

from the RQ Archives

Direct Action Newspaper!

Direct Action, an activist newspaper published by Bay Area-based Livermore Action Group from 1982 to 1986, provided the most comprehensive coverage of North American and European grassroots organizing available in those years.

The tabloid-sized paper was produced by volunteers working with typewriters, xerox machines, and gluesticks. Every scrap of print and every graphic were (lovingly) pasted down by hand. Sometimes we didn't get them exactly straight...

The second scene of Luke Hauser's *Direct Action: An Historical Novel* depicts a typical chaotic production session. The novel also dramatizes many of the actions covered in the newspaper. See info at right for free download.

Articles were written by people involved in the actions, and feature first-hand narratives plus reflections on tactics and strategy. Later issues featured carefully-elaborated theme sections produced by various sub-groups and focusing on economics, art and activism, solidarity actions, and more.

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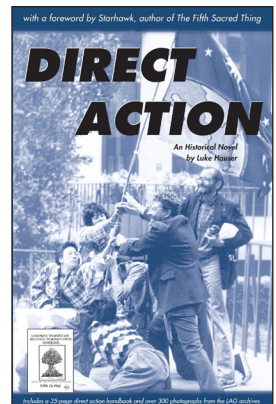


DIRECT ACTION An Historical Novel

by Luke Hauser

More than 7000 people were arrested in nonviolent protests in California in the 1980s, developing the art of direct action to a height not reached again until Seattle in 1999.

This unique book captures the actions, the people, the misadventures... plus 300 photos!



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Print edition at Amazon.

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- GroundWork magazine (1990s)
- Reclaiming Newsletter & Quarterly (100 issues in all, 1980-2011)
- Organizing and teaching resources
- Chants and songs for activism, rituals, workshops – and for singing along

Organizing:

WeaveAndSpin.org/resources/

Magazines & Downloads:

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DIRECT ACTION

Published by Livermore Action Group

September 1983

STOP THE CRUISE & PERSHING II

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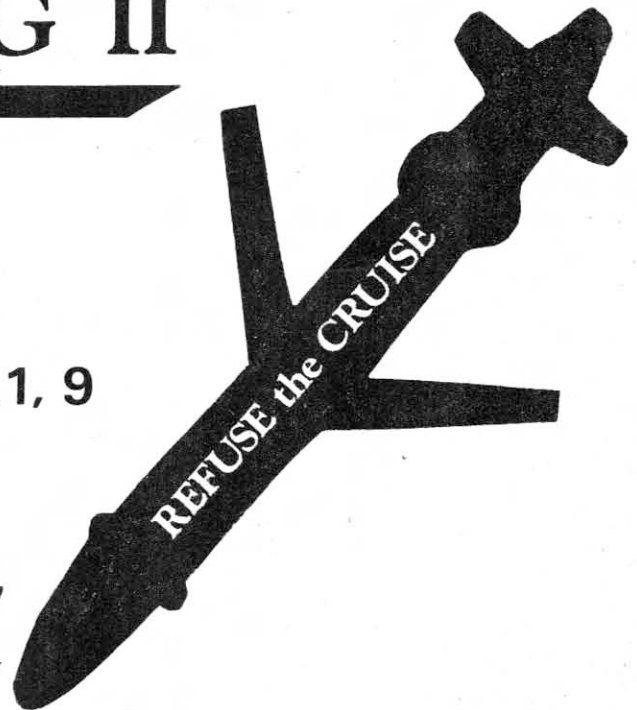
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REFUSE the CRUISE



Livermore Action Group
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Berkeley, CA 94705

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Mass Mobilization Against Cruise and Pershing II

October 22nd

Legal Demonstration Stop the Euromissiles!

We have 7 weeks. Seven weeks in which to transform the preoccupation of a few peace groups about two weapons systems into a mass opposition against the next step down the road to First Strike.

462 cruise and 100 Pershing II's will be installed in Europe. Millions of people will turn out in the major cities of Europe, in huge mobilizations during the week of Oct. 15-22. Polls show that the majority of people in England, Germany and Italy refuse to hold their countries hostage to more U.S. missiles. Is the U.S. peace movement able to respond on this scale?

Most Americans have never heard of either missile. Of those who are aware, many still view it as a problem for Europe. These missiles are our problem. If they are built, even if the Europeans force the U.S. to find alternate basing modes, the U.S. government will advance farther down the road to war. The cruise and the Pershing II are just links in a nuclear chain. The chain starts with the "tactical" battlefield nuclear weapons available to any infantry commander, and rises to the multi-warhead MX missiles. The chain is a fence around U.S. "conventional" forces -- the advisors, the "peace-keeping" troops, the fleets. The fence says "Keep back -- U.S. intervention at work. Resist under threat of nuclear annihilation."

For the first time in decades, over half of U.S. armed forces are stationed or on maneuvers outside the U.S. Daily the Reagan administration preaches cold war rhetoric of Soviet/Cuban/Nicaraguan subversion threatening to march at us over the Mexican border. The politics of fear is used to mobilize Americans into accepting a U.S. garrison state, armed to the teeth with every available conventional and nuclear weapon, selling or sending its arms and soldiers to every corner of the world.

We must turn back this march towards war. We must also be realistic as to the strength of our movement. Through civil disobedience and direct actions, groups such as LAG show the directions we will eventually all need to take to transform this society. But thousands are not flocking to the banner of C.D. To get to that point, we must mobilize and activate tens and hundreds of thousands. The mass mobilizations of Europe during October 15-22 must be echoed in the U.S.

Build Our Strength Now

The peace movement in the U.S. has not had a show of its mass strength since the June 12th demonstrations in 1982. We vitally need to show our ability to bring people into the streets en masse in their opposition to Reagan's military policy. We need to strengthen the international links of opposition to the nuclear war plans of the Kohls, Thatchers, and Reagans. We need to show our solidarity with the victims of U.S. intervention in Central America, the Pacific Islands, and the Middle East.

As movements based on nonviolent civil disobedience we need to renew our links to the larger peace movement. In Italy, in Germany, in England, in Canada -- governments are turning to violent police attacks, spying and repression to break up direct dissent. Linking mass legal opposition to nonviolent direct actions -- such as June 12th in New York and San Francisco were linked to the consulate and Livermore C.D.s -- is the only way of preventing the State from using its powers of repression against us, from dividing and isolating each part of the movement.

LAG is part of the Coalition Against the Cruise and Pershing II Missiles, the Bay Area groups which are sponsoring the October 22 march and rally in San Francisco. Every effort and resource of LAG must now be turned into a full scale mobilization for this action.

C.D. and Mass Mobilizations

We must mobilize all our networks -- affinity groups, MX and International Day activists, etc. But at the same time we mobilize our resources to build this rally, we must clarify our politics and strategy. We do not expect to stop the cruise and Pershing II with these rallies; at this point even the Europeans are pessimistic. These rallies are only a first step in a long process of political mobilization.

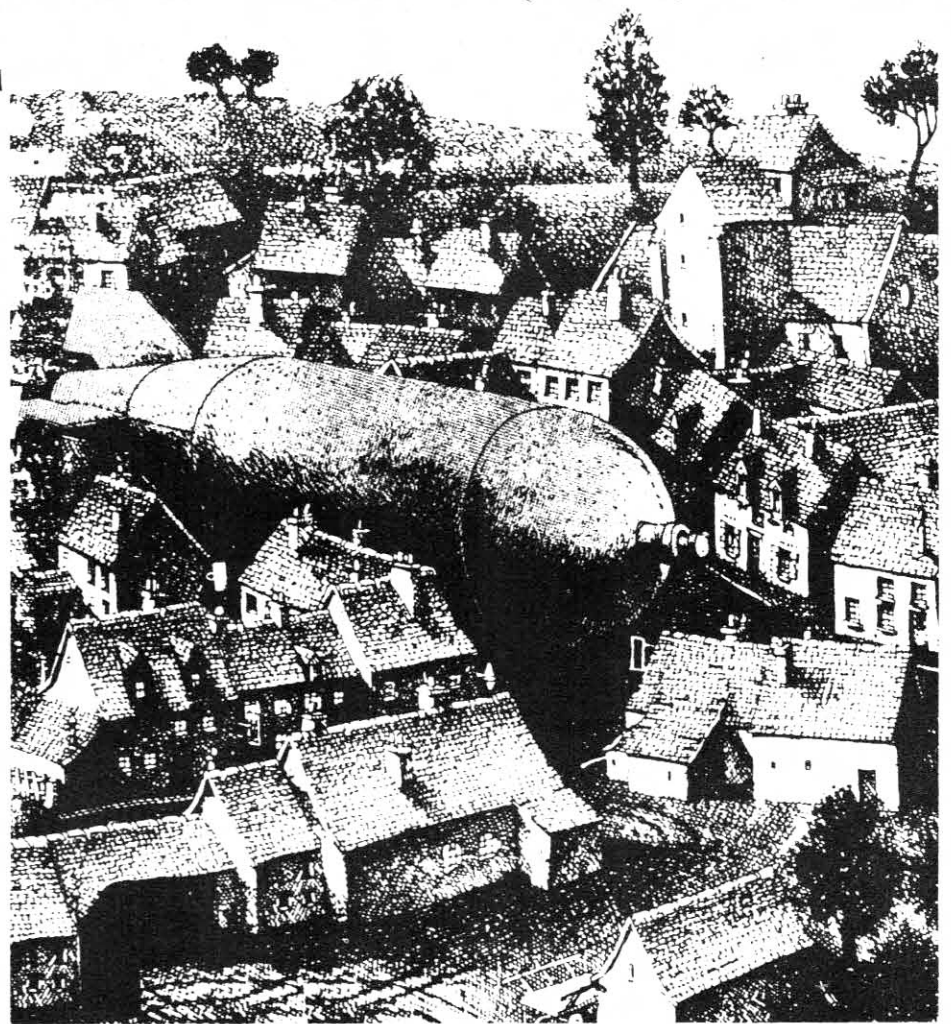


1984 is an election year. The Democrats are the party which under Carter initiated most of this nuclear expansion and could stop it today (through their control of spending in the House of Representatives) if they really were a party of peace and non-intervention. The political basis of our participation in mobilizations such as the Oct. 22nd rally must be clear. The Democrats pose no alternative to the arms race. Only a popular mobilization -- including rallies and all forms of legal and illegal nonviolent direct action, can reverse U.S. military policy -- a policy which has been a Democratic/Republican consensus since World War II.

Grassroots organizing (such as Information Week), more militant mass rallies and mobilizations, and continued acts of C.D. must be coordinated. LAG and other direct action groups must be prepared with alternatives come November and December. When the U.S. has flown the cruise and Pershing II in over the heads of millions of European demonstrators, when the MX, Trident, cruise and Pershing II are built and tested and installed against the wishes of millions of American Freeze supporters -- the movements for non-violent civil disobedience and direct action must be prepared with an alternative program -- or helplessly watch the Democrats paper over the way to the next conflagration.

We face a difficult task for LAG. We have never worked in a real base-to-base coalition, where LAG activists, AG's and networks fully participated in a coalition actively. We have not collectively clarified our goals and strategies enough to bring proposals for action to such a coalition. But we can no longer afford to conduct our C.D. actions in isolation. The opportunities and dangers of the coming year are too clear for such luxuries.

- S. N.



Plans for October CD Take Shape

What are we going to do on October 24th? The Euromissiles Working Group got together a list of queries we hope the affinity groups will find useful:

* Should we have a single action or multiple actions?

* If multiple actions are chosen, should all be on one day or more than one day?

* Where are we going to do it:

- Consulates of nations receiving missiles?

- Federal Building in San Francisco?

- Corporations (e.g. board meetings?) with missile contracts?

- U.C. Board of Regents?

- Churches (especially on Sunday, October 23)?

- Freeways?

- BART stations and on BART trains?

- Stores selling war toys?

* And the big question: What type of action to do in a city? This is new ground for LAG!

- Do we want to blockade a consulate(s), corporation, Federal Bldg.?

- How about a car blockade on a freeway?

- Where could we do leafletting? (Churches on Sunday, October 23?)

- Phone-in campaigns?

- Ritual and theatre?

- Placing symbols of death?

- A die-in?

October 24 was consensed on by the LAG Congress so our action would follow the legal action on October 22.

There are lots of decisions still to make and work to do. A media collective for the October action is being formed (contact Cathy at 563-2546). To learn more about the Euromissile Working Group contact the LAG office.

And finally, discuss some of this with your affinity group so the spokes will have a productive talk at the September 18 Regional Spokes Council from 10 - 6 at La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley (across from LAG office).

- by Paul Marx and Jim Dyer

Coalition Against the Cruise and Pershing Missiles

Peace, religious, labor and community groups have united to sponsor the Bay Area October 22 demonstrations. Currently, the groups involved include LAG, the Northern California Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign, Democratic Socialists of America, CANE, War Resisters League, and the Disarmament Resource Center. To expand the coalition, a 300 organization mailing has been done to build for a Sept. 8 coalition meeting (to be held at 7:30 p.m. at the San Francisco Unitarian Church, Franklin and Geary).

For Oct. 22 the coalition plans to start with a human chain from the Federal Building, down Market Street to corporations such as Bechtel which produce cruise and Pershing II components. One proposal to demonstrate the links between the corporations and the federal government, has participants in the chain pass a missile mock-up from the corporate headquarters to the Federal Building. At the Federal Building, the missile would be dismantled, and an object symbolic of peace passed back down the chain. The chain would begin at 10:30 and end at a noon rally at the Federal Building or the Civic Center.

The coalition is sponsoring a month of educational activities for October. This is being done autonomously by each group, with the coalition acting only to help share resources. See the articles on LAG's Information Week.

Coalition work groups currently include Finance, Logistics, Outreach, Publicity and Media. LAG working

groups should send representatives to coordinate activities and help publicize and build the chain/march/rally. All LAG working groups should consider how to participate in the coalition or carry out independent LAG actions to mobilize for the rally.

Affinity groups can participate in Information Week, or directly in Coalition projects. Community outreach, leafletting, getting the LAG Euromissiles slide show distributed are all essential.

For more information contact:

- Coalition Against Cruise and Pershing II Missiles (LAG office) -- Michaela Terrazino, staffperson -- 841-8359.

- LAG Information Week - Jonika Mountainfire 834-2172 (msg.)

- LAG Outreach Working Group - Pamela Osgood 861-6838.

- S. N.



Keith Holmes



Subscribe to Direct Action Now! see p.19!

Thousands March

(Continued from Back Cover)

tions of what she said, the audience picked up on it, and she was roundly booed.

As the afternoon wore on, speaker after speaker thundered at Reagan, blaming his administration for turning back the clock on civil rights. "Reagan has declared war on the people and so we have no choice but to declare war on him," said Gus Newport, the Black mayor of Berkeley.

Speaking for the AFL-CIO, Jack Henning said, "Only through united action will we drive the Reaganite and rabble-right out of Washington."

A speaker for the Freeze advised the crowd, "The only way to accomplish anything is to register and vote." That is exactly the strategy that has caused the Freeze to disappear as a movement in less than a year.



But it ties in with the Coalition of Conscience strategy, which is to register Blacks to vote in order to strengthen their leverage inside the Democratic party.

That is the contradiction. While the Labor Solidarity demonstration in 1981, the Disarmament demonstration in 1982, and now the Jobs, Peace, and Freedom demonstration in 1983 have mobilized huge numbers of people, the organizers of these actions have used them to channel discontent into the confines of the Democratic party. They think that everything will be different if Reagan is 'no more in '84'.

Nevertheless, mass actions have a decidedly different impact on the people in the crowd.

"I think these demonstrations encourage people to feel our own strength and let us know we have allies," said Darrel Myers, an activist with the San Francisco El Salvador Initiative Campaign. "The Democratic party would like not to discuss jobs, peace and freedom. This helps legitimize our issues and pressures the Democrats to address them. The rich have a united front in the Democratic and Republican parties. Now we have to learn to build a united front for our interests, like the Sandinistas."

While Martin Luther King's vision of the future is still a dream deferred, we have made important gains. In the emerging coalitions for social change, disparate groups are starting to see that instead of fighting each other for a bigger piece of the pie, they're going to have to work together if they want to get any of it at all.

-by Joyce Stoller

Flea Market Under

New Management

LAG's on-again, off-again flea market is on again! Two people have shown interest in co-ordinating the logistics for the project, and are ready to hit Ashby BART Flea Market on weekends this fall.

Our supply of goods is getting low. What we need to do is upgrade the quality of stuff we are selling; there are several dozen "garage sale" type stalls at Ashby BART, and unless our materials are really good people don't stop to look at all.

The lists below are suggestions; if you have other items, let us know.

NEED:

- *Stereos, speakers, tape players that work well
- *Records in good shape (these go really well!)
- *Dress jackets or other dress clothes which retail for \$30 up
- *Household items (rugs, bookshelves, sheets, plant hangers, etc. in good condition.)
- *Appliances which sell new for \$20 up and work well
- *Sets of good dishes or kitchenware
- *Pots & pans, good utensils
- *Antiques, knick-knacks, etc., in good shape
- *Professional supplies (photo stuff, craft kits, etc)
- *Good furniture
- *Buckets, tubs, containers
- *Good tools, garden or shop types
- *Plants, gardenware, planters
- *Jewelry
- *Wooden crates or boxes

DON'T NEED:

- *Shirts, pants, skirts, shoes (clothing just never moves)
- *Books of any kind
- *Small phonographs, broken tape decks, small radios
- *Scratchy records
- *Broken items of any sort (we don't have time to fix them)
- *Odd dishes or glasses
- *Old kitchenware
- *Old or cheap knick-knacks or "antiques"
- *Food
- *Old games or puzzles
- *Cheap or broken jewelry

In addition to the co-ordinators, who work 10-15 hours per week, a number of volunteers are needed to stop by a few hours on a weekend afternoon. The work is a great time, and you'll get a chance to talk with a lot of community folks about LAG and our work. Come down and spend an afternoon!

To donate or volunteer, please call Darla at the LAG office, 644-3031. Leave your name, number, and best times to reach you. Thanks!

decentralized fundraising

We can't move without money.

When we consented to direct action in October, we also agreed to spend the money to make the action happen. Where will all this money come from?

No movement without money (Port-A-Johns at the last action alone cost us \$400.00!). This is unfortunate but necessary for all of us to understand. Anyone who is interested in building a truly decentralized, grassroots peace movement ought to know that fundraising is the base from which all other projects & activities spring - publicity publication, phone calls, office space, and the rest. And even more important, how fundraising is handled says a lot about the character of the organization doing the fundraising.

For example: some groups hire full-time, well-paid grant writers; the Republicans have their mass-mail sweepstakes campaign ("You may already have won!"); and the Moral Majority buys TV time for Jerry Falwell. On the other hand, LAG has traditionally depended on small contributions collected at benefits, newspaper subscriptions, and Affinity Group tabling. Much of the fundraising effort has been taken up by people in working groups, especially the office and canvassing and tabling collectives, while most of LAG's contributions come from widespread small donors, too often the burden of fundraising work falls on a small group of people. To the extent to which that happens, LAG becomes less decentralized. "Money is Power."

It has been empowering for me to have a hand in raising money for LAG. I have knocked on peoples' doors and asked people for money directly, I

Publications Collective Branches Out Pamphlets

LAG's Publications Collective, which has spent the past year producing Direct Action and the Action Bulletin, is moving into the field of pamphlet production. Comments at recent meetings have underscored a need for leaflets and short pamphlets on everything from the Euromissiles to the history of LAG to consensus. For the past year, leaflet production has been ad hoc, and pamphleteering non-existent. By directing layout and design skills toward this area, Publications hopes to fill a large gap in LAG's work.

