plant pulp for biomass fuel, making gas, charcoal, methanol, gasoline or even producing electricity.

• Seeds for oil and food: Hemp seeds produce oil for cooking, lubrication, fuel, etc. Hemp seed is an excellent source of protein. Its leaves and flowers are also edible.

• Foliage for medicine, food and relaxation: Hemp has long-recognized medical value for easing pain, relieving stress and treating illnesses from glaucoma to asthma to nausea and beyond. Its flowers and leaves, called marijuana, are smoked or eaten for many therapeutic, religious, or relaxation uses.

• Rooted in America: Even hemp roots play an important role: they anchor and invigorate the soil to control erosion and mud slides. Hemp can save family farms, create jobs, reduce acid rain and chemical pollution, and reverse the Greenhouse Effect.

Source: Business Alliance for Commerce in Hemp (BACH)

THE WAR ON MARIJUANA IS A WAR ON YOU!

! COMMUNITY ALERT!

! COMMUNITY ALERT!

On November 23rd, a \$240,000 grant for marijuana repression will be approved by our Board of Supervisors, UNLESS we just say NO!

What is Hemp/Cannabis/Marijuana?

For thousands of years this plant has been the world's primary resource for food, fiber, fuel, oil, paper, and medicine for body, mind, and spirit. It has only been prohibited for industrial and recreational use since 1937, and for medicinal use since 1970.

Who Profits from the Prohibition of Hemp/Marijuana?

- The criminal underground, which supplies the ever-increasing numbers of other-wise law-abiding citizens who use this plant.
- The Military and Law Enforcement Industries, who receive billions of our tax dollars every year to apprehend, prosecute, and imprison users of this plant.
- The Alcohol and Tobacco Industries, which legally kill over 450,000 people every year. Not one person has ever died from ingesting marijuana.
- The Pharmaceutical Industry which replaced marijuana, listed in the 1937 U.S. Pharmacopoeia as the primary medicine for over 100 diseases, with very expensive, highly toxic, and far less effective chemical medicines.
- The Petrochemical Industries - everything we currently make from fossil fuels can be, and, in fact, used to be made from hemp, including plastics, gasoline and diesel fuels, paints, varnishes, and lubricating oils.
- The Timber Industry - until the late 1800's, over 80% of our paper was made from hemp. Since its prohibition, over 70% of our forests have been cut down. Hemp can also be used to make plywood and other building materials which are stronger and more durable than comparable wood products.

Who Benefits from Ending Prohibition?

- PATIENTS who use this herb for everything from cancer, AIDS, and glaucoma to depression, muscle spasm, and PMS.
- PARENTS who will finally see vast sums of our tax dollars freed up for truth-based drug education and rehabilitation, not to mention libraries and other educational programs.
- FARMERS who will once again be able to supply our industrial and medicinal needs as well as our nutritional ones.
- ENVIRONMENTALISTS who will at last have a tried & true solution for meeting our industrial needs and healing our planet at the same time. Growing and using hemp did this for thousands of years and will do so again.
- POLICE OFFICERS who truly want to protect and serve our community will be relieved to not have to spend valuable time roaming the hills looking for plants and spying on those who would use them.
- RECREATIONAL USERS who will be free to choose this plant over the legally sanctioned chemical intoxicants currently available.

WHAT CAN WE DO NOW?

Call your County Supervisor before Tuesday, Nov. 23rd.
(454-2200 - they will direct you to the right person)

&

Join us at the Board of Supervisors meeting on the 5th floor of the County Bldg. on Tuesday, Nov. 23rd— call for time.

LET THEM KNOW IT 'S TIME FOR:

- 1) an immediate ceasefire in this war on our citizens and our environment.
- 2) an immediate end to the harrassment and prosecution of medical marijuana users by our county Sheriffs and the District Attorney, in accordance with the instructions given them by the 77% of county voters who said yes to Measure A, the Medical Marijuana Initiative.
- 3) Public hearings, as soon as possible, to examine hemp/marijuana use in our community, and what the full costs are to continue enforcement of prohibition.

For further information and updates, call 425-3235

Paid for by Aries Arts

Calendar items must be typed or legibly written and sent (along with any photos) to *The Monthly Planet*, P.O. Box 8463, Santa Cruz, CA 95061, or faxed to 429-8889. We do not take calendar items over the phone.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Jain Monk to Speak on Active Nonviolence and the power of meditation. Jainism includes an active practice of nonviolence and nonpossessiveness, the universal co-dependency of all creatures and meditation. At Loudon Nelson Center, 301 Center St., Santa Cruz, 7:30 pm. A sliding scale donation of \$3-5 suggested. Info: 423-1626.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5

People Power Bike Pride Ride, a Santa Cruz mass bicycle ride. Help build bicyclists' political clout. Meet at the lighthouse on West Cliff Drive (rain or shine) for a ride around town. First Friday of every month, 5:30 pm. Info: 429-0133.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Immigration Teach-In. Help move dialogue forward in our community and help end racist, anti-immigrant words, and actions. 9 am-5 pm at Loudon Nelson Community Center. Morning and afternoon sessions. Performance in the park behind Loudon Nelson Center at 1 pm. Donations accepted. Sponsors: ACLU and others. Info: 423-1626 or 426-5021.