Distribution

Finally, we are looking to expand our distribution. Until June, Direct Action was available only by subscription, or by chancing across a LAG table at a shopping center or street-corner. We have begun placing the paper in local bookstores and coffee-shops, but a more carefully organized effort is needed. We have been thinking of a "neighborhood distribution," where we could drop 500-1000 papers at one spot, for immediate delivery to locations within your neighborhood. Already we have volunteers for the Telegraph and South-central Berkeley areas; we need coordinators for North Berkeley, various areas of Oakland, San Francisco, and possibly other cities. Ideally, the drop-spot would be so located as to allow easy distribution of 500 or more papers. If you can help out, please give us a call.

To get involved in any of these projects, or just to find out more details, give us a call, or check the Publications Work Group on the return coupon elsewhere in this issue. Call George and Tori, 845-7248, or leave a message at the LAG office, 644-3031.



THE MEN'S TENTS

DIRECT ACTION

Direct Action is published by the Livermore Action Group, 3126 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley CA 94705, and is produced by the publications collective. Volunteers are always welcome (leave a message at the LAG office, 644-3031).

Views expressed are those of the authors, not necessarily of LAG or the publications collective. Articles are welcome, with the understanding that they may be edited. Manuscripts cannot be returned. Deadline for next issue: Monday, September 19, 5pm at the office.

In addition to writers whose names appeared in this issue, the following people assisted with production: Bob Slattery, Doris Bowles, Al Bettles, Ed Gehrman, Dik Fishman, Darla Rucker, Martha Fox, Christopher Freeman, Laurel Prager, Tamara Thompson, Jim Dyer, and Ken Nightingale.

LAG Auction

An Addendum to the Auction

First we want to thank everyone who helped make our vision work. The auction took 6 months of hard work and brought with it many valuable lessons and skills we will carry with us always. We encourage everyone to take on a fundraising venture. They are one of the best outreaches we've experienced. It was a great way to talk about the up-and-coming blockade as well as post-blockade. We were really moved by how generous people were and how much people wanted to help. We'd love to see this be an annual event and we know the people who got great bargains want to see it happen again, too. It felt great to be able to make available items, artwork and services that otherwise us Lagers could never afford. To do this with KPFA felt really right after all the wonderful coverage they always give us. Hopefully next year the expenses will be a lot less than this year. We brought in \$5000 in

cash and had \$2000 in expenses; \$550 was in advertising (\$350 Bay Guardian, \$150 East Bay Express, \$50 The Advocate) and \$600 was a result of the first scheduled auction being cancelled due to lack of bidders. That leaves \$800 for all other expenses, which is what seems reasonable for next year. Next year we won't need to spend so much on advertising because we'll have this year as a precedent, and word of mouth is not only better but much cheaper.

Again, thanks to all at KPFA, all who came, all who donated, all who helped on the auction, and most of all to our AG, Active Matter, Thea Henzel, Ed Gehrman and Denise Slattery.

With Love,

Paul and Sunflower

Santa Rita Women's Jail Book

A book collage of our experiences in prison, poetry, songs, drawings, & much more.

June 20, 1983 Benefit for Livermore Action Group

To share with each other with supporters with friends & allies here & elsewhere in the world.

Why we did what we did What it all means What we learned

Book planned to be out by December

Help production costs with your advance orders: \$6 per book including postage

Make checks payable to Santa Rita Women's Book Collective (SRWBC)

Send to: Karen Engel, 815 A St., Davis, CA 95616 Tel.: 916/758-5622

Euromissile Information Week

October 8-15

What You'll Need To Do

1. Co-ordinate your work with the EIW working group (Patrick, 763-4388; Jonika, 834-2172, or Ethan, 845-2206.)
2. Attend workshop on: (a) public speaking and canvassing; (b) nukes in your adopted neighborhood, and (c) important organizations in your adopted neighborhood.
3. Contact sympathetic organizations in your adopted neighborhood and ask them if they would like to help sponsor a LAG slide show during EIW. Encourage them to do other things as well (publicity, talks, sermons, benefits, etc.)
4. Set a date and place for your event; contact the EIW working group (see #1 above) so that your event can be publicized in the planned mass-mailing.
5. Suggested format for the educational event: Show LAG slide show. Answer questions, share information, tell people about the nukes in their own back yard. Emphasize writing Congresspeople, attending the October 22 legal rally, and doing or supporting CD. Facilitate the formation of neighborhood AGs.
6. If there's extra energy in your AG, try tabling or door-to-door canvassing in your adopted neighborhood; or join the work group that's co-ordinating EIW (see #1 above)

Materials and Resources

LAG and the EIW working group will offer the following resources to AGs interested in EIW:

- LAG slide shows--an excellent outreach tool, good video plus an informative and fast-paced script.
- Direct Action newspaper, with detail of the October actions, articles on the Euromissiles, and information on the whole gamut of global resistance to nukes.
- Handbooks, leaflets, and pamphlets on a variety of topics.
- Buttons, T-shirts, and other anti-nuke paraphernalia--proceeds support LAG's work.
- Workshops in basic skills and information needed for a successful AG educational program.
- Information on other grassroots groups in your adopted neighborhood.
- Help with publicity and logistics for your event.
- Encouragement and support for this crucial AG outreach project.

Help Needed!

To make EIW a big success, we need your help with the following working group projects:

- 1) help with workshops on public speaking, canvassing, etc.
- 2) help with briefings in local nuke activity.
- 3) help prepare educational materials for EIW.
- 4) table and canvass with AGs.
- 5) work on the October Coalition press conference.
- 6) work on the coalition's mass mailing.

(To help with any of these tasks, or for more info, contact the EIW work group: Patrick, 763-4388; Jonika, 834-2172; Ethan, 845-2206.)

Preparations are already underway for Euromissile Information Week (EIW for short), consensed to by the LAG Congress in mid-August.

EIW is a grassroots neighborhood organizing campaign whose immediate goal is to get as many people as possible to the Oct. 22 demonstration and to the Oct. 24 civil disobedience actions. Its longterm goals are local coalition-building (formation

of closer ties between AGs and small, community-based groups) and the formation of new AGs in communities which so far haven't been represented in our organization. By better acquainting us with the nuclear concerns of the general public, it will help us decide on the best focus for a year-long campaign.

We need people NOW to join Information Week working groups. After

the groundwork has been laid, each participating AG will ADOPT A NEIGHBORHOOD. The AG will contact community groups in its adopted neighborhood which they think might support the Euromissiles campaign. It will work with these groups as much as possible to plan at least one educational event during EIW, at which people will learn not only about the Euromissiles but about nuclear activity in and near their neighborhood.

LAG will provide public-speaking trainings, an excellent slide show on Euromissiles and the peace movement, leaflets, newspapers and other materials, and resource people to help with your work.

We will work with members of the October 22 Coalition--the Freeze, Democratic Socialists of America, and others--to make this as much of a joint educational campaign as possible. EIW will be kicked off by a press conference, and accompanied by a mass-mailing.

In order to be a success, EIW needs the active participating of a large number of AG's. We've consensed to this project--let's give it detailed consideration at our next AG meeting. If you don't have a meeting scheduled, here's a great reason to call one. First strike weapons are about to be deployed in Europe--time is short!

When you decide to adopt a neighborhood, or to ask further questions about the project, call Patrick Diehl at 763-4388, Jonika Mountainfire at 834-2172, or Ethan Willard at 845-2206. Please return the form on this page as soon as possible--we'd like to have them by September 6. Mail to "Information Week" c/o LAG, 3126 Shattuck, Berkeley 94705.

For time and place of our next meeting, call Jonika, 834-2172.

Stop the Euromissiles Now!



Return This Coupon Fast!

AG NAME _____

CONTACT NAME _____ PHONE _____

WILL YOU ADOPT ANY LOCAL NEIGHBORHOOD? (yes or no?) _____

FIRST PREFERENCE OF NEIGHBORHOOD LOCATION _____

SECOND PREFERENCE _____

NUMBER IN AG WHO WANT TO HELP _____

COMMENTS _____

(Return this form quickly--by September 6 if possible--to Information Week, c/o LAG, 3126 Shattuck, Berkeley 94705.)



Education — Recruitment — Coalition-Building — Neighborhood-Organizing

Euromissile Information Week, consensed to by the LAG Congress as a full-scale LAG project, stresses the importance of education about the arms race, coalition-building, active recruitment, and neighborhood organizing.

Effective neighborhood organizing is essential if we are to increase our membership and broaden our base of popular support. But the importance of neighborhood organizing goes far beyond recruitment and support for mass actions.

While the immediate goal of this proposal is to recruit large numbers of people for legal demonstrations and civil disobedience actions against the deployment of the Euromissiles (the cruise and Pershing II missiles scheduled for deployment in Europe this fall), its long-range goal is to increase peoples' awareness of the nuclear weapons in their own back yards and to encourage effective action against them. After the Euromissile actions in October, the neighborhood AGs which will have formed during Euromissile Information Week can begin to organize their neighborhoods into nuclear-free zones and plan actions against the manufacture, storage, and transportation of nukes within or near their

neighborhoods.

While mass actions like those at Livermore and Vandenberg are important, they are analogous to military

operations in which a large infantry division is sent into enemy territory. In revolutionary warfare--and nonviolent action is a kind of warfare--smaller guerrilla actions within one's home territory, where there is strong popular support, can be much more effective.

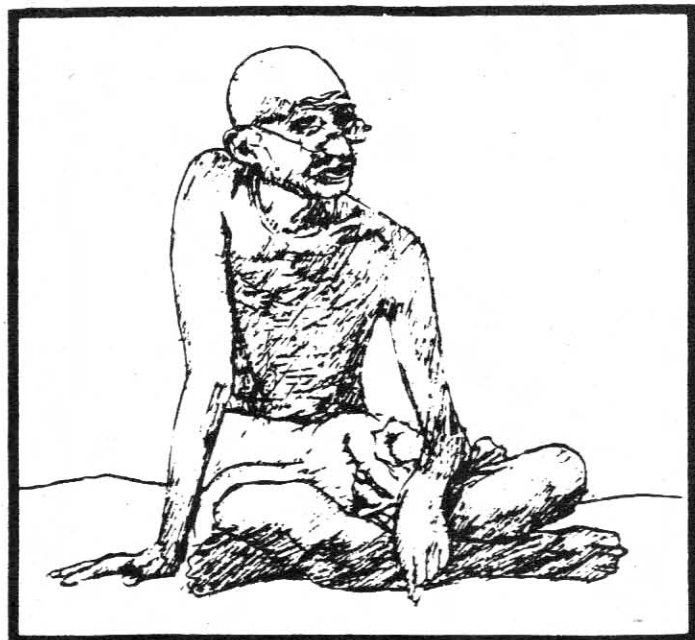
Euromissile Information Week will help with LAG coalition-building by connecting AGs with religious communities, local elected officials sympathetic to our cause, local chapters of peace groups, progressive political organizations, and more.

The connections will be working relationships, in that the purpose will be to build at least one educational event in the neighborhood during Euromissile Information Week. By working with other community groups, LAG AGs can help broaden the base of our organization and educate the local public about the dangers of America's unilateral first-strike policy. Working with other community groups will also teach us new organizing skills and approaches.

Euromissile Information Week is a great chance for AGs to get involved in a wider range of political work, a type of work essential to LAG's long-term effectiveness. The active participation of your AG can make it happen!



A Perspective on the Nonviolence Movement



In his autobiography, Gandhi wrote:

"...what I have been striving and pining to achieve these thirty years is self-realization, to see God face to face...I live and move and have my being in pursuit of this goal. All that I do by way of speaking and writing, and all my ventures in the political field, are directed to this same end. But as I have all along believed that what is possible for one is possible for all, my experiments have not been conducted in the closet, but in the open...There are some things which are known only to oneself and one's Maker. These are clearly incommunicable. The experiments I am about to relate are not such. But they are spiritual, or rather moral; for the essence of religion is morality."

And in his book, "Nonviolence in Peace and War," he wrote:

"The whole gamut of our activities today constitutes an indivisible whole. You cannot divide social, economic, political and religious work into separate compartments. I could not be leading a religious life unless I identified myself with the whole of mankind, and that I could not do unless I took part in politics."

My dictionary defines nonviolence as "a social philosophy based on the rejection of violent means to gain objectives." Gandhian nonviolence, on the other hand, is both a social and a personal philosophy - one which is based on an affirmation of the underlying unity of the universe, in and through which all people are interconnected. Gandhian nonviolence is a way of stimulating social change by moving with this underground current of unity, which is as old as the world itself. Lao Tze named it - and our ability to flow with it - the Tao, or the watercourse way. Gandhi called it Satyagraha.

"Satyagraha" contains three Sanskrit words: SAT, satya, and agraha. SAT is a name for God: it means Being, or ultimate Reality. Satya comes from

SAT, and means both truth and justice. Agraha means to grasp and hold on to. Satyagraha, then, means "holding on to God through truth and justice." It means acting on the truth that all women and men are one - in the face of the illusion that we exist only as separate individuals, separate races and classes, and separate nations.

In its broadest sense, Satyagraha means any act which unifies, which heals a division. It is prayer, fasting, study and meditation, insofar as these acts heal the inner divisions which keep us from realizing our unity with God and with other people. It is seeking to meet one's enemies in respectful dialogue. It is refusing to cooperate in one's own oppression, and working to ease the pain of others who have been oppressed. It is withdrawing one's cooperation from economic violence - by giving up the benefits of an unjust society, and creating alternative social, economic and political relationships. It is withdrawing one's psychological cooperation from military violence, by working for peace and justice within legally sanctioned channels - and withdrawing one's physical cooperation by draft resistance, war-tax resistance and direct actions at military facilities.

Gandhi, who was a utopian socialist*, was keenly aware of the relationship between exploitation and violence. "The principle of nonviolence," he wrote, "necessitates complete abstention from exploitation in any form." He taught that in a world in which the two dominant economic systems are based on violence, the true revolutionary must be a pacifist. His attitude toward democratic capitalism and Bolshevik socialism was, "A pox on both your houses!" Of the former, he wrote, "Western democracy, as it functions today, is diluted nazism or fascism." And of the latter:

"Bolshevism's insensate worship of matter has given rise to a school which has been brought up to look upon material advancement as the goal of life and which has lost touch with the final things."

He rejected the assumption, common to both capitalism and materialistic

forms of socialism, that people are the products of external forces and systems. He understood that, although social structures reinforce and propagate certain attitudes in and among individuals, in the final analysis these structures are the result of the ideas, feelings and psychic archetypes of the people who create and maintain them - not the other way around. He taught that real social change must be based on the psychological and spiritual growth of individuals - an unpredictable quantity, which can never be measured, controlled or coerced.

Democratic capitalists believe that freedom is guaranteed by the presence of ballot boxes, while materialistic socialists think that it is assured by the equal distribution of goods. Because both ideologies put more faith in the power of external objects and systems than in the power of the human spirit, they both assume that freedom can only be won and defended by physical violence. But in reality, the only true freedom we have is the freedom to know God - to move with that mysterious unity which exists beneath the pain and alienation of our everyday lives - and the only real power we have is our ability to let that unity flow into the world through individual and collective acts of Satyagraha. When external manifestations of freedom - such as peace, economic justice and true democracy - appear in the world, it is because a critical mass of individuals has discovered this freedom and power which comes from the very center of our Being.

Gandhi was a unique blend of mystic, philosopher, crank and mediocre politician. I am a follower



of Gandhian philosophy, in the context of a leaderless nonviolent movement. When it comes to Gandhi the political leader, I have a major criticism which I would like to share with you.

There were many times in his career when Gandhi bought into the illusion of his own charisma - when he seemed to believe that a revolution could come from the top down, in direct contradiction to his own teaching that social progress is dependant upon the moral evolution of all the individuals who comprise a society.

For example, shortly after he had assumed effective leadership of the Indian National Congress, he said, "I am the one man who can today preserve the peace in India as no other man can." (1) Was this an arrogant overestimation of his own power? Or was it simply a naive overestimation of the degree of nonviolence attained by the average Indian? Whatever the source of this miscalculation, Gandhi was soon to be reminded of the slow and painful pace at which human evolution really proceeds. Later that year, Hindus and Muslims united in rioting against the British, and similar outbreaks of violence - between Indians and the British, and soon afterward between the Hindus and Moslems -



were to continue throughout his lifetime.

Gandhi began what was to become a relatively successful campaign against untouchability, and the Satyagraha movement was instrumental in attaining the limited political goal which had been set for it: Indian independence. If Gandhi believed - as he often seemed to - that he would be able, with a handful of dedicated Satyagrahis, to transform India into a completely just and peaceful nation, he was disabused of that illusion during his last years. When Hindu/Moslem hostilities erupted around the time of independence, he realized that many Satyagrahis - including some of his closest associates, like Nehru - had not been using non-violence as a moral principle, but simply as an expedient.

Once when Gandhi was touring the country and people were "bowing down and touching his feet in such numbers that his ankles became sore and had to be rubbed with vaseline," he complained, "I went to a place where everybody was busy shouting 'Mahatma! Mahatma!' and everybody was trying to fall at my feet - but no one was willing to listen to me." (2)

Today, we are engaged in a grassroots mass movement which is truly leaderless. Perhaps the time has finally come to stop worshipping Gandhi the charismatic leader - and to start listening to Gandhi the seeker after Truth.

It is possible that there are now in the peace movement as many people who are dedicated to affirming the underlying unity of all people - in other words, who are dedicated to nonviolence as a moral principle - as there were in India at the height of the Satyagraha movement there. And our movement is just beginning.

There's a wonderful song which is sung by black South Africans in their struggle for liberation. As most of you know, Steve Biko was a black freedom-fighter who was killed in jail by South African police. Now, when large numbers of blacks demonstrate, they sing this song: "Here come ten thousand Bikos, marching down the road - what are you going to do now, what are you going to do?"

My hope for our movement is that, within a year or two, there will be a direct action at Livermore, or Pantex, or the Pentagon, and we will be able to sing: "Here come ten thousand Gandhis, marching down the road - what are you going to do now, what are you going to do?"

(1) Penderel Moon, *Gandhi and Modern India*, p. 110

(2) Moon, p. 117

*His "constructive program" of spinning and cottage industries came from his belief in the necessity for a radical decentralization and deindustrialization of modern society, which was to be accompanied by a completely voluntary redistribution of wealth.

- by Jonika Mountainfire

Jonika Mountainfire is a war-tax resister and member of LAG. She has given workshops on Gandhian philosophy to Bay Area Affinity Groups and church groups, and can be reached at: (415)834-2172.



"Nix on Moral Nonviolence"

Nonviolence as a tactic is surely appropriate in the anti-nuclear movement at this time. But nonviolence as a general principle, and as a philosophy, is a tool of social control. Whatever else could be said about it, the main function of nonviolence as a principle is to protect the ruling powers by restricting the strategic options of popular movements for change. And, as I will discuss, nonviolence affects the daily activity of the anti-nuke movement in more subtle ways.

In terms of controlling movements, consider Gandhi who, more than anyone, shaped nonviolence as we know it today. I have never heard a Gandhian adequately explain why Gandhi in 1922 called off the greatest popular movement India had ever seen because of a few sporadic acts of violence, while only a few years previous, the father of nonviolence became a volunteer recruiting sergeant for the British army.

Why did Gandhi time and again oppose peasants and workers who opted for self-defense, and yet again, during World War II, offer to cooperate in the British war effort as a bargain for independence? (Britain rejected the offer.)

Why did Gandhi insist, "I am an uncompromising opponent of violent methods even to serve the noblest of causes," yet in 1938 expressly endorse the violent crushing of picket lines by police during a countrywide strike wave?

Gandhi often said that violence was a sin against God. What he really meant was that violence against the state, and against the ruling class, is a sin against God. But violence to defend the state is acceptable.

Nonviolent moral codes don't apply equally to all classes. The lower classes have to stick by nonviolence, but police and soldiers who defend wealthy interests can use any method they please. Malcolm X later recognized this double standard in the Black movement: "I myself would go for nonviolence if it was consistent, if everybody was going to be nonviolent.... If they make the Ku Klux Klan non-violent, I'll be nonviolent. If they make the White Citizens Council non-violent, I'll be nonviolent. But as long as you've got somebody else not being nonviolent, I don't want anybody coming to me talking any nonviolent talk."

What is the role of nonviolent philosophy in the current anti-nuclear movement which faces no general repression and where the use of violence is not a pressing question? Well, nonviolence involves more than simply rejecting violence. It's a philosophy that stresses love and unity. Let's have more dialogue and cooperation. Let's not be divided. Nonviolence also advocates fighting for social justice but without hostility. And it emphasizes civil disobedience, or voluntary suffering, where you obstruct an injustice and accept arrest and sometimes police beatings. Love, unity, and what is called the nonviolent attitude are heavily promoted in the anti-nuke movement. But it doesn't make us any more loving or humane than other progressive movements. It does create a phony pleasantness where conflicts are suppressed and people are afraid to discuss their differences openly.

The nonviolent notions of unity and so-called human oneness are loaded with hidden politics, and are used in the movement to maintain a conservative status quo. Feminists who raise issues about sexism are often accused of "dividing the movement." Radicals who knock the liberal approach of the Freeze are also called divisive. I've found that if you criticize Gandhi or nonviolence you get called divisive. If we keep quiet and support prevailing movement politics, then we'll all be in perfect unity, like unified

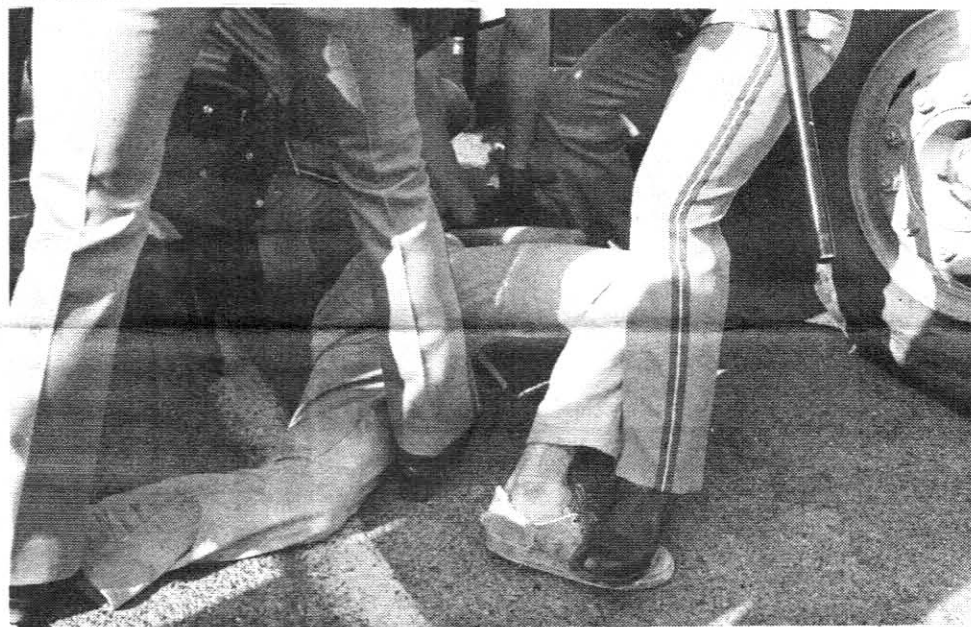
sheep. Consensus decision-making, by the way, is actually a tool for enforcing this false unity in the movement.

Unity as an ideal is great but it has to be genuine, there has to be a basis for it. Gandhi called for unity between Hindus and Muslims but refused to support Muslim demands for constitutional safeguards. He took the same position toward the Untouchables. Gandhi opposed militant strikes and peasant revolts, yet he called for "harmonious cooperation of labor and capital, landlord and tenant."

What kind of love and unity is the nonviolent community talking about? It seems an artificial kind used to cover up relations of power.

"Progress is to be measured by the amount of suffering undergone by the sufferer," Gandhi once said. "The purer the suffering, the greater is the progress." It's inevitable that a doctrine which advocates mass resistance but rejects self-defense would attach great moral virtue to suffering. Any movement that becomes a serious threat to those in power is going to face violent repression, no matter how nonviolent and friendly is the movement. This became evident in the campaigns of both Gandhi and King.

Anti-nuke groups like the Abalone Alliance and Livermore Action Group have followed in the nonviolent tradition of voluntary suffering, although the suffering is still mild. Civil disobedience can be quite dramatic. Those blockading nuclear facilities deserve major credit for the anti-nuclear sympathies that have swept the country in recent years. On the



other hand, the active constituency of the movement remains small. Our biggest blockades draw a couple thousand people at most, while Livermore Lab, Diablo, Vandenberg, and so on continue to threaten our lives.

The task of our movement is to convert public sentiment into a powerful movement that can force change. Mobilizing the mainstream of society



is not easy. But when the main activity we offer is facing a menacing line of police and going to jail, we've already diminished our chances of becoming a broader movement.

Emphasis on sacrifice and suffering has historically been a limiting feature in movements influenced by nonviolence. In the civil rights movement, it limited Martin Luther King's constituency, particularly among lower class blacks. Black writer Manning Marable observed that the riots and Black Power slogans were signs that King's nonviolent suffering approach had begun to lose its appeal. "Young black students in SNCC (Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee) and even some of King's oldest followers were tired of going



Ted Sahl

to jail, being abused and shot."

Civil disobedience is a useful tactic. With good timing and good theater, we can get excellent media coverage and raise issues in the public eye. But it shouldn't be the central purpose of the movement. We need to emphasize legal activities and protests that can involve larger numbers, community outreach and education, building alliances with other movements.

Where nonviolence has most hurt the movement is in encouraging a moral rigidity, where putting our bodies on the line and going to jail becomes a moral duty. Discussion, debate, analysis about how to build a genuine mass movement, how do we go about reaching a broader constituency, is lacking in our movement. If we rid ourselves of the fetter of nonviolent morality, as well as the false unity of consensus, there'd be more freedom to question and think critically about the things we're doing. With greater discussion, with more debate and confronting our differences, I think we would hash out better strategies for disarmament and radical change.

- by Howard Ryan

Howard Ryan has been active in the anti-nuclear movement since 1977. He is writing a book, *Nonviolence and Class Bias: From Mahatma Gandhi to the Anti-Nuclear Movement*. References with regard to Gandhi are available on request from him at P.O. Box 961, Berkeley CA 94701.



Janet Delaney

from weapons to war - by Joyce Stoller

The most striking thing about the anti-war movement nationally is that it has two wings and no center. On one side is the anti-nuclear movement and on the other is the movement against U.S. intervention in Central America. Both of these disparate movements are in response to the pro-war moves of the U.S. government.

The nuclear weapons build-up in Europe and U.S. intervention in Central America are both facets of U.S. foreign policy. Given the rise of revolutionary movements world-wide, the government has no choice but to use brute force to keep the world free for enterprise.

But it is politically impossible for the U.S. government to state its real reasons for fighting wars of intervention and deploying nuclear weapons all over the globe. No one would lay down their life to protect the health of America's corporations, least of all the people who own them.

So in order to justify the military build-up and counter the protests at home, the White House seeks to portray the Soviet Union as a military threat to the U.S. and Central America.

The nuclear weapons that the U.S. plans to deploy against the Soviet Union in Europe this fall are not a separate issue from the nuclear weapons that are on warships pointed at Central America. They are part of America's overall war plans in that they are intended to warn the Soviet Union not to aid revolutionary forces as they come under greater U.S. attack.

Thus, while the U.S. government is united in its military strategy, the anti-war movement is divided in its response. LAG (despite its name) is actually way ahead of most other organizations in opposing both nuclear

weapons and U.S. intervention. Perhaps it is because of our proximity to Port Chicago which stores and ships nuclear and conventional weapons.

Now that the U.S. is rapidly escalating its two-pronged thrust towards war, we must work even harder at making the connections. In the Bay Area alone there are over 40 different anti-intervention organizations and half as many whose main focus is nuclear weapons. Reflecting the split, there are two different demonstrations planned within three weeks of each other. On October 22 there will be a demonstration against the deployment of the cruise and Pershing II missiles in Europe, and on November 12 there will be a demonstration against U.S. intervention in Central America.

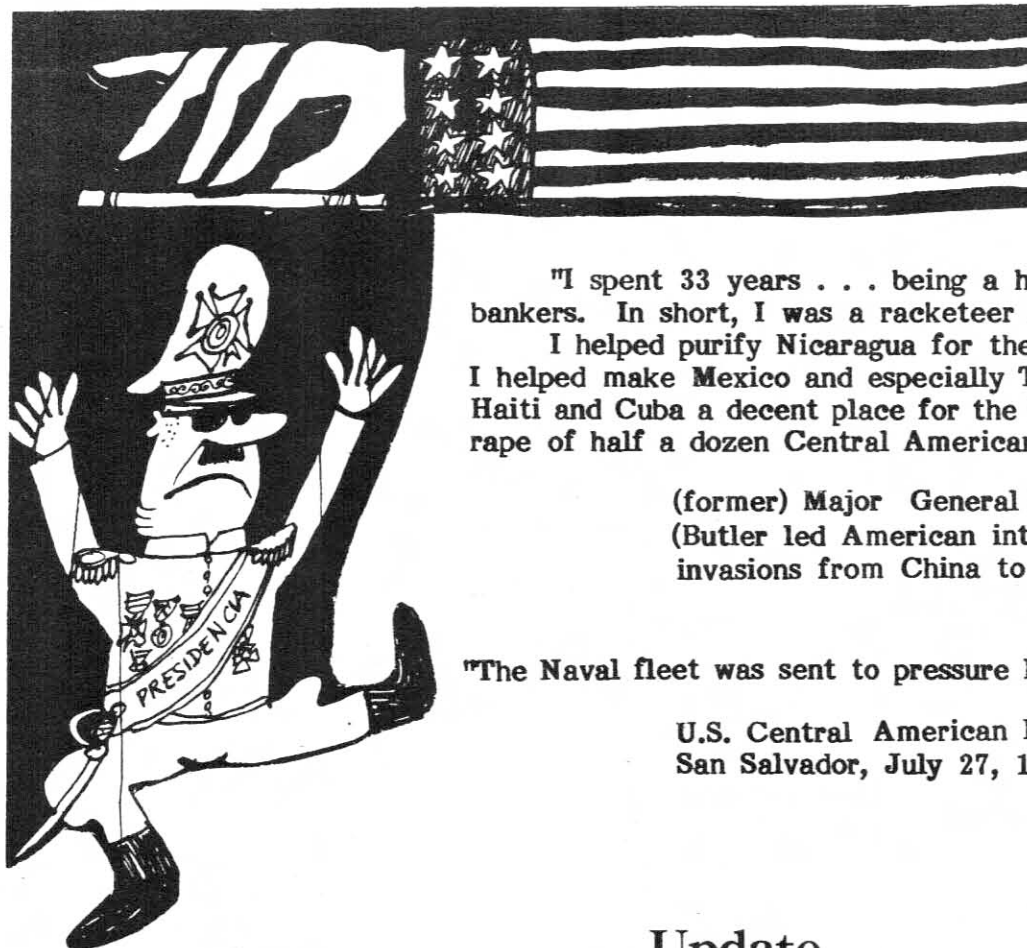
A good first step toward building an anti-war movement that is truly effective in tying the hands of the warmakers would be to broaden the focus of the October 22 demonstration against the "Euromissiles". The flashpoint in world politics today is not the cold war in Europe but the hot one in Central America where nuclear weapons are being deployed in the middle of an on-going conflict.

We should make a concerted effort to invite the 40 anti-intervention groups into the coalition and make "NO NUCLEAR WEAPONS TO CENTRAL AMERICA -- STOP U.S. INTERVENTION" one of the slogans.

It has always been in the context of a conventional war that the U.S. has threatened to use nuclear weapons. Therefore, the way to prevent a nuclear war is to stop conventional wars before they escalate.

And the way to do that is to bring the 2 wings of the anti-war movement together in opposition to our common enemy in Washington.

The U.S. War in Central America



"I spent 33 years . . . being a high-class muscle man for Big Business, for Wall Street and the bankers. In short, I was a racketeer for capitalism . . ."

I helped purify Nicaragua for the international banking house of Brown Brothers in 1909 - 1912. I helped make Mexico and especially Tampico safe for American oil interests in 1916. I helped make Haiti and Cuba a decent place for the National City (Bank) boys to collect revenue in. I helped in the rape of half a dozen Central American Republics for the benefit of Wall Street . . ."

(former) Major General Smedley Darlington Butler, August 21, 1931
(Butler led American intervention in Nicaragua and fought in American invasions from China to the Philippines to Haiti).

"The Naval fleet was sent to pressure Nicaragua and could be used for an attack."

U.S. Central American Envoy Richard Stone
San Salvador, July 27, 1983.

Introduction

The cowboy in the White House dreams he is Teddy Roosevelt, leading the charge to again claim Central America as U.S. turf. The U.S. began this century when the Spanish-American war established its empire from Cuba to the Philippines. In its aftermath, Roosevelt sent the fleet to sail the world as a show of U.S. entry as a world military power. Today, the fleet sits off both coasts of Nicaragua; 19 ships, 16,000 men and their assorted (read conventional and nuclear) armaments. 1600 U.S. troops "exercise" on the Honduran-Nicaraguan border.

Some day we will wake up to find Reagan playing the "reluctant warrior" Woodrow Wilson, sending troops to Mexico in 1916. Or playing any of the Presidents who sent Butler to the Philippines, Cuba, Haiti, Honduras, Panama, China, Nicaragua. . .

But this is not 1916. U.S. fleets off Nicaragua's coasts are equipped with tactical nuclear weapons. Soon, they will carry sea-launched cruise missiles.

The U.S. nukes are already at war. The umbrella of U.S. nuclear expansion is a clear warning. U.S. troops and fleets will go anywhere -- from Nicaragua to Lebanon to Somalia -- anywhere in the third world -- unchallenged. The cruise, the MX, the Pershing, the smaller and smaller tactical nukes are the threat against anyone who stands against U.S. government and corporate interests.

The fleets off Nicaragua -- the Rapid Deployment Force in the Middle East -- all the U.S. "conventional" forces are nuclear equipped. The sharp separation between conventional and nuclear wars no longer holds in the military mind. Anti-nuclear and anti-interventionist movements are moving closer to the reality of a unified opposition to U.S. war preparations.

LAG needs to maintain and increase its anti-interventionist activities. To enable us to do so in an informed way, these pages present an update of U.S. activities in Central America, a report and evaluation of the Port Chicago blockade and rally and future action highlights.

To get involved or for further information, contact:

CISPES: Oakland/Berkeley 644-3636
S.F. 431-2113

Guatemala News and Information
Bureau 415/835-0810

Nicaragua Information Center 415/
549-1387

Nicaraguan Interfaith Community
for Action 415/433-6057

Update

NICARAGUA

On July 19th, the 4th anniversary of Nicaragua's liberation from the Somoza regime, the Sandinista government put forward a 6 point peace proposal for Central America. They called for regional discussions to develop:

- a nonaggression pact between Honduras and Nicaragua
- the cessation of all arms shipments by any country to El Salvador
- an end to outside military aid to any forces carrying out aggression against a Central American government
- self determination and non-intervention for all Central American nations
- the end to economic aggression (boycotts, embargoes, etc.)
- no foreign military bases or exercises in the region

The U.S. response has been to send fleets to blockade both Nicaraguan coasts. In a replay of the Cuban missile crises, the fleet is already intercepting Soviet freighters. Although the House voted 228-195 to block covert aid to former National Guardsmen in Honduras, \$80 million was approved in overt funds to Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala to block supposed Nicaraguan/Cuban arms shipments to El Salvador. The U.S. position remains that the crises in El Salvador is purely a result of "outside" intervention.



EL SALVADOR

Reagan will do anything to increase direct military aid to El Salvador, while maintaining the fiction of U.S. restraint via the "limit" of the 55 advisors in El Salvador. 525 officers have arrived in Fort Benning, Georgia for training. 2400 Salvadorean troops will be trained by 100 Green Berets stationed in Honduras (if they're not in El Salvador . . .) On June 9 Army Chief of Staff Edward Meyer stated the U.S. might need to send marines to El Salvador in the case of "turmoil" during the next elections (recently postponed to March 1984).

In the realm of geography, an amazing revelation was made to a



stunned world, when Cap Weinberger announced that the guerillas in El Salvador had cunningly transported their nation to the U.S. mainland. ("El Salvador is on the mainland of the U.S. and we do have a responsibility for the defense of the continental U.S., over and above other priorities.")

GUATEMALA

On Aug. 8 a military coup replaced right wing evangelicist General Rios Montt with Defense Minister Oscar Mejia Victores. 48 hours prior to the coup, Mejia, along with the defense ministers of El Salvador and Honduras, met with U.S. military officials from the Southern Command (U.S. forces based in the Panama Canal Zone). The meeting took place aboard the U.S. carrier Ranger (part of Reagan's war fleet to Nicaragua). A U.S. military attache was filmed inside the Presidential palace during the coup, carrying a walkie-talkie and embracing one of Mejia's soldiers.

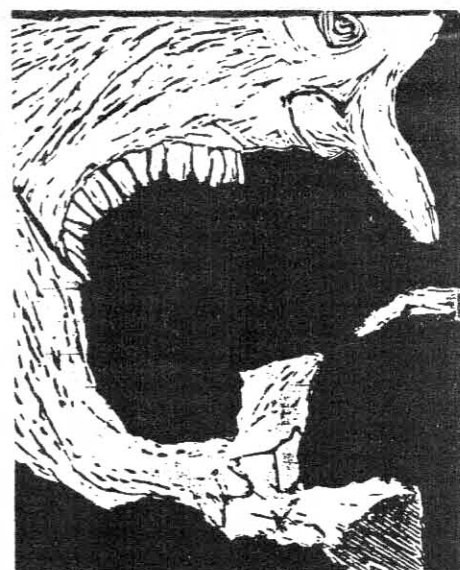
The coup came as Rios Montt was no longer a reliable U.S. ally, backing down from a firm commitment of Guatemalan forces to support direct attacks on Nicaragua. Within days after the coup El Salvador and Guatemala announced a "trade" in which training of Salvadorean troops would be done in Guatemala in return for U.S. small arms (bypassing Congressional limitations on U.S. arms sales to Guatemala, and the limits on U.S. advisors in El Salvador).

The information on the Central America pages was coordinated by Allen Josephson.

HONDURAS

Although Honduras has a civilian government, the real power is held by the military, particularly Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Martinez. On June 11, Martinez asked for U.S. troops in the event of a war with Nicaragua. Recently, the "Big Pines" maneuvers involved 4000 Honduran and 1600 U.S. troops on the Nicaraguan/Honduran border.