"Logging In Santa Cruz County: Can Our Forests Survive?" A workshop featuring Sharon Duggan, Environmental Attorney. Also speaking Supervisor Gary Patton, and Supervisor Fred Keeley and many others. First Congregational Church 900 High Street, Santa Cruz. 8:30 am-4:45 pm. Registration Fee: \$15.00, \$10.00 (students, seniors, low-income). Sponsored by the Sierra Club, Santa Cruz Regional Group. Info: 425-8159.

Hot Lips! Body Image Task Force presents Fat Lip Readers Theatre with Food For Life Cafe. The show, by and for Women Only, is erotic and fun. 7 pm at the Business and Professional Women's Club, 240 Plymouth in Santa Cruz. Advance tickets \$10, at the door \$12-15 sliding scale. Info: 426-1821.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6- SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7

New Age Renaissance Fair. Visionary art show, arts and crafts sale, exhibits of health and self-improvement, psychics, astrologers, card readers, palmists. San Jose Convention Center, Old Exhibit Hall Market St. at Park Ave. behind Civic Auditorium. 9 am-9 pm. advance, \$5 door per day, children under 12 free. Info: (408) 448-6726.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Israeli-Palestinian Peace Accords and Grassroots Palestinian Perspectives is the focus of a talk by Zoughbi Zoughbi, a former staffperson for Middle East Witness in Jerusalem. Resource Center for Nonviolence, 515 Broadway, Santa Cruz, 7 pm. \$3-5 sliding scale donation requested. Info: 423-1626.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9

Closing the US "School for Dictators." Maryknoll Father Roy Bourgeois will speak on the US Army School of the Americas: its curriculum, its real-life consequences in Latin America and its impact on Latin American democracy. Resource Center for Nonviolence, 515 Broadway, Santa Cruz, 7:30 pm. Free. Info: 423-1626.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11

US Troops in Somalia: A Foreign Policy Disaster. An alternative viewpoint on combat operations billed as humanitarian relief by Eric Larsen. Larsen is a Marine Corps veteran who was threatened with the death penalty for refusing orders to report for desert training during the Gulf War. Resource Center for Nonviolence, 515 Broadway, Santa Cruz, 7:30 pm. Info: 423-1626.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12

The JFK Assassination: What do we know? How do we know it? A forum on the 30th anniversary. Featuring Peter Dale Scott, author of *Deep Politics and the Assassination of JFK*; Bob Callahan, author of *Who Shot JFK: A Guide to the Major Conspiracy Theories*; and Paul L. Hoch, editor of *Echoes of Conspiracy* and *The Assas-*

inations: Dallas and Beyond. Location to be announced. Sponsor: New Society Bookstore. Info: 423-1626.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19- SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Telling Each Other Our Stories: A Weekend for Quaker Women. Quaker Center, Ben Lomond. Call 336-8333 for details.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22

"The US Presence in Guatemala, Past and Present." A slide show and talk by Roy Holman, a former Santa Cruz resident who has spent the last two years in Guatemala. Resource Center for Nonviolence, 515 Broadway, Santa Cruz, 7 pm. Sponsors: Santa Cruz Guatemala Committee and the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. Info: 425-5939.

PEACE & JUSTICE CALENDAR

Sustainability Summit

Action Santa Cruz County organized an all-day "S.E.E.D. Summit on Sustainability" (Social, Environmental and Economic Development) at the Nylonnek Retreat Center in the Soquel Hills on Sunday Oct. 24, 1993. A broad-based constituency of over 110 individuals representing government, business, education and community organizations participated.

The purpose of the Summit was to launch local initiatives for implementing AGENDA 21, the global work plan for planetary sustainability agreed upon by all the nations of the world at the Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 1992.

By addressing our local concerns regarding clean air and water, preserving natural resources and habitats, moving away from toxic technologies and products, expanding and restructuring education, creating a vibrant economy with reasonable income, health, housing, energy and transportation, Santa Cruz can become a model community. In the afternoon session, working groups began to envision our positive future in these and other areas as well as to design action plans for implementation. Further input and participation from the community is both anticipated and encouraged. Contact the following individuals if you are interested in working in their area.

- 1) Toxic Technology and Public Health: Dr. Nora Wilson, 462-3905
- 2) Energy and Transportation: Steven Phillips, 457-0154
- 3) Education: Holly Gordon, 684-1963
- 4) Viable Economy and Housing: Patrick Greer, 338-2017
- 5) Agriculture: Jared Lawson, 426-3609
- 6) Population and Social Justice: Lotus Maynor, 457-2498
- 7) Resources and Recycling: Victor Aguiar, 426-5925
- 8) Ecosystem Management and Biodiversity: Betsy Sites, 338-2017

There will be a general working group meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 16th. For further information, contact Jeanne Nordland at 338-6013.

Overthrow the Government and Get Paid for it!



California SANE/FREEZE is an activist-oriented peace group working to put people back in charge of our country's spending priorities. If you're disgusted with the fact that the U.S. is the #1 weapons trafficker in the world then work with us to change it. If you are worried by the fact that the weapons industry is the single largest lobbying force on Capitol Hill then work with us to counteract their power. We're hiring women and men now to do community organizing and empowerment work. 1993 represents an amazing opportunity for social change...it is not a guarantee! We need to speak up and get others to speak up as well. If you would like to work in a progressive atmosphere and develop activist skills you'll use the rest of your life, then call us today. FT, PT, paid vacation, full medical and dental coverage, travel.



Work for Social Change!

Santa Cruz Office
(408) 429-8888

San Francisco Office
(415) 558-0695

Los Angeles Office
(213) 852-4925

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