In the past two years, U.S. military aid to Honduras has risen from \$4 to \$68 million yearly, including funds to build airbases which can accommodate large U.S. transport planes. This does not include the "secret" \$20 million to finance the 5000 "contras" based in Honduras, who are seeking to overthrow the Sandinista government of Nicaragua. Reagan wishes to increase their number to 15000.



AND FURTHER SOUTH

Recent weeks have seen 24 killed and 1200 arrested as Chilean Dictator Pinochet struggles to maintain power. Chile has had four consecutive months of national days of protests.



Port Chicago Blockade July 25



Late July- Reagan had just threatened to blockade Nicaragua. The U.S. had rejected Nicaraguan proposals for regional peace talks. The Reagan administration talked of military solutions—more funds to the military of El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala—more funds to overthrow the Sandinista government. Since 1981, 80% of all U.S. weapons to El Salvador shipped out through Port Chicago/Concord Naval Weapons Station. 80-100,000 tons of armaments are shipped worldwide each year through this port. From July 24-26, thousands gathered in Concord, to continue the campaign to end these shipments, and the storage and handling of nuclear weapons at the base.

4000 people marched through Concord on July 24th, carrying placards with the names of Salvadoreans killed in the war. The rally was addressed by Mayor Gus Newport of Berkeley (see article on Berkeley's Salvadorean sister city) and Democratic Revolutionary Front representative Ramon Cardona. The next day, with people coming in from Washington, Oregon, and Nevada, 450 activists began a land blockade at 5am.

But the workers were already inside, having been ordered to arrive by 4am. There were very few cars to block. The police were out in force, but they refused to make arrests. The county did not want to spend money on arrests, and its jails are already overcrowded. (The experience of the June 20th blockade at Livermore was on everyone's mind.) Determined activists spent two weeks in jail rather than surrender to harsh fines, probations, and other tactics to destroy non-violent direct opposition to war preparations.

At an afternoon council, many affinity groups decided to continue the blockade the next day. However, later that day, as other affinity groups continued the blockade, police moved in and 90 people were arrested.

After the traditional procedures of handcuffing, photographs and fingerprints, blockaders were taken

to the Martinez jail. To prevent stiff fines or treatment for isolated individuals, the blockaders refused to give their names. After repeated refusals the police gave them the option of leaving without charges being dropped, or being dragged out. 90 Jane and John Does left, many to continue the blockade.

A few hours later, at 4AM, about 100 people blocked 3 gates. Surprised by a second day of protests, cars and shipments from inside the base were turned away. By 7:30 police, with the help of marines, began the arrests. Soon, another 65 Jane and John Does were in jail. Most were released shortly, to relieve pressure on money and jail space. Within 4 days, another 11 women and 17 men were released with time served.

Simultaneously with the land blockade on the 25th, 50 people began a sea blockade. In 13 rafts, lifeboats, and other small vessels, they surrounded the docks at Port Chicago. Kept under the constant patrolling of the Coast Guard, no arrests were made.

On August 15, the Port Chicago coalition held an evaluation meeting attended by 45 people. Generally people were gratified by outreach in Contra Costa, by the success of the A.G. structure of the blockade, and the growth of contacts between anti-nuclear and anti-interventionist groups. More outreach to civil rights, anti-racist and anti-sexist groups, more education on the history of racism and black struggles at Port Chicago, better coordination of the rally and blockade, and more support actions around the blockade, were identified as needs.

The Port Chicago Campaign continues to meet. Ongoing work Committees and contacts include:
Actions- Paul King 841-8328
For more information contact:
CISPES at 644-3636.

Future Central American Actions

SAN FRANCISCO INITIATIVE

With over 25,000 signatures, a non binding initiative has easily been placed on the November ballot. The resolution calls for San Francisco to go on record opposing all U.S. military aid to El Salvador. Contact S.F. CISPES (415) 431-2113

NOVEMBER 12 DEMONSTRATIONS

National demonstrations have been called for Nov. 12th, in Washington, D.C. and elsewhere. The call has been endorsed by members of AFSC, CISPES, Mobilization for Survival, War Resisters League, Campaign Against Registration and the Draft, and many other peace, religious, and anti-interventionist groups. The demands of the demonstrations include:

- ending all U.S. intervention in Central America
- "No More Vietnam Wars"
- Human needs over military expenditures

Contact the CISPES office for further information about the West Coast demonstration. Contact Oakland/Berkeley CISPES (415) 644-3636

GENERAL FOODS BOYCOTT

Anti-interventionist groups in Central Florida are calling for a boycott of General Foods. General Foods is the world's largest distributor of coffee, buying much of its crop from El Salvador and Guatemala. While the majority of the population in each country are landless peasants, coffee plantations are a key economic base for the large landowners and the government. Revenues from the plantations are split between the government and the landowners, while food production drops as more and more land is diverted into these huge coffee plantations.

Contact: Central Fla. for Justice in Central America (305) 841-5290

Sister Cities: Berkeley Allies with City in Salvadoran Liberated Zone

On July 19th Nicaragua celebrated its 4th anniversary of liberation, while Reagan's fleets were assembling for the blockade. Simultaneously, Berkeley City Council voted 7-2 to establish a sister-city program with San Antonio Los Ranchos, a small town within a "Zone of Popular Control" in Chaletenago province. The City of Berkeley will sponsor programs to raise community funds to assist their sister-city with fisheries, chicken farms and then rice, bean, corn and other staple crops. The town needs help for health and education projects also. The goal is to raise \$50,000 this year.

The program of city-to-city contacts was launched by NEST (New El Salvador Today). NEST's goals are to establish direct community contacts between the U.S. and El Salvador. Berkeley is the first American city to participate and will be a model for future programs.

San Antonio Los Ranchos' history is very typical for El Salvador. Twenty years ago, a Christian base community was established by nuns, priests,

and lay Catholics. They helped organize legal cooperatives and unions. As established military, landlord and government interests were challenged, the death squads appeared. In 1980, two Maryknoll sisters were murdered by Government forces. In spite of the repression, resistance continued. Local popular governments were established in the "Zones of

Control" as guerrilla groups were able to protect the town from government forces. Popular committees and assemblies coordinate public works, education, health and food production.

Events planned to raise money for San Antonio Los Ranchos include:

- A Corn Festival in September, which corresponds to traditional Salvadoran celebrations
- A door-to-door canvass in October for education and fundraising
- A traditional Salvadoran Christmas ceremony, "the posada" in Dec.

The sister city relationship will involve the Berkeley community in real assistance to people trying to transform their society. We can be involved in a process where people take control over their local government, food and health resources. Direct contacts, such as between groups like co-ops and farmers markets in Berkeley and San Antonio Los Ranchos can give new visions and impetus to struggles in both nations.

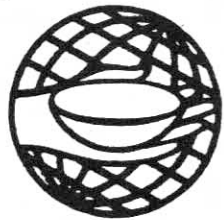
For more information, to make contributions, or volunteer for future projects, contact NEST at 415/549-1124.



Betty Smith



Keith Holmes



**FAST
for
LIFE**

On August 6th the International Fast for Life began at three centers around the world; Paris, France, Bonn, West Germany, and Oakland, California, in an appeal to halt the nuclear arms race. The date chosen marked the 39th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima.

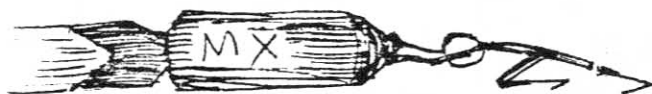
The 11 participants in the fast are Dorothy Granada and husband Charles Gray of Oakland, California, Mitsuyoshi Kohjima, of Tokyo, Japan, Andre Larriere of Quebec, Canada, Solange Fernex of Biederthal, France, Jacky Guyon of Oyonnax, France, Didier Mainguy of Nantes, France, Michael Nodet of Labenque, France, Johanna Maria Jordan of Berlin, West Germany, Andrea Elukovich from San Francisco, California, and Francisco Alejo from Barcelona, Spain. Around the world hundreds of people began fasting for various periods of time in support of nuclear disarmament. Seven members of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors are also joining the fasters for a short period of time to show their support. The fasters themselves are asking people to write letters urging nuclear disarmament.

MORATORIUM!

Possible Occupation of the Nevada Test Site!!!

On Aug. 19-21 '83 an ad-hoc committee met in Salt Lake City to plan a conference on the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. The target date for the conference is the first or second week of February, 1984, the place, Las Vegas, Nevada--the bedroom city for the workers of the Nevada Test Site.

There will be something for everyone at the conference: workshops and speakers on the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, Economics Verification, and Civil Disobedience at the Test Site, Women's and Men's issues, American Indian Forum, etc. One of the objectives of the conference is to call for a Moratorium on nuclear testing. The U.S., Britain, France, and the Soviet Union regularly test nuclear weapons, under ground and under water--threatening the health of downwinders and the environment, and escalating the nuclear arms race.



LAG'S Issue: Nuclear Disarmament

I'm seriously concerned by what appears to be a bandwagon movement in LAG to "broaden our base" by forming coalitions with groups whose main focuses are issues other than anti-nuclear. The idea, as I understand it from various LAGers, is that if "we" embrace "their" causes, "they" will embrace "ours," oppression is the real issue anyway. If you are in agreement with this, I am writing to remind you, fellow LAGer, that oppression is not the "real issue." Oppression may be my issue; it may be your issue; it may be their issue; but it is not our issue. Our issue is nuclear weapons.

The human race has been working on oppression for centuries. We're not going to finish the struggle in this generation. But this generation may be finished if we don't do something about nuclear arms. We can continue the fight against oppression only if we are alive to do it. The problem is nuclear weapons. All else is secondary.

Politically, coalition-building might seem to be a source of strength. In reality, it will be a source of weakening. Our resources--funds and dedicated, knowledgeable individuals with time to give--are limited and precious. They need to be targeted on the primary issue, nuclear arms. Moreover, aligning ourselves with one group by whole-sale embracing of their cause will

per force alienate their opposite number. We need union truckers and non-union truckers. We need pro-abortionists and anti-. We need the homeless, and we need the landlords. What unifies us is our common commitment to end nuclear weapons, not our common commitment to end oppression.

Consensus process works because we have an issue about which we are in consensus. If we become partisan by supporting other causes, the number among us who will be in agreement--in ideological unanimity--will be smaller & smaller, not larger & larger, with every cause we embrace.

So I say, yes, fight oppression--as individuals, as AG's--picket, protest, do Civil Disobedience, whatever. But don't muddy LAG's purpose. We need to bring the message of nuclear peril to everyone, not just to the victims of obvious oppression. In fact, it is the oppressors we most need to convince. Aligning ourselves with a catalog of "liberal" causes can only help us lose credibility as serious opponents of nuclear arms. This doesn't mean that we have to support the oppressors, go to their rallies, or let them take over LAG. It does mean that anti-nuclear affiliation is primary, other differences secondary. So, too, are other affinities.

Gus Goldstein

CD Planned in Support of

"Fast for Life"

The Fast for Life will have gone beyond the crucial 30-day point by September 6. On Sept. 6-9, at the time when each new day brings a greater degree of risk for the fasters, support actions are planned.

There will be four days of legal protests, anti-nuclear vigils and ecumenical services from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the U.S. Federal Building and Soviet Consulate in San Francisco.

Civil disobedience will occur at the Federal Building only on Sept. 9th from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. This c.d. will amplify the fasters' call for nuclear disarmament.

There will be a nonviolence training for participants on Weds., Sept. 7 from 6-10 p.m. at the Friends' Meeting Hall, 2151 Vine, Berkeley. Register by calling Terry 548-0450.

Blockader Loses Job — Files Suit

Judy Koretsky lost a health administration job with the Upjohn Company while doing time at Santa Rita in June. Although told she has no legal recourse, the Fruitvale Law Collective has agreed to challenge the firing in an attempt to set precedent for future blockades. Defense funds are urgently needed. Contributions can be sent to 2035 Channing, #201, Berkeley 94704. Also, the Mutant Sponges A.G. is sponsoring a benefit on Frida Sept 30 at the Unitarian Center, 1924 Cedar, Berkeley, 8:30pm, 548-8457.



Walk to Moscow

One of the various activities organized around the world for nuclear disarmament is the "Walk to Moscow."

The walk which started about two years ago from Seattle, Washington through Washington, D.C. to Europe is now in Poland on its way to the capital of the Soviet Union.

"By getting to know people on a one-to-one basis we hope to break down the barriers between us" says Andrea Elukovich, one of the participants in the walk and a former police woman in San Francisco. Earlier this month Andrea split from the walkers in order to join the International Fast for Life being held in different cities of the world.

Nevertheless, the group is continuing to march toward Moscow. The assemblage of walkers to Moscow consists of 21 people. Six from the United States and the remaining from various European countries. They walk approximately 20 kilometers a day and carry a banner which says "Walk to Moscow for Disarmament and

Freedom." Two arms reach through from each side of the banner and join in a tight grip of friendship in the center. Inscribed on the bars in Czech are the words fear and ignorance: strach and nevidomost. The walkers call a Peace Camp every two days to check in. They have been documenting the walk with film and sound tape and typing press releases from a typewriter purchased along the way.

The group has run into a few problems regarding delays in their visas but they are seeing beautiful country and meeting people most of whom greet them with amazement and delight. They are often offered gifts of money, which they usually refuse, food, candy, and fresh fruit. Two women they encountered in Czechoslovakia were so moved that they took a lovely hand painted plate off their wall and gave it to the walkers. One of the walkers Christine reported "whatever we do, we hope the spirit of the walk will go on . . . bridging the gap between East and West."



The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has scheduled a mid-September hearing, followed by a vote, on whether to restore Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant's low-power test license. Diablo is cleverly located on the San Andreas earthquake fault, in an area which experienced an earthquake registering 7.5 on the Richter scale in 1927.

Work collectives of the People's Emergency Response Plan are busy planning for an extended action to prevent the nuke from going on line. The Travel Agency Collective says, "Affinity groups (AGs) should begin planning for this action by pondering main gate visits, backcountry strolls, and support activities from staffing to vigils."

"The travel agency will assess and suggest when AGs should come to the action, depending on the status of housing and the AGs spokesperson's review of the action. We hope the action will endure, so we are asking AGs and support people to make a two-week time commitment if possible."

To receive action updates or more information on booking reservations, contact the Abalone Alliance Diablo Project Office at 452 Higuera Street, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401. Phone: 805/543-6614.

It's About Times, 2940 16th Street #310, San Francisco CA 94103 (415) 861-0592, is the newspaper of the Abalone Alliance.

There will be a meeting to plan the upcoming action at 7:30 on Sept. 13, Haight-Ashbury Community Center, 1833 Page, San Francisco.



Vandenberg Action Coalition

At the latest Vandenberg Action Coalition (VAC) meeting August 28th, jointly organized Livermore and Vandenberg Peace Camps were consensed upon by the 25 attenders. It is envisioned that these camps will have their own fund-raising projects and funding entity distinct from LAG or VAC.

A proposal for a central VAC office was discussed, with concern about the risks of hierarchy and bureaucracy presented by a central office outweighing the call for immediate action. Arguments for an office included the need for a permanent address and phone number, an information exchange, a records and resources bank, and a geographic focus near Vandenberg.

VAC organizational concerns are also highlighted by the difficulties of responding adequately to the latest MX missile launch from Vandenberg, expected in the next ten days. To meet its goal of stopping such unannounced and variable-date launches, VAC is dependent on an "action-alert" network. In June, with many other demands on movement activists, this structure failed to generate sufficient numbers of people (less than forty) to deter 30 to 60 day sentences for some protestors by Magistrate Kronenberg in L.A. This sentence was in stark contrast with the maximum 100 hours community service imposed by Magistrate John Seitz. One VAC member estimates that at least two hundred people in strong solidarity are needed to dissuade unsympathetic judges from imposing high fines and/or lengthy sentences or probation. Many judges are as yet inexperienced with non-violent resisters, and do not know that unequal and retributory sentences will generally deter neither "recidivism" nor new recruits.

Efforts are currently being made to strengthen VAC's action-alert network, and to organize LAG-VAC peace camps. Prospects are good: in March, 3000 people participated in an exciting Vandenberg encampment resulting in over 800 arrests, powerful prison solidarity in the face of unusually severe break-up tactics, and the addition of many new individuals and affinity groups to VAC. The next VAC meeting will be Sunday September 11th from 11 A.M. to 5 P.M. at a central coast location. Call the LAG office for information.

--Midnight Star

ACTION BULLETIN

September 1983

INTRODUCTION

October Actions

October will be a month of unprecedented protests in Europe and the United States — demanding a halt to the planned deployment beginning in December 1983 of cruise and Pershing II missiles in Europe. The clearing-house for U.S. actions will be the American Friends Service Committee, 1501 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19102. Attention: Dottie Kunzik. Telephone: 215/241-7000.

The Mobilization for Survival reports that demonstrations against nuclear weapons are planned for October in the following states which are not written up separately on this page:

Connecticut, Delaware, Idaho, Indiana, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, Rhode Island, Washington, and Wisconsin. Actions are also planned in Washington, D.C., and Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

There will be a statewide march October 22 in Austin, Texas, and a civil disobedience on October 24 in Burlington, Vermont. A protest is planned in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for October 6 when the Chancellor of West Germany visits for the anniversary of Germantown.

Action Bulletin Will Continue

The LAG Publications Collective will continue producing the Action Bulletin as an insert in Direct Action in order to make information about October plans available throughout our network. Groups organizing October activities are asked to send us copies of their press releases and stories of their actions.

We would like to expand the function of the Action Bulletin to serve as a forum for discussion of strategy for the peace and anti-militarist movement. Therefore we would also like to print short analytical articles from many different groups about direction, goals, strategy and tactics for the movement.

Action Bulletin Needs New Name

This section of Direct Action is envisioned to cover activities and opinions that are specifically not LAG's own. Viewpoints expressed in it would be those of other groups around the U.S. and overseas. Since it will contain opinions and articles about on-going activities in addition to reports of actions, we think the section needs a new name. Any ideas?



Pershing II Protest in Florida

"Halt the Pershing at Its Source" is the slogan of the Southern Regional demonstration planned for October 22 at Martin Marietta Aerospace in Orlando, Florida. The Martin Marietta plant is the prime contractor for the Pershing and the third largest employer in the Orlando area.

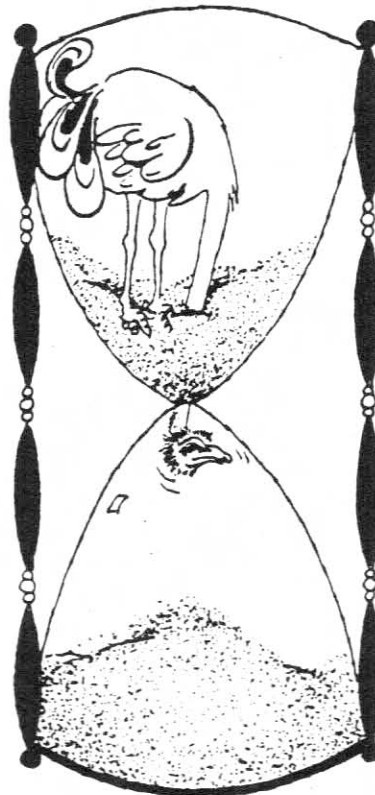
The legal demonstration will be organized by the Central Florida Nuclear Freeze Campaign, and is endorsed by Jobs with Peace Southern Caucus, Mobilization for Survival, and the Democratic Socialists of America Southern Conference. The first confirmed speaker is Manning Marable.

In West Germany the national week of action against Euromissiles from October 15-22 is a hard-discussed compromise between those peace groups favoring (legal) mass actions and those preferring decentralized direct actions:

As an "opening" there will be several rallies and acts of mass disobedience at U.S. bases (i.e. Rumstein), headquarters, etc. on October 15th. For example: the area where I come from (Bremen and Bremerhaven in the Northwest of Germany) is a key position for NATO supplies. 90,000 tons of munitions are brought through the harbor of Bremerhaven each year and make their way by barge and trains to the area around Frankfurt (and from there as far as the Middle East). We're planning a rally in Bremerhaven on Oct. 15 and a blockade of the Carl-Schurz-Kaserne in Bremerhaven from Oct. 13th-15th. (The Carl-Schurz-Kaserne, in charge of supervising the US/NATO military supply was the site of a blockade on June 20). We'll need about 2000-3000 blockaders each day (24 hours) — an amount of people we are not used to "handling" up to this point.

On Oct. 22nd there will be three big rallies: one in Hamburg (in the north of Germany), one in Bonn (capital of West Germany), and one in Stuttgart (EUCOM in the south).

tal of West Germany), and one in Stuttgart (EUCOM in the south).



October Protest at Rocky Flats

The Colorado Committee for a Sustained Resistance at Rocky Flats is announcing plans for on-going resistance actions at the nuclear weapons plant near Denver, Colorado, beginning October 24, 1983.

The Sustained Resistance plan is a development from a Resolution to Resist, previously circulated, which asked for 1,000 persons to sign their readiness to participate in resistance at Rocky Flats.

The Committee invited individuals and groups in Colorado and other parts of the country to commit themselves to two or three days, or possibly a week of witness at Rocky Flats. It is expected that persons

participating in the Sustained Resistance will have gone through a process of thought and goals clarification, and be committed to nonviolence.

In addition to coordinating the schedule for the Resistance, the Committee will provide cooking facilities and floor space for sleeping bags for those coming from outside the Denver area, and will have films, literature, speakers, and other spiritual and program resources available for all engaging in this action.

For more information and in support of Sustained Resistance, write to: Sustained Resistance
P.O. Box 1542
Arvada, Colorado 80001

People will also build a line from Ulm (Whitley barracks) to Stuttgart (EUCOM)—a distance of about 40 miles.

During the week of Oct 15-22 there will be all different kinds of local actions where we live, work, etc. There is a day for schools and universities, a day for factory workers, a day for people working for medical supply, a day for actions in local administrations and parliaments, and a day for actions in church communities.

All over the country peace groups are preparing themselves for the fall activities and new affinity groups are forming. We're pretty busy preparing nonviolence training for all the people who are asking for it. But we'll also have to deal with the fact that many people may join in only a few days before the action is going to happen or that some groups may choose other forms of resistance than those who are considered to be non-violent.

But, in spite of all those difficulties, to me this decentralized, local (but coordinated) resistance is a chance for an anti-nuclear and anti-militarist resistance that will last longer than for just one week in October 1983.

During the last years the peace movement in West Germany has been growing quickly. We had several big, centralized anti-nuclear rallies; some of them brought a half million people into the streets. About six million people signed a petition against cruise and Pershing II missiles. This way the peace movement initiated discussions and gained respectability, but since time is running out many people in the peace movement feel that these means are no longer strong enough to express our anger and fear about the arms race. Our resistance has to become more "serious" and more people are willing to "risk" something. The number of people discussing and practicing forms of nonviolent

(Continued on page 12)

Cruise Missile Protest in San Diego

General Dynamics/Convair plants in San Diego, California, where the Tomahawk and new "advanced" design cruise missiles are built, will be the site of a civil disobedience protest on October 24. The sponsors, Community Energy Action Network, will also organize a Disarmament Arts Festival on Sunday, October 23.

Another C.D. Planned at Honeywell

A civil disobedience action is planned on October 24 at Honeywell in Minneapolis, Minnesota, one of the top 20 U.S. corporations in war contracts. Honeywell makes parts for weapons systems which deliver nuclear bombs:

- parts for B-52 BOMBERS
- parts for TRIDENT and POLARIS submarines
- TORPEDOES
- components of MINUTEMAN INTERCONTINENTAL BALLISTIC MISSILE
- parts for F-111 JET BOMBERS which carry nuclear bombs
- MX MISSILE CONTRACTS

Honeywell also makes the cluster bomb, a hideous weapon which killed and maimed many civilians in the 1982 invasion of Lebanon by Israel, and

- computers which the Pentagon uses in its WORLD-WIDE MILITARY COMMAND and CONTROL SYSTEM.
- URANIUM-TIPPED bullets and shells
- FUSES for many shells and bombs
- anti-personnel land mines
- parts for the F-4, F-14, F-15, F-16 Jet Aircraft
- LASER beam military technology

The Honeywell Project, sponsor of the nonviolent c.d. action, began in 1968 and seeks the conversion of Honeywell to civilian peaceful production. The Honeywell Project sponsored two civil disobedience actions in the past: 36 were arrested in November '82 and 139 in April '83, many of whom were subsequently acquitted in jury trials.

IT'S POSSIBLE!
IT'S REALLY
POSSIBLE! OUR
STUDIES SHOW
LIMITED NUCLEAR
WAR IS
POSSIBLE!



WE COULD USE
NON-STRATEGIC ATOMIC
WEAPONS IN A
WAY THAT
WOULDN'T TOTALLY
DEFEAT THE
UNITED STATES
OR RUSSIA!!



IT'S TOO BAD
ABOUT EUROPE...



October Blockade at Seneca Army Depot

In late October, Upstate and "downstate" New Yorkers will join in their biggest effort to oppose the cruise and Pershing missiles and the local storage of nuclear weapons at the Seneca Army Depot. Organizers plan to enlarge the public debate over weapons storage which women at the Seneca Falls Peace Encampment opened this summer. The protest begins with a legal march and rally October 22nd and ends with a nonviolent civil disobedience action on the 24th.

The protest is timed to coincide with European anti-weapons demonstrations, and it is planned as a regional action, bringing together not only New Yorkers, but also peace activists from Ohio, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts and Canada.

The demonstration has a 5-part purpose: 1) Stop the deployment of the cruise and Pershing and show solidarity with Europe; 2) Freeze or reverse the arms race; 3) Convert the Seneca Army Depot to civilian uses; 4) End U.S. military intervention and the planned use of the cruise as a tool of intervention in Central America, Africa and the Middle East; 5) Fund human needs.

Arnie Matlin, from the Finger Lakes Peace Alliance, a local sponsor group, says organizers want to pick up on the successes of the Women's Peace Encampment: "Ever since the Peace Encampment hit, it's been the center of controversy — mostly over lifestyle, such as lesbianism and things like that. All through the summer, it's been literally front page news in Rochester, Syracuse and other local papers.

"The women brought to the forefront that there is a Seneca Army Depot and that there are nuclear weapons stored here. What we have to do now is use the fact that the Depot has become a household word and connect it with Euromissiles."

The demonstration is co-sponsored by the local Seneca Depot October Action Coalition and the New York office of the Mobilization for Survival.

For more information: 716/243-4002.

— by Julia Randall

Peace Camps



PUGET SOUND WOMEN'S PEACE CAMP

Twenty women are camped outside the Boeing plant south of Seattle, where 40 air-launched cruise missiles are produced each month. The camp started on June 18th and has a lease through Sept. 9. The women are actively looking for a new location, and need money to buy land at the fence to Boeing.

Special programs at the camp in July included a discussion of first strike nuclear weapons and the role and danger of errors computers pose in the nuclear weapons system; a slide show about Salvadoran refugee camps; and "What About the Russians" by a former Pentagon senior economist. Other forums discussed racism, sexism, conflict resolution, and the connection between feminism and non-violence.

Women are invited to stay at the camp, and should bring sleeping bags or blankets, flashlight, warm clothes and shoes, and rain gear. Contact Puget Sound Women's Peace Camp, P.O. Box 22756, Seattle, Washington 98122. Phone: 206/523-2101.

Silicon Valley Peace Camp

The Silicon Valley Peace Camp, described in July's Action Bulletin, was organized by the Stop Cruise and Pershing II Campaign, a workgroup within the Committee Against Nuclear Extinction (CANE), and stretched from Independence Day to August 10th, one day after the 38th anniversary of Nagasaki. In these five weeks, a core encampment group of four to five people brought at least 200 others to the peace camp site, organized daily leafletting of "first strike" companies, and conducted workshops, vigils, and demonstrations. Attention was drawn to the peace camps in Europe also protesting the deployment of cruise and Pershing II missiles, crucial components of which are developed and produced in Silicon Valley.

From over 300 S.V. companies with military contracts worth more than \$3 billion annually, the group chose to focus on the ROLM Corporation, which builds the mini-computer of the cruise missile guidance system. After several days of leafletting, a one-half hour meeting was held with ROLM management, which argued that the accurate, non-detectable, non-verifiable missiles are not a first-strike weapon, that several of their managerial staff are working for peace, and that somebody else would supply the military if ROLM didn't. One symptom of their ambivalence was revealed when 25 members of an August 6th Silicon Valley "Euroshima" tour stumbled upon ROLM workers having a company-sponsored Hiroshima Day picnic! Although too shocked to react, the tour was noticed by many of the workers gobbling up a small part of their employer's "non first-strike" weapons profits as they recalled Hiroshima.

On Nagasaki day, the response of workers to leafletting and signs at ROLM's "military-specification" division was surprisingly positive, with "as many thumbs-up and smiles as fingers and scowls," according to one organizer. ROLM's reaction later that day was to change their minds about allowing leafletting on their internal walkways, banishing future outreach to the surrounding streets. Two defense-related workers actually visited the campsite, explaining that they were worried about contributing to a nuclear build-up but felt tied

to their jobs and "trapped by the system." One of the letters received by the group, from a woman whose husband is employed by ROLM, stated that the activist's message is "exactly what we want to hear . . . I hope we can turn the arms race around before it's too late."

Another indication of the peace camp's effectiveness was the publication of a brief article on it in *Sanity*, the newspaper of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) in England. The camp received fifteen letters of support from *Sanity* readers throughout Great Britain.

At its inception July 4th, the camp marched "Flo," a thirty-foot inflatable blue whale spouting "Save the Humans," a mile and a half in the midst of heavy traffic to the annual Air Show of the Moffett Field Naval Air Station. While planes dive-bombed overhead they leafletted the crowd and maintained a vigil near the parked Flo, with two Buddhist monks leading rhythmical chants for nuclear disarmament and human equality. An international dimension was added August 7th, as a survivor of the Hiroshima bombing talked to over 50 people gathered at the campsite, who were also informed about the Mid-Peninsula Conversion Project.

The Stop Cruise and Pershing II Campaign did not fulfill all of its ambitions for the peace camp, including the desire to see other groups use the campsite as a base for independently conceived actions. Outside support was not enough to continue the camp past the 10th. Nevertheless, most members were not disappointed in the progress made in worker outreach, public education, Silicon Valley consciousness-raising within the peace movement itself, and expressing support for the many anti-cruise and Pershing II peace camps in Europe. More quietly, but equally significantly, the group pioneered as live-in peacemakers for five straight weeks in one of the most difficult "nuclear-unfree" zones, an area which deserves to draw greater movement attention, and perhaps a larger and more sustained encampment, as soon as possible. Those interested can contact CANE/P.O. Box 377/Palo Alto, CA 94302.

--Midnight Star



Felix Hoffman

Police Violence Disrupts Blockade at Comiso

A three-day blockade of the military base of Comiso in Sicily was ended last August 8th by a series of extremely heavy incidents between the police and the demonstrators. More than a hundred demonstrators were wounded, seven of whom so badly that they had to be hospitalized. Among the injured people are six of the total of fourteen Italian Parliament members who participated in the blockade and a number of senior citizens who represented organizations of the Italian resistance to fascism. Twenty-two policemen were also reported hurt.

Comiso, a small town in the heart of agricultural land in Sicily, hosts an old military airport which is being transformed into a NATO base for 112 cruise missiles. The arrival of these missiles in Comiso is scheduled for October 1983: the first step of land-based first strike missile deployment in Europe.

The blockade was organized by IMAC, the International Meeting Against Cruise, to coincide with the anniversary of the nuclear bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The action started when the four gates of the base were blocked Saturday morning, Aug. 6, and the construction workers were unable to enter the base.

One of the gates was blocked only by members of the CIGL, the largest Italian worker's union, another only by women of the women's peace camp "La Ragnatela".

On Saturday the police did not force the blockade nor did they arrest anybody, even though the tension was



high. In fact, IMAC felt the need to release a communique, stating that "any possible inconsiderate act against the police should exclusively be attributed to a few isolated demonstrators in the area of Autonomia." (Autonomia, broadly defined, is a component of the Italian political left which does not identify itself with any given structure, but rather moves freely and "autonomously" from action to action (often violent ones). More than a hundred members of Autonomia participated in the blockade at the main gate of the NATO base, together with the affinity groups of IMAC.

On Sunday the blockade continued, but had mainly a symbolic character, since no worker had to enter the base.

It was only in the afternoon of Monday that the police charged the blockers with cudgels and metal clubs, while tear gas was spread from the air by helicopters. The Italian Parliament members who witnessed the incidents reported extremely violent beatings of people sitting on the ground and repeated "person-hunting" by the police. They also mentioned shooting of firearms by police agents in civilian dress.

The police justified the brutal repression as a response to an alleged initial provocation by members of Autonomia, reported writing with spray paint injurious phrases on police vehicles. The initial confrontation with them then spread to involve several hundred policemen and demonstrators.

Reports were also made of police brutality in jail. Two people were arrested for violent resistance to public officials, and forty persons for "participation in a non-authorized demonstration." One of the two arrested is a nonviolent activist.

If you would like to express your solidarity with the demonstrations and your disdain for the police attack, you may write to the Italian President Sandro Pertini and Chief Minister Bettino Craxi (c/o Camera dei Deputati, Roma, Italy) and to the Italian Consul, 2590 Webster Street, San Francisco. The address of IMAC is Via Giuseppe Morso, 29 — 97013 Comiso, Ragusa, Italy. Phone 0932-966319.

— by Grazia Borrini

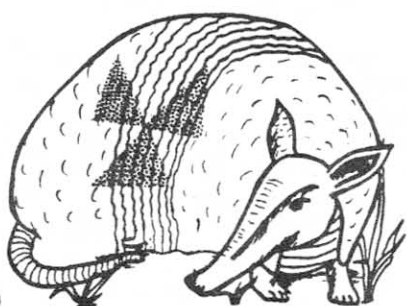
German Peace Camps

This summer has seen a bumper crop of peace camps all over Europe, at military installations of every sort, but especially near bases destined for cruise and Pershing II missiles. German camps include:

- Grossengstingen arms depot, up through 9/24 (Southwestern Germany);
- Schwäbisch Gmünd Pershing II HQ, 8/6-9/1 (Southwestern Germany);
- Neu-Ulm, Pershing II battalion barracks, ?-? (Southwestern Ger.);
- Bitburg, cruise base, ?-? (near Trier, west of Koblenz);
- Wünschheim, women's peace camp, 7/15-8/15 (near Bitburg base);
- Burg Stettenfels nuclear arms depot, 7/16-? (Southwestern Ger.);
- Baierbach, near Schwäbisch Hall, 8/13-8/27 (Southwestern Germany);
- Kiel submarine base (delivery of two subs to Chilean junta), 7/22-31 (Baltic coast);
- Gorleben waste disposal site, 6/27-7/10 (northern Germany, on East German border);
- Gross-Gerau environmental camp 6/27-7/10 (Rhine-Main area);
- Nordenham, near Bremerhaven, transshipment point for munitions, 8/19-21 (Northwestern Germany).

— Edited by Patrick Diehl

Lemmings Choose CRUISE





English Peace Camps

England's many peace camps are alive and growing—in more ways than one! Molesworth Peace Camp, the second proposed cruise missile site in the UK, was planted with vegetables and seeds by its peace campers, who also staged monthly blockades of the nearby USAF Alconbury site.

Lakenheath, home of Families Against the Bomb Peace Camp, also experienced some creative protest when kites were flown during a NATO exercise. (Planes cannot take off safely if kites and balloons are being flown nearby.) Protesters also blockaded the fully operational F1-11 base.

In Central England, young people have established a peace camp at USAF Daws Hill, under expansion as a US Strike Command. They have been harassed considerably by the American military on the base, but refuse to give up. Daws Hill was National Trust property, supposedly untouchable, but the directors sold the land.

Also in this location was a part-time peace camp at Haphill, disbanded due to vandalism.

The USAF base in Upper Heyford was recently the site of a large blockade with approximately 4000 participants (see mid-July *Direct Action* for details). This fully operational base continually flies F1-11s. Nearby land was recently acquired for the use of EF-111s. These planes carry radar-jamming equipment; when used to clear the way, they effectively make F1-11s first-strike weapons. Peace campers made a camp on this site and also held a festival there.

There are also three Scottish Peace Camps, two of which are Faslane and Holyoach, located at the British Polaris base and the US submarine base.

— edited by Janis Mara from a Peace Chariot (England) letter



And now, some especially exciting news from Sicily. On June 25, a group of 28 women bought the land for "La Ragnatela," the women's peace camp at Comiso.

The new owners are selling one-meter-square shares of land to women for \$5.00 each. The sponsors hope the land will be owned by "thousands of women."

Plans for action include planting fruit trees in a giant women's symbol "so that it will be seen from the air as a growing symbol of life and fruitfulness next to the military base that seeks only to destroy."

The women's bold action is only the latest coup in a history rife with political turmoil. Because of its strategic position in the center of the Mediterranean, Comiso has a long history of conquest.

An earlier, would-be empire, Benito Mussolini's, put in an airfield (now the military base) a couple of miles west of town in 1935. It was part of the Fascist plan for dominating Africa, where Ethiopia was being added to Libya as an Italian possession.

In the decades after World War II, farmers planted wheat on its abandoned acres. Now the empire of Carter and Reagan has revived the old airfield as the receptacle of the 112 cruise missiles Italy has agreed to accept.

The missiles will dominate North Africa and the east end of the Mediterranean, and Italy has begun a military build-up that surpasses even America's in speed.

The navy will be completely modernized during the next decade, and Italy, as the southern arm of NATO, will regain the hegemony over the Mediterranean it held 2000 years ago.

When the Italian Minister of Defense announced the site of the new missiles on August 7, 1981, he said that Comiso was in the middle of a "desert." In reality, the province of Ragusa of which Comiso is an important part is a huge vegetable garden. The province now produces a third of Italy's cucumbers, tomatoes, and zucchini, half its peppers, and two-thirds of its eggplants.

Yet this economic success story has met with little or no official response. Comiso and its agriculture doesn't fit into the grand scheme of things, you see.

It doesn't fit in politically, either. The Communist party is the strongest locally, and the mayor from 1952 to 1978, Giacomo Cagnes, is a Communist. Until now, the Mafia, which has long acted as the enforcer for reaction in Sicily, has had no hold here.

Comiso, and the province of Ragusa, are an obstacle to the desertification of Sicily. No wonder then that the Italian government chose to drop

Comiso, Sicily

a huge and disruptive military base, bomb-like, into the province's heart.

The new old base threatens the land of the Comisani — bases have a habit of starting big and getting bigger. It threatens the foundation of their relative prosperity, which is their land and what they grow on it.

The base opens the door to the Mafia, which specializes nowadays in drugs and construction rackets rather than terrorizing peasants for land-rents. The Comisani look at the effects of NATO bases elsewhere, the black markets, the drugs, the prostitution, the culture shock and the economic distortions of having thousands of American troops brought in (7000, to be exact). They don't care for the idea.

And they don't like being made a prime target for Soviet H-bombs in case of nuclear war. Which is why a petition against the base that was launched in April of 1982 had received more than a million signatures by June 1st, even though there are no more than 5 million Sicilians altogether, including children.

This broad opposition has shown itself in large demonstrations as well. Two months after the announcement of the base, 35,000 gathered in October of 1981; the following April, 50-100,000 turned out.

Under the auspices of the Comitato Unitario per il Disarmo a la Pace (CUDIP) and/or the International Peace Camp, there have been hunger strikes, symbolic actions, and actual

blockades, plus rallies, leafletting, and other forms of ongoing outreach to the Comisani and to the general public.

La Ragnatela have been a part of this, making contact with the women of Comiso and their children. A picnic for the townswomen on the land is planned.

Despite all this activity, the construction work goes on at the base, the Mafia is moving in and speculating in land and interfering with contract awards, and the Americans are already arriving.



Hopefully, the movement will continue to gather force. At this time, people continue to cling to the hope of victory through conventional political means.

Peace campers hope for a show of support internationally from women of all countries. They suggest that any woman interested in purchasing a square meter of land also send a square of cloth with her name on it



Patinote

Greenham Common

From Greenham Common Women's Peace Camp in England, correspondent Caron Methol sends this account of "Life at Greenham Common":

"Wimmin for Life on Earth Peace-campers have precisely made the difficult decision to give up their daily lives and take responsibility for themselves and their futures into their own hands by camping for peace.

The rigid structure of a fence enclosing an air-base devoid of life-giving forces — air force + nuclear force = death force...

...Last December, ...well over 30,000 wimmin came together and 'embraced' the base. The anniversary of the NATO decision to station cruise missiles in Europe was mourned and the date reclaimed as a time when wimmin from everywhere converged on one energy base to create a human chain around the fence.

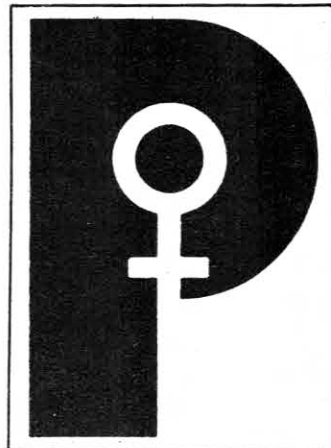
Linking arms, feeling our strength. We knew all the time we were many, that we were strong, yet amazed at how many wimmin actually did turn up — enough not only to encircle the 9 mile perimeter of the fence, but in some places to be three times the length!

...When an eviction hangs in the air, we baffle the authorities by playing 'musical chairs' — when the music stops (Newbury District Council takes the peace camp to court and obtains an eviction order) we sit on another chair — immediately outside the main gate the land is owned by the Ministry of Defence, 50 yards away the land is owned by the Ministry of Transport; new owner, new eviction order.

...The national 'big' events have included the Spring Equinox Festival

and blockade of the nine gates last March 1982; then when wimmin embraced the base on the 12th and blockaded on the 13th December last winter, and this Easter's blockade...and the ..Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament mixed human chain linking the Greenham Common air base with the atomic weapons production factory at Burghfield and at Aldermaston.

These events provide a focus of attention for thousands of wimmin who



for many reasons don't have time and energy to be at the camp more permanently.

We feel our collective strength. We show it off, decorating the fence, blockading the gates. We use the holes in their wall to infiltrate with our symbolism, our lives; we break down the invisible wall that surrounds Greenham Common: the one in our consciousness which says official walls are not for infringing."

— Edited by Janis Mara

to be made into a long quilt demonstrating the number of supporters of the camp.

Letters of support, donations, and handkerchief-size squares of cloth can be sent to: La Ragnatela, Campo Di Donne Per La Pace, Fermo Posta, Comiso, Sicily. International money orders made out to Raffella Iurato will be accepted, or checks can be sent to the bank: Banca Agricola Popolare Di Ragusa, Succursale Di Comiso, Account 81/008992 P, also made out to Raffella Iurato.

— by Grazia Borrini and Patrick Diehl, edited by Janis Mara

Tucson Peace Camp

Tucson Peace Campers at the Davis-Monthan Air Force Base invite letters of solidarity, financial support, and guest campers.

Ongoing special events at the camp are

— Children's Night and Family Potluck every Thursday from 6-8 p.m. (music, songs, dance, Origami, storytelling);

— Peace Rap every Friday at 7:30 p.m. (open sharing of perspectives on peace-making);

— Nonviolent Vigil every Saturday 10-10:30 a.m. at the main gate (N.W. corner of Golf Links and Craycroft).

Davis-Monthan is the only military installation in the U.S. where cruise missile personnel are being trained. The peace camp there was started June 20 on the International Day of Nuclear Disarmament.

Contact: Tucson Peace Camp, c/o Casa Maria, 401 E. 26th, Tucson, Arizona 85713. Phone: 602/624-0312.

German October Demonstration Plans

(Continued from page 9)

resistance and civil disobedience in West Germany has grown quickly during the last few months.

The Euromissiles are going to be installed in December. But as in Greenham Common and Comiso, they're already busy preparing the bases. Margaret Thatcher and W. German Chancellor Helmut Kohl want to have the missiles "no matter how much protest there may be against them," as Kohl just said.

Every now and then the question occurs whether we'll be able to stop Pershing II and cruise missiles. But to me that is not the point. If we are against the Euromissiles--and we have good reasons--we have to fight them. We're not even a minority any longer. According to interviews, more than 50 percent of West German inhabitants are against the new missiles. In my opinion we've got to find a strategy that enables us to carry on our resistance--even when the missiles will be deployed.

--by Britta Ratsch, member of a nonviolent action group in West Germany. Britta will be in Berkeley until mid-September and would like to talk with LAG affinity groups. To contact her, please call the LAG office and leave a message.

Illinois October Plans

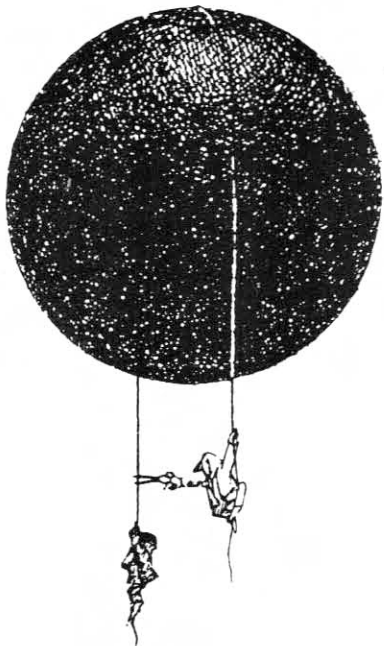
Protests in October in Illinois will have three aspects. The Illinois Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign will sponsor actions at U.S. Congressional Representatives' offices all over the state, probably on Friday, October 21.

On Saturday, Oct. 22, a coalition rally sponsored by the Freeze, AFSC, Chicago Peace Council, and Disarm Now Action Group (DNA) will take place in downtown Chicago.

On Monday, Oct. 24, DNA is planning one or more direct actions at cruise or Pershing II contractors or other sites in the Chicago area. DNA was founded in September 1982 when the Chicago June 12th Coalition was reorganized and renamed. The four points of unity of the coalition have remained in force: 1) Freeze and reverse the arms race; 2) Redirect resources from the military to meet human needs; 3) End intervention abroad; and 4) End racism at home.

The first project of DNA was the drafting of a political statement called "The Freeze Is Not Enough" which basically calls for direct action, rather than arms control appeals, and for opposition to conventional military alternatives to nuclear weapons.

DNA also organized a blockade of Northrop Defense Systems plant on June 20.



Update from Pt. Mugu

At a hearing August 23, the Ventura County (California) District Attorneys asked for a continuance to Aug. 31 of the group trial of eleven protesters arrested June 20 at the Pacific Missile Test Center at Point Mugu. Mugu is testing the cruise and Pershing missiles, and plans to test components of the Trident missile system.

At issue in court is whether the state of the federal government has jurisdiction over the case. If federal charges are pressed, a jury trial will not be allowed.

The defendants want a group jury trial, and successfully resisted an earlier attempt by the D.A. in July to divide the trial into two groups.

More International Day News

News about International Day solidarity actions and other activities at the time of the solstice is still coming into the LAG office. News of actions in Germany was particularly slow in arriving. In addition to the events reported in other stories on this page, a Summer Solstice Festival of Music and Dance was held in Lake

Elsinore, California. One of the organizers writes,

"The important thing about the festival we held in solidarity with International Day of Disarmament was this was a group of people who are 'spiritually'-inclined, more so than 'politically'-inclined, so it broadened their outlook on the world."

250,000 Demonstrate in Czechoslovakia

Dear Friends,

As a delegate to the International Peace Assembly at Prague I was disappointed to see how little was written about it in the International page of Direct Action in your Mid-July issue.

I'm enclosing a copy of a special issue of the California Voice to inform you of what was the world's biggest peace conference.

In peace and friendship,
William Eisman, Chairperson
U.S. Vietnam Friendship Assn.

The special report is on file at the LAG office for people to read. 2,600 peace workers from 132 nations gathered for the 7-day conference. Half the delegates were from the West, and the rest from socialist and developing nations. They were greeted on the opening day (June 21) by more than 250,000 people demonstrating for peace and against nuclear war. Topics discussed were the economic aspects of the arms race, and its social, psychological, ethical, moral, and racial implications. Berkeley Mayor Gus Newport was a speaker.



50,000 Protest Bush in Krefeld

Dear friends of LAG,

Here is the report on our activities for the International Day of Nuclear Disarmament.

The "Neusser Friedensinitiative" and the "Bilker gegen Atomraketen" - as well as a lot of other peace groups of this area - took part in a demonstration, rally and peace festival at Krefeld on June 25th, 1983.

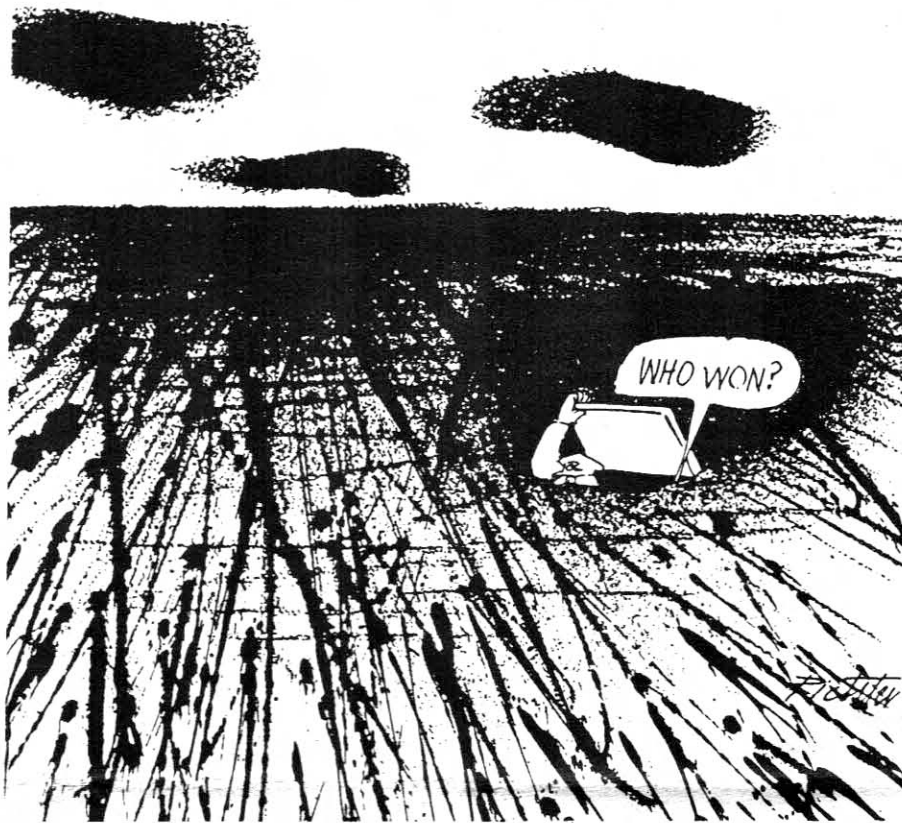
Site and date had been chosen because on that day Vice-president Bush visited Krefeld. It was the 300th anniversary of the first German emigrants (Mennonites and Quakers) to the United States. They left the country because they were pacifists and did not want to be forced to render military service. Therefore the visit of Bush in Krefeld seemed to be a provocation for us.

A lot of peace groups organized bicycle rallies in Krefeld. From four points in the suburbs about 50,000 people marched into the town and formed a "wall" around the center where Bush and chancellor Kohl talked in front of 1000 invited guests. The demonstration was accompanied by a lot of fanciful actions. When the "wall" had been formed there was a die-in in order to symbolize the dropping of an atomic bomb. Most of the inhabitants reacted with consent. It was a peaceful and joint festival that Bush could watch from his helicopter when safely leaving the town.

Unfortunately some hundreds of people did not remain peaceful. These incidents - not recommended by us - were a good occasion for the press to deny the peace movement.

We hope that our international solidarity will continue and culminate in the international activities in October 1983.

In peace and with solidarity,
Monika Gretschmann and
Klaus Kurtz



June 20 Actions in W. Germany

Dear friends,

Coming this fall will be a series of blockades in which a number of our people will take part. Our action on June 20th helped form the needed determination. We felt one with those who in the USA were arrested.

Our group planned and carried out the following actions on June 20th:

- very early on June 20, 8 banners were hung over all the underpasses in our city area (police removed them by 9 a.m.!!)

- at two separate intervals, hours of silence were observed by a group standing in the center crossroads of our village, in a silent circle wearing placards telling why (6:30 to 7:30 and 1-2).

- a bicycle demonstration, 3 hours, circling thru the 5 villages of Filderstadt, stopping in front of each

church to form a prayer circle, sing, and pray, wearing signs on our backs.

Greetings in peace,
Elizabeth Lamp
Christians Interested
in Peace

The Nonviolent Action Group Dortmund and two other groups took two 40-foot banners downtown on June 20. At a major intersection they went out into the crosswalk at a light and slowly got out of the crosswalk when the light turned red. After one-half hour of this the police threatened to arrest them for obstructing traffic. They then stayed on the curb but one of them was arrested for leading an unannounced demonstration.

One of their banners said, "We've only borrowed the earth from our children."



Layout design and paste-up by Dik Fishman.



Articles not otherwise credited in the Action Bulletin were written by Tori Woodard.

Demonstrators Remember Hiroshima and Nagasaki

The 38th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki was remembered by people around the world on August 6th through the 9th. Demonstrations ranged from quiet vigils to graphic reminders of the horrors of nuclear war.

In Hiroshima, Japan marked the anniversary with church bells, doves of peace, silent prayers and pleas for nuclear disarmament. More than 48,000 people, including Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, attended memorial services at Hiroshima's Peace Park.

In Western Europe, demonstrators began fasts and marches to protest the planned deployment of NATO's new nuclear missiles in Western Europe this year. There also were demonstrations in Hungary and Poland.

In towns large and small in the US, Americans held candlelight vigils, meditated and fasted, and listened to speakers describing the horrors of nuclear war.

In the Little Tokyo section of Los Angeles, the Asian-Americans for Nuclear Disarmament and the Committee of Atomic Bomb Survivors scheduled Christian and Buddhist memorial services and a candlelight procession.

They distributed thousands of folded paper cranes, a traditional symbol of health, prosperity, and longevity.

A group called the Nuclear Resistance Coalition prepared carloads of life-size baby dolls, burned and dismembered, to dump on the steps of the Federal Building in Los Angeles.

"We Will Not Repeat This Sin," and "Hiroshima and Nagasaki Never Again," read placards carried by a dozen people who began a 75-hour vigil at the Old State House in Hartford, Conn. The vigil began at 8:15 a.m., the time the bomb exploded in Hiroshima, and ended Tuesday at 11:15 a.m., the time Nagasaki was bombed three days later.

An estimated 500 to 800 demonstrators gathered at the Electric Boat Shipyard in Groton, Conn., where the Navy's Trident nuclear submarines are



200 Blockade in Nebraska on Hiroshima Day

On Saturday, August 6, several hundred people gathered in Creighton Prep High School, filling to capacity a room built for 400, to listen to an organizer from the Stop the Targeting Campaign explain the logistics of the next day's civil disobedience.

On Sunday over 200 people representing seven states and 22 midwestern cities walked to the main gate of Offut Air Force Base near Omaha. Many crossed the white line to be arrested by the loosely formed line of Air Police. From there, busload by busload, we were taken to the base movie theater for detention and booking. Most Civil Disobedients received a ban-and-bar letter in which John McKone, base commander, berated us for our "disregard of military regulations."

The action was an amazing success, outdoing everyone's expectations and overwhelming the Air Police. People left with a sense that this action laid the foundation for a greater cohesion among activists in the Midwest. Indeed, plans were begun to network for protests against the Cruise missile in October, including a civil disobedience action at the Honeywell Corporation in Minneapolis.

This year's action at Offut is but the latest in years of protest at the base. Last year on August 9, 54 people were arrested and a few were sent to Leavenworth for violating ban-and-bar orders.

Offut AFB is the command center for the Strategic Air Command, and it is there that the Joint Strategic Targeting Planning Staff is implementing the Pentagon's first strike policy. This insanity is plainly opposed by the people of the Midwest.

-by Lawrence Kay

built. The protesters assembled at nearby Fort Griswold to make a floral wreath in the form of a peace symbol to place at the gate of the shipyard's administration building.

About 250 women at a women's peace camp near the Seneca Army Depot at Romulus, N.Y., fasted and meditated. Two dozen gathered near the gates of the depot at dawn and one woman was arrested when she stepped across a yellow line marking the boundary line of the installation.

In Oak Ridge, Tenn., a dozen anti-war groups gathered for a memorial service in the town where the Hiroshima bomb's explosive core was made.

Twenty-three protesters were arrested at Griffiss Air Force Base in Rome, N.Y., where the Hiroshima anniversary coincided with an open house attended by thousands of visitors who watched Air Force crews demonstrate their proficiency at loading unarmed cruise missiles into B-52 bombers.

Protesters splashed blood from baby bottles onto the fuel tank of a B-52, and Air Force security police charged them with creating a disorder on a federal installation. The protesters also unfurled banners, made speeches, and passed out leaflets.

In Omaha, Neb., an estimated 300 people from nine Midwestern states participated in a rally that took protesters to the gates of Strategic Air Command headquarters. (See Lawrence Kay's letter about this action on this page.)

At a rally attended by several hundred people in Chicago, Monsignor John J. Egan stood in front of a banner reading "No More Hiroshima, No More Vietnam," and said, "The nuclear bomb must be eliminated from the face of the Earth."

After staging a 75-hour fast to commemorate victims of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, six members of a group protesting the production of nuclear weapons were arrested by security officers at the General Dynamics plant on Kearny Mesa in San Diego. The protesters, members of the Mustard Seed Conspiracy, a group affiliated with a San Diego shelter for the homeless run by members of the Catholic Workers Association, were transported by police van for processing to nearby Missile Park where they were given misdemeanor citations and released immediately.

A peace camp vigiled for four days in front of the Mendocino County Courthouse from August 6-9 in Ukiah, California. Activities included "die-ins" on both Hiroshima and Nagasaki Days, guerrilla and street theater, prayer and silent vigils, leafletting, banner-making, and reading from Hersey's Hiroshima.



C.D. at Defense Department —Portland

Seven anti-nuclear protesters were arrested on August 10 after they occupied a US Defense Department office in Portland in an attempt to "interrupt business as usual."

The seven read poetry and talked with staff members in the Defense Logistics Agency offices for about four hours. The office, known formally as the Defence Contract Administration Service Management Area, supervises the manufacture of parts for nuclear and non-nuclear weapons at a number of Oregon factories.

Ada Sanchez, spokes for the group called Individuals Taking Action Today, said the protesters were dragged to a detention cell by federal police after they refused to leave the office. One of the protesters, Chuck Bell, said "We engaged in some dialogue with employees in the office, raising our concerns about the nuclear buildup and Central America." He added that some of the protesters sat at or on desks and others on the floor of the office. He said officers from the Federal Protective Service "tried to persuade us to leave. They felt there had already been enough demonstrations and that it was irresponsible to keep people from doing their work. But we felt the work they were doing was irresponsible."

Part of the text of a statement distributed by the protesters follows:

"Our protest is aimed at interrupting the business-as-usual of the kind of bureaucratic mass-homicide that is typified by the Defense Logistics Agency's activities. Murder, implemented with high-technology and with government support, is murder nonetheless. The so-called Defense Department is preparing to bring about nuclear holocaust through production of a new generation of nuclear weapons--such as the Trident, MX, cruise and Pershing 2--that are especially suited for mounting a first-strike attack."

-Alain Henon

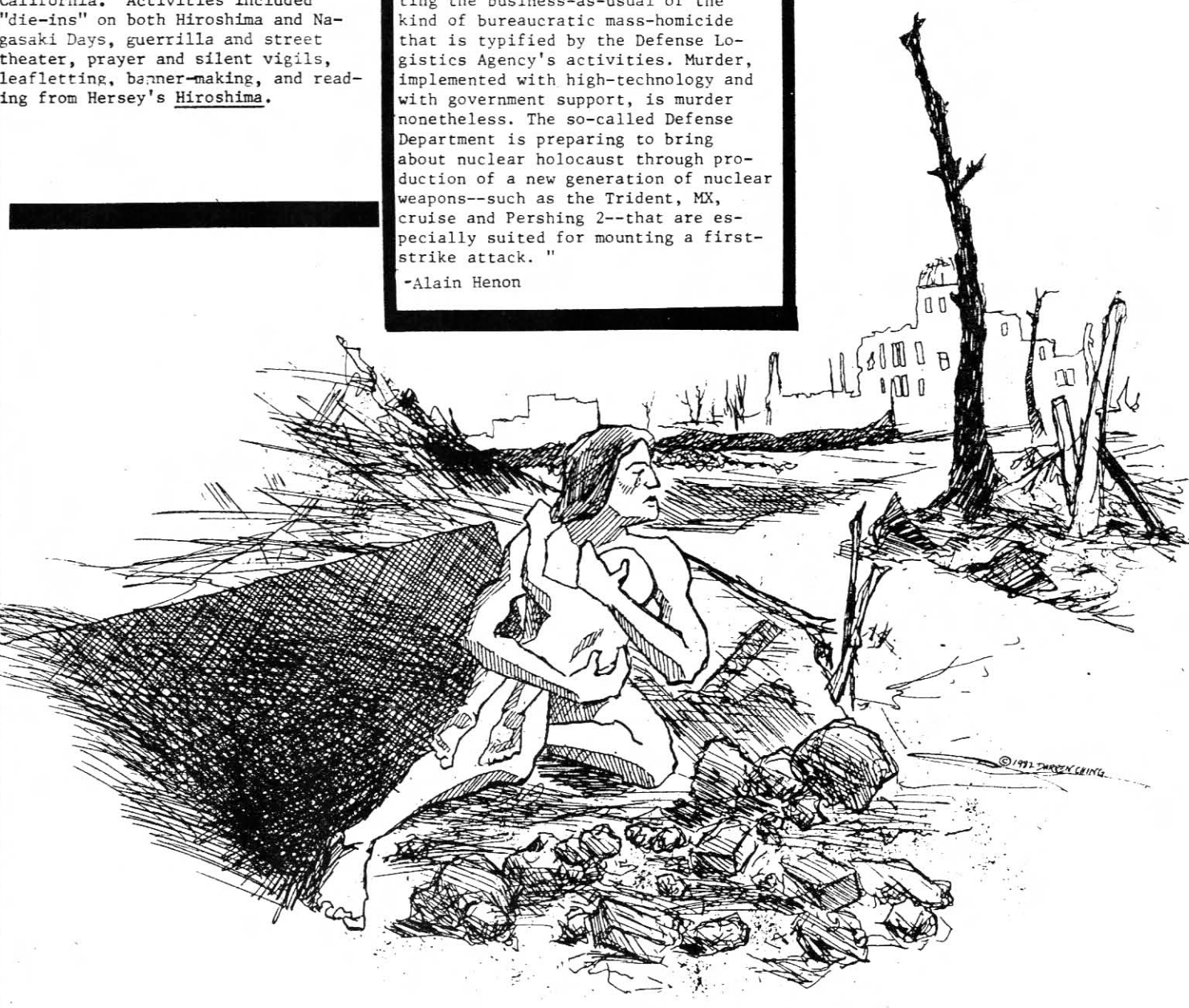
Hiroshima/Nagasaki Peace Camp at Livermore

For those who participated it was a unique and interesting experience. Quite certainly most lab employees at Livermore were aware of our 4 1/2 day presence. We gave out about 950 leaflets at the West Gate and those who came in at the Main East Gate couldn't miss us with our 30-foot banner "No More Hiroshimas" that was provided by a Japanese peace group in San Francisco.

Six of our number were arrested at the Main Gate for attempting to leaflet where on three previous occasions we had had arrests and been found not guilty or charges had been dropped. Charges on these six appear also to have been dropped by the DA.

The climax of the action was the "Ashes of Nagasaki" ceremony in which we witnessed the signing of a statement and the delivery of it to the Administrator of the lab and then proceeded to a grassy mound near the southwest Gate where we ignited over 30 bags of ashes symbolizing the holocaust of Nagasaki. We christened the area "MOUND OF NAGASAKI" and there will always be some of those ashes in that area. We have taken some of the ashes and will be forwarding them to the appropriate persons in the city of Nagasaki.

-by Eldred



CANADA

PROTEST OF CRUISE MISSILES

In an emergency response to Canada's recent agreement permitting the Pentagon to test cruise missiles in western Canada, protesters gathered in more than 20 states as part of simultaneous continent-wide demonstrations to "Refuse the Cruise." All 14 Canadian consulates in the United States were sites of protests, while vigils and rallies took place in at least 10 other locations around the US on July 23.

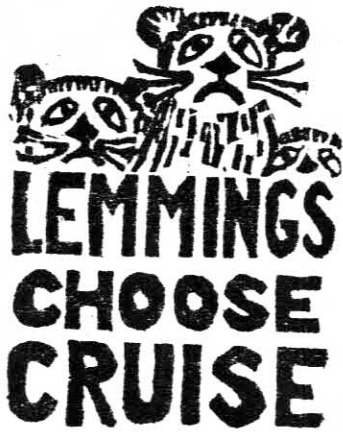
Meanwhile, demonstrations took place in virtually every major city in Canada. Associated Press estimated that 3,500 protesters marched in downtown Toronto, where a model of a cruise missile was burned in effigy outside the U.S. consulate. A peace rally in Vancouver drew 2,000 people, while other protests took place in Canadian communities including Edmonton, Saskatoon, Winnipeg, Montreal, Halifax, and the Newfoundland city of St. John's.

All of these protests occurred in response to the Canadian government's announcement, made one week earlier, that it will allow the U.S. military to flight test air-launched cruise missiles in Canada. (The tests are scheduled to begin this coming winter in northern Alberta, where snowy terrain is very similar to the wintry landscape of the central Soviet Union.) In the United States the emergency protests--initiated and coordinated nationwide by the People's Test Ban National Clearinghouse--were implemented by numerous local peace groups.

"Canadians are tremendously encouraged by the solidarity expressed by U.S. citizens in our joint struggle to refuse the cruise," said Beth Richards of the Canadian Disarmament Information Service (CANDIS). "We look forward to a further deepening of an international peace alliance in the coming months."

CANDIS, the End the Arms Race coalition in British Columbia, and other Canadian peace groups have begun nationwide distribution of "A Call for 'Refuse the Cruise' in the United States, where initial endorsers were the Livermore Action Group, the Philadelphia-based Stop the Cruise and Pershing II Clearinghouse, and the People's Test Ban National Clearinghouse in Portland, Oregon.

Decentralized protests--including marches, rallies, and nonviolent civil disobedience--are being urged for December 2-3. Initiating U.S. groups are suggesting that organizers seek to incorporate opposition to US military intervention in the Third World, challenging the attacks on "human needs" budgets and focusing on issues of corporate power.



On the afternoon of July 22, the lead-off U.S. protest of the cruise-testing decision came at the Canadian consulate in Boston. Arrested were four members of Greenpeace/New England, which cosponsored the local protest with Boston Mobilization for Survival and the Campaign to Stop the Euromissiles. The arrests happened as the four were unfurling a 45-foot blue banner--which read "Stop the Cruise"--from the top of the six-story consulate building while about 50 people protested outside. A few days later the trespass charges were "continued without a finding"--a form of dropping the charges.

Present at many of the protests around the U.S. were full-scale mock-ups of the 18-foot cruise missile, which at the Canadian consulate in New York City bore the inscriptions "First Strike Sneak Attack Weapon" and "15 Times Hiroshima." Despite sweltering heat-wave weather in many cities, a total of several hundred people protested at the consulates.

The largest U.S. protest took place in front of the Canadian consulate in Seattle, where more than 100 people joined in a demonstration sponsored by the Puget Sound Women's Peace Camp, Seattle Fellowship of Reconciliation, and Washington Stop the Cruise campaign. Other consulate protests occurred in Atlanta, Buffalo, Chicago, Cleveland, Dallas, Detroit, Los Angeles, Minneapolis, New Orleans, Philadelphia, and San Francisco.

Protesters in states where no Canadian consulates exist gathered in many cities. In Tucson about 35 people held signs outside the main gate of the Davis-Monthan Air Force Base--the only U.S. training center for operators of ground-launched cruise missiles. Demonstrations elsewhere included rallies and vigils in Portland and Eugene, Salt Lake City, Little Rock, Burlington, New Haven, Wilmington, Roanoke, and Charlotte.

At the Canadian embassy in Washington, D.C., four representatives of peace organizations met privately for an hour with Political Counselor Jean Pierre Juneau, on July 22, to discuss the planned cruise tests.

The emergency protests coincided with a pre-scheduled July 23 border crossing and "International Peace Picnic" demonstration against cruise testing plans. Those events were sponsored in New York State by the American Friends Service Committee and other groups, and by peace coalitions in Ontario, Canada.

For groups and individuals interested in upcoming December 2-3 continent-wide protests against cruise testing, copies of the "Call for 'Refuse the Cruise' Canada-U.S. Solidarity Days" are available in the U.S. from: People's Test Ban, National Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 42430, Portland, Oregon 97242. From Canada, copies can be obtained from: CANDIS, 10 Trinity Square, Toronto, Ontario M5G 1B1; or End the Arms Race, 1708 West 16th Ave., Vancouver, British Columbia V6J 2M1.

For 17 years WIN magazine has covered movements for peace and social justice in the U.S. and abroad. With a fall issue WIN will cease publication primarily for financial reasons. WIN's Peace and Freedom Cards are an important part of WIN's efforts to pay their debt.

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Drawing by Erica Weihs.

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CROCK



By Rechin & Parker

Free the Five

Some know them as the Vancouver Five, the Squamash Five, or more often, just The Five. They were arrested by a combat-ready SWAT team on a remote stretch of highway near Squamash, British Columbia, on January 20, 1983, and charged with a series of political bombings across Canada during the preceding year. The bombings included a controversial power station in B.C., a factory in Toronto making parts for the cruise missiles, and three rape-film emporiums in the Vancouver area.

Julie Belmas, Gerry Hannah, Ann Hansen, Doug Stewart, and Brent Taylor are well-known to us, and respected by us. They have long been active in grassroots work on environmental, native sovereignty and anti-war and anti-nuke issues.

After pleading not guilty, they are sitting in prison, denied bail, awaiting the first of a series of four political show trials set for September 12 and scheduled to take up to six months.



The authorities have no substantive witnesses against them but will submit a mountain of roombug tapes and transcripts in an effort to prove the Five belonged to an "anarchist-terrorist" cell called variously "Direct Action" or the "Winmin's Fire Brigade".

The nature of the "evidence" requires thorough and painstaking preparation for defense, but this is impossible under the isolating conditions in the lock-up. Massive legal costs compound the difficulties.

The case of the Five has thrown into sharp relief the need for a coherent and unified movement to defend anti-authoritarian activists under attack, no matter what differences might exist over tactical considerations.

Individuals and groups concerned with protecting the right to be politically active and with defending the Five, either by donations of money, time, and energy can write to "Free the Five Defense Group", Box 48296, Bentall Station, Vancouver B.C. V7X 1A1, Canada.

PERSHING II

The danger of the Pershing II missile, if successfully tested and deployed, will be its accuracy and great speed. It is envisioned to travel so fast that it would be able to reach Moscow from its base 1000 miles away in West Germany in six minutes. The Soviet Union has given two responses to this threat: they could go to a launch-on-warning where Soviet computers would be entrusted to monitor Europe and launch retaliatory missiles if a Pershing II launch were detected (six minutes gives no time for confirmation of a launch). Or they could station Soviet submarines near the U.S. coastlines to retaliate.

The Soviet Union would need to launch retaliatory missiles within 6 minutes or from submarines because of the accuracy of the planned Pershing II warheads. Their virtual 100% accuracy makes the Pershing II a first strike weapon, designed to knock out Soviet missiles in their silos, or Soviet command and control centers, making retaliation impossible. The Pershing II is not a "defensive" weapon because such accuracy is not needed for retaliatory weapons aimed at Soviet cities.

The Five face trial soon.

Livermore Lab

Blockade

Representative Trials

It appears that there will be several participatory trials in addition to the Mass representative trial being handled by Leonard Post and the Western States Legal Foundation. The not guilty defendants are working hard to form an organization to make these trials history making. To accomplish this they have set up working groups to handle the work ahead. They are seeking enthusiastic members.

Legal - Jackie Cabasso, 939-4035
Finance - Gene Spake, 383-2793
Media - Barbara, 469-9456
Regional -- Hope, 531-9160
Newsletter - Jeremy, 526-8669
(All in area code 415)

Western States update

200 people have already attached. Trial counsel is Leonard Post, Kathy Fisher, and Alan Ramo with 15 others doing pre-trial support work. To date their negotiations with the DA and the judge have resulted in the following agreements:

A representative trial is allowed. If defendants desire a judge from outside Livermore will be assigned by the Judicial Counsel headed by Rose Bird.

The nolo package is open until November 9th.

Defense will be based on International Law defenses with the addition of choice of evils (necessity defense). All decisions to be made collectively.

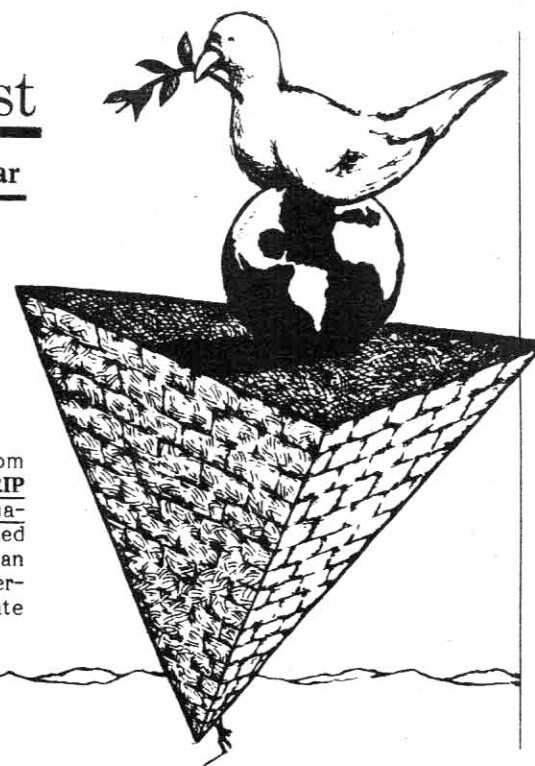
If you wish to attach--call Sharon Green (415)832-6900, give her your name, address, and phone #.
If you are already attached and wish to choose other counsel--new lawyers need to forward a substitution of attorney form to Leonard at 506 15th Street, Suite 600, Oakland 94612.
If you are already attached and wish to change your plea--call the DA at (415) 447-8404 and notify them of the date you wish to appear to change your plea; then notify the Clerk of the Court at (415) 447-6552 and ask that your case be calendared for that date. Please inform Sharon Green (415) 832-6900.

Trial Alternatives

Warren Wilson - defending 16-18 people is not planning on taking on more defendants. He will be using defense of necessity.
Anne Ginger - using the value of individuals instead of representative trial. James Herndon and Gregor Guy-Smith complete the legal team. Further info: Abram (Spike) Martin, (415) 566-5340, Irving Fromer (415) 380-3417, or Bob Heaney (415) 653-3135.
Melvin Belli - willing to take "our" case, Belli would like to meet with interested defendants at his office at 722 Montgomery St., S.F. (415) 981-1849. Further info: Richard Ceisler, (415) 939-9454.

The Middle East

Conventional and Nuclear War



The following was excerpted from the articles indicated, found in **MERIP REPORT** (Middle East Research & Information Project) No. 112, Vol. 13, No. 2 dated February 1983, by Michael Poulin, in an effort to illuminate the extremely dangerous situation in the Middle East and relate it to our peace effort at home.

From: **Conventional Arms Sales: Stoking the Nuclear Fire** by Michael T. Klare

No one can predict the opening moves of a global war, of course, but most experts agree that a nuclear shoot-out will arise from a conventional conflagration that blazes out of control. In the most plausible scenarios, this could occur when a small nuclear power - say Israel or Pakistan - uses its atomic munitions to prevent an enemy onslaught, or when the superpowers clash head-on while trying to rescue their respective allies and clients. Nowhere are these conditions more likely to prevail than in the Middle East, and nowhere else have arms sales contributed more to the emergency of this perilous situation.

Conventional arms sales enhance the risk of nuclear war in three interconnected ways:

* First, by increasing the explosive intensity of non-nuclear wars, thereby increasing the risk that a participant in such a conflict will resort to nuclear strikes to prevent its defeat by the conventional forces of an adversary. The quantity of arms sold to the Middle East in recent years are nothing short of staggering. Between 1973 and 1980, according to the Congressional Research Service of the Library of Congress, the United States, Soviet Union, and Western Europe provided Middle Eastern countries with 14,530 tanks and self-propelled cannons, 21,680 armored troop carriers, 3,370 supersonic combat aircraft, 26,020 surface-to-air missiles, and equally large quantities of other weapons. This booty has reportedly endowed Israel and its Arab rivals with the equivalent in conventional strength to Soviet and Warsaw Pact forces in Eastern Europe.

Such statistics do not tell the whole story: recent sales to the Middle East have been marked as much by the sophistication of the weapons supplied as by their quantity. No longer are the major powers providing only their obsolete hand-me-downs. They are selling their most advanced and powerful weapons. These deliveries have transformed the combat environment in the Middle East into a high-risk battlefield of the sort we would expect in another European war. On such a battlefield, the Pentagon noted in its "guidance statement" for Fiscal 1984, conventional combat "will be of much greater accuracy (and) rates of fire" than anything seen before. It is in precisely this sort of environment, most experts agree, that a nuclear war is most likely to erupt.

* Second, conventional arms transfers facilitate the nuclear weapons programs of local powers. At present, two Middle Eastern countries - Israel and Pakistan - are believed to possess nuclear weapons or have the capacity to manufacture them. Several others, including Iraq, are thought to have long-range plans for such an endeavor. Conventional arms transfers play an important accessory role by providing aspiring nuclear powers with the capacity to deliver nuclear munitions deep into enemy territory. Many of the aircraft and missiles sold to Middle Eastern countries in recent years can be converted for nuclear weapons delivery, as can 8-inch and 155-mm howitzers of the type used by Israel in shelling Beirut.

On a political level, conventional arms transfers can also provide tacit approval for our allies' nuclear weapons program. In recognition of the great danger posed by nuclear proliferation, US law (specifically, the "Symington Amendment" to the Foreign Assistance Act) requires the President to suspend arms de-

liveries to any nation suspected of acquiring nuclear-enrichment technology without adhering to inspection requirements and safeguards established by the International Atomic Energy Agency. This provision can be overlooked, however, if the President determines that US security is at stake. By choosing this option, as President Reagan had done in the case of Pakistan, or by ignoring the Symington Amendment altogether, as Washington has consistently done in the case of Israel, the US government is essentially telling these countries that it has no real objection to their nuclear weapons programs.

* Finally, conventional arms transfers bind the fate of the recipient to that of the supplier, thereby increasing the risk of superpower involvement in a Middle Eastern war. The big powers inevitably acquire a particular interest in the survival of regimes to which they have sold large quantities of their most advanced weapons. Should any of these countries face defeat in a local war, the credibility of their supplier is inevitably threatened, thus producing pressures to intervene. These pressures are bound to increase, moreover, if there is any risk that the supplier's military secrets will fall into the hands of an enemy. Indeed, many US lawmakers voted against the AWACS sale to Saudi Arabia precisely out of this fear. In the Middle East, both superpowers have established close arms-supply relationships with potential belligerents. During the 1973 Arab-Israeli war, both the United States and the Soviet Union transported arms directly to their allies in the war zone, narrowly averting a head-on collision. Next time, we may



not be so lucky. Nothing is more likely to trigger a nuclear holocaust than a US-Soviet clash arising out of their mutual efforts to assist allies in a Middle Eastern war.

Clearly, each of these three factors by themselves makes a nuclear war more likely; together, they make one a near certainty. Despite this, neither the United States nor the Soviet Union appear to have any intention of curtailing their arms deliveries to the region. Indeed, the fighting in Lebanon is likely to produce a renewed appetite for sophisticated arms by all parties concerned, pushing the regional arms race to even more precarious levels. . . .

All this suggests that the issues of conventional arms transfers and nuclear proliferation cannot be viewed as separate problems requiring separate solutions. Both conventional and nuclear exports presents a common danger - the explosive growth in the world's stockpile of war-making capabilities - and only a unified effort toward multilateral arms control offers any hope in diminishing this threat. . . .

(The MERIP Reports from which this was excerpted are available in the LAG office.)

"LAND, BREAD, JOBS & PEACE"
LIVERMORE
ACTION GROUP

Consensus in LAG Meetings

Consensus is a process in which no decision is finalized until everyone in the group feels comfortable with the decision and is able to implement it without resentment. Ideally, consensus synthesizes the ideas of every member of the group into one decision.

The skill of coming to genuine consensus decisions is a real and hard one. It involves a willingness to change and an openness to new ideas. People must be committed not only to expressing their own feelings, but also to helping others with opposite views to express those as well. Because the ideal of consensus is to reach a decision that is not only acceptable to everyone, but is best for everyone, there must be a "bottom line" of shared beliefs about what is best for all concerned. These are the principles of unity.

These basic agreements will undoubtedly not encompass all the beliefs of each individual in the group, but rather, will help define the working relationship of the members. This may vary from the specific goals of a coalition formed around a single action, to an in-depth, ongoing process of self-definition in a small collective. Whatever their scope, without these basic agreements, and a willingness to work within them, consensus will never succeed.

- by John Lavine, excerpted from Int'l Day of Nuclear Disarmament Handbook

NUTS AND BOLTS OF CONSENSUS:

Consensus does not mean that everyone thinks that the decision made is necessarily the best one possible, or even that they are sure it will work. What it does mean is that in

coming to that decision, no one felt that his/her position on the matter was misunderstood or that it wasn't given a proper hearing. It also means that the final decision doesn't violate someone's fundamental moral values, for if it did they would be obligated to block consensus. Hopefully, everyone will think it's the best decision; this often happens because, when it works, collective intelligence does come up with better solutions than could individuals. But, it may occasionally not, and then the decision may just be the one supported by the most people. Those who object can do one of several things:

- Non-support ("I don't see the need for this, but I'll go along.")
- Reservations ("I think this may be a mistake but I can live with it.")
- Standing aside ("I personally can't do this, but I won't stop others from doing it.")
- Blocking ("I cannot support this or allow the group to support this. It is immoral.")
- Withdrawing from the group.

Obviously, if many people express non-support or reservations, stand aside or leave the group, it may not be a viable decision even if no one directly blocks it. This is what is known as a "lukewarm" consensus and it is just as desirable as a lukewarm beer or a lukewarm bath.

- Excerpted from the 1982 Livermore Weapons Lab Blockade/Demonstration Handbook

Both handbooks quoted above are available from the LAG office at half price: \$1.00 for the June '83 handbook of 104 pages; 50c for the June '82 handbook of 62 pages.

I started writing this story while standing in the closing evaluation circle at the Congress Sunday evening, 40 or more of us arm-around-shoulder, survivors of two days of non-stop LAG meetings.

As we swayed back and forth together, my mind drifted back through two days of discussions, arguments, and consensus, back to Saturday morning, arriving at the Urban School, hustling around, hanging signs and posters, moving tables, greeting friends.

By 11am the facilitators had finished their final pre-meeting meeting, and we opened the LAG Congress in our best style—a few songs, a few introductions, a few requests to speak up.

The first item on the agenda was a choice of several general discussions, including long-term goals of the peace movement, plans for the October Euromissiles demos, and the upcoming trials for June Livermore arrests. The sessions were frustratingly short, but revealed a strong interest in long-term strategizing.

Back in the larger group, we stepped into the proposal for a year-long campaign. The opening discussion format was a "limited fishbowl", with three sponsors of the proposal dialoging with three "volunteers" who had questions or reservations.

Some key concerns raised were that the campaign might limit civil disobedience (CD), that the proposal downplayed the success of past LAG actions, and that we lack decentralized and nonhierarchical ways of implementing the proposal. Important points raised in support included giving LAG's work a more solid political base, learning skills besides blockading, developing our own analysis of society and our place in it, and broadening our movement to include people who cannot or will not take part in CD actions.

After half an hour, the fishbowl was opened up to involve anyone who wanted to speak on the proposal; 20 or so people were in the fishbowl at one point or another.

We met in small groups for the last forty minutes before lunch, talking over the implications of the campaign proposal for LAG, the affinity groups, and the broader movement.

While most of us munched on the fantastic food prepared by Turning Tide A.G., a group of spokes from the small groups collated their notes and tried to figure out where to go next. The afternoon opened with a report back from the small group discussions, which showed a tremendous diversity of views and a large number of concerns and questions still unanswered.

The facilitators tried to wade through the morass, but with no luck; process points abounded, and for nearly an hour, we fell into our familiar pattern of "talking about

talking" instead of talking about the issues.

Tension mounted, and even attempts to defuse it seemed only to compound the problem. At last, someone observed that the problem might be that we were attempting to discuss a specific proposal for a year-long strategy, without ever having had any general discussions of where LAG might move this year. A suggestion was made that the Congress ought not to start with proposals, but instead should consist of general discussions out of which proposals could be generated.

The hour-plus process wrangle seemed to me to underscore a lesson we are only slowly learning—that process arguments often serve as a vehicle for expressing political or personal feelings. Reluctance to proceed with the agenda, to break into small groups, or to test for consensus often seem to indicate unresolved political questions or personal feelings.

We might need to set a time limit of ten minutes on process discussions, after which we would stop, evaluate the meeting so far, and share feelings and political concerns.

A disturbing element which ran through the Saturday discussions was the tendency to "bait" people by using labels such as "hierarchical" or "centralizing" to dismiss the campaign proposal and its supporters. While many legitimate concerns were raised, the discussions showed our propensity for easy generalizations. So long as we use a word like "centralizing" as a pejorative, refusing even to discuss the merits and drawbacks of various types of structures, I doubt that we'll be able to clarify or act upon our stated goal of decentralization.

The remainder of Saturday dealt primarily with concerns raised earlier. The day ended about 6pm with an evaluation. The mood was subdued but not especially negative; people seemed generally to accept that the days events had been necessary. Enthusiasm was lacking, but few people seemed to feel that we had wasted a day.

As I was wrapping up Saturday in my mind, my attention was brought abruptly back to the present, the Sunday closing circle. The evaluation was ending, but fortunately we still had to sing a few songs before anyone could tear themselves away, giving me time to think over the second day of the Congress.

We met at 10am to work on the agenda, and managed somehow to shoe-horn in everyone's items, and in the short space of one hour produced a document that required only minor modification before being accepted; we all relaxed a notch.

The sponsors of the campaign proposal announced that their proposal

was being tabled till a later meeting, and we prepared to deal with the other twenty proposals that had been submitted to the Congress.

During the posting of the agenda, we brainstormed for a few moments on goals for the day, coming up with a list that included: specific commitments for October, formation of work groups, establishing more trust within the group, and having fun. That done, we launched into an hour of listening to proposals...

Fortunately, the proposals were interesting, and provoked a lot of thought about the range of possibilities confronting us. We were asked to endorse a peace camp, sponsor another International Day, undertake a referendum on Livermore Labs, endorse rallies, actions, conferences, and educational campaigns, and alter our structure.



We met in small groups for the rest of the morning, (which by that time was actually afternoon,) to discuss "where LAG should be going politically".

As we broke for lunch, the mood was rather relaxed. Several small groups continued meeting, new circles formed; a lot of us just hung out in the library letting Gunther entertain us with his political songs and humor.

I could go on at great length about Sunday afternoon, but all in all it was pretty routine. After some ritual process points, we launched into the proposals we had agreed to consider (proposals for structure and for actions and events after October were tabled). The "Key Decisions" article at the bottom of this page sums up the outcome; the most interesting discussion focussed on CD in October.

Although we had not formally entered the October coalition till recently, LAG people had been attending meetings to discuss Euromissiles protests since last spring. The discussions Sunday quickly affirmed LAG's commitment to a bay area anti-nuke/anti-militarist coalition, but still to be decided was the extent to which our obligations to other groups would affect our desire to remain free to do CD at any time.

The specific question was whether LAG should endorse CD during the week

preceding the October 22 rally. Proponents of early CD argued that flexibility was necessary, and that CD during the week before might make the rally even more successful. People committed to the coalition replied that while CD itself would be distracting enough, the key objection to early CD was that it would reflect a lack of concern and energy for the October 22 rally.

Deeper issues were clearly at stake and surfaced occasionally: is LAG a group that does CD against nukes, or are we an organization which is committed to building a broad coalition for fundamental social change? While the two goals are not always exclusive, moments will arise—and October may be one such moment—when our commitment to constant CD may interfere with our desires to support and work with groups with different programs.

It is at such junctures that we must ask: where are we trying to go? How far can we get by ourselves? Who are our natural allies and how can we nurture our relationships with them? The fact that such questions have never been seriously discussed in LAG was painfully evident in the lack of focus and clarity during the CD discussions Sunday.

We settled finally on the Monday October 24 date, with the proviso that earlier CD might be endorsed if the coalition did not object; it was a compromise, not a synthesis, and the question of pre-rally CD may arise again this fall.

Somehow we managed to get through the agenda, and even got fifty or so people signed up for work groups. By this time my concentration had faded, and I was as glad as anyone when we got into the closing circle.

Two days of meetings were over; we were all ready for a break. But we could feel that the discussions had barely begun at the Congress. Where LAG is heading is as uncertain as ever; still, I felt encouraged that so many people were ready to think and talk about these issues. If we can understand that this was only the beginning—that we have months of intense discussions and decisions ahead of us—then I'd say the Congress was a success.

—G. Franklin

Key Decisions of LAG Congress

Green Party Support Statement: The first and easiest decision of the day was a proposal to send a statement to the Green Party in Germany that LAG supports what they are doing and is in solidarity with their cause.

Vandenberg Peace Camp: Consensus was reached quickly to endorse this action which is now in the works.

Livermore Peace Camp: Also endorsed, this is slated to begin in September on land which is being purchased for the peace camp.

Emergency Phone Network: This proposal would implement an organized method of getting critical information out to people quickly and accurately. We decided that this proposal didn't really need a consensus, but rather a work group. There was quite a bit of interest, so a list was sent around, and the phone network began then and there.

Walls of Jericho: This proposal asked for support for an October 29 demonstration at Livermore Labs that would focus more on celebration and ritual than on a more solemn theme. There was much discussion on this proposal, including concerns about the timing of the event and conflict with the other things LAG is doing. The event was endorsed.

Euromissile Information Week: This proposal, aimed at neighborhood

educating and coalition-building by affinity groups, was discussed at length. Concerns included when this should occur, whether it should be for longer than 1 week, and what it should be called. What we ended up with was: a one-week educational event, to kick-off ongoing events and information-spreading, to occur October 8-15 and to be called Euromissile Information Week.

October Euromissiles Coalition: LAG is involved in a coalition which will be putting on a rally October 22; we consensed on LAG's support and active involvement in the rally.

October Civil Disobedience Action(s): We discussed at great length the possibility of a CD action occurring during the end of October to protest US deployment of first strike weapons to Europe. There was a great deal of concern about an action conflicting with the rally, and when it might be possible for it to happen without any conflict. There was some support for a pre-rally action, but people who have been participating in building the October coalition objected that this would interfere with the rally, especially if people were held in jail for long. We decided that LAG would support a CD action on or around Monday October 24th, providing that the Coalition finds the date reasonable.

The Fate of the Congress 21

Following is a "scorecard" for the proposals presented at the LAG Congress. Fuller description of some of the proposals is contained in the "Key Decisions" article on this page. For complete copies of all 21 proposals, talk to your A.G. contact person, your A.G. Congress spokes, or call George, 845-7248.

1. Vandenberg Peace Camp Endorsement - consensed; see "Key Decisions" article on this page.
2. World Truce Day - tabled.
3. International Day - tabled.
4. Walls of Jericho (legal demonstration at Livermore Labs October 29) - endorsed; see "Key Decisions" article on this page.
5. Affinity Group picket of Livermore Labs - tabled.
6. National Grassroots Conference - withdrawn.
7. Peace Conference - tabled.
8. Euromissile Information Week - consensed; see "Key Decisions" article and page 3.
9. Convert Livermore Labs Referendum - tabled.
10. Support Group for Port Chicago - no objections, work group convened.
11. Support Group for Fast For Life - no objections, work group convened.
12. LAG Emergency Information Network - sign-up sheet passed around meeting.
13. Coordinating Council Restructure - tabled.
14. Lag Memberships - tabled.
15. Coordinating Council Restructure - tabled.
16. Interim Decisions Committee - tabled.
17. Year-Long Campaign - tabled after much discussion.
18. October Euromissiles Demonstrations - modified and consensed; see "Key Decisions" article on this page, plus stories on pages 1 and 2.
19. December 2 Canadian Solidarity Demonstrations - tabled.
20. Silicon Valley October Actions - tabled.
21. Coalition Building - referred to Outreach work group.

COORDINATING COUNCIL Chronicle

The coordinating council--part of LAG's structure on paper and real life!--is a weekly open gathering of representatives of LAG's working groups. Its work includes ensuring LAG has office staff, reviewing organizational finances, and deciding on endorsement of other organizations. Meetings provide a place to share information, make requests of each other's working collectives, exchange feedback and counsel, and test each others' accountability to the council and the organization at large.

As the working groups themselves are loosely defined, so is their representation at the coordinating council (c.c.). Some attendants informally work in and identify with a number of working collectives, while others at c.c. may be involved more individually in ad-hoc LAG-related projects. A handful of people are c.c. regulars, both to report on their work group activity and to keep in touch with and support the organization. Others attend as the need arises in their LAG work.

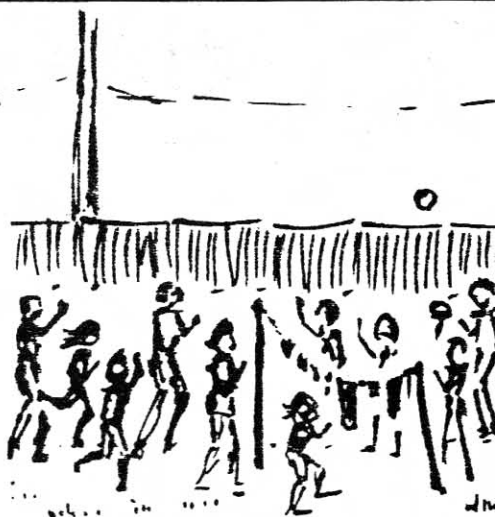
There is no structural designation of a person or group responsible for herding work group representatives in weekly, so that organizing burden has thus far fallen to office staff. Attendance varies from 4 to 20 or more people, averaging approximately 10. Increased attendance of those in working groups (w.g.s) and affin-

ity groups (a.g.s) at this open meeting would be a service to the organization. It is an interesting means of discussing the vast amount of work that's keeping the organization going and growing. Meetings are Monday nights at 7:30 p.m. The location is announced weekly on LAG's taped recording.

The following is a summary of the more substantive work of c.c. over the last six weeks:

LAG office staff: Three out of the 4½ staff have left their positions (either in advance of their termination dates or decided not to re-apply). Burn-out has taken its toll. A collective has formed to facilitate the hiring process for c.c. Remaining staff requested interim hiring of people to staff the office till new staff are on jobs mid-Sept. One full-time, Darla Rucker, and one half-time, Jim Martin, were hired for mid-July to mid-Sept.

A call within and outside LAG for applicants of permanent positions issued July. By mid-August deadline 24 resumes submitted, balance women and men, no third world applicants. Interviews by hiring collective teams of all available applicants. Seven applicants recommended for second interview to be conducted by c.c., with c.c. decision following second interviews. Four ½ paid positions recommended.



COORDINATING COUNCIL-
FUN AND GAMES!?

Discussion on staff covered: 1) leadership and/or service position of staff; 2) responsibility of organization to staff; 3) whether staff should specialize in key organizing tasks.

Working Group Evaluations: Attempt by c.c. to evaluate w.g.s' function prior to and through last blockade. Only 3 w.g.s were evaluated before immensity of task and vagueness of evaluative criteria brought project to close. A few of the points that were made follow.

Canvass and table collective: Accomplished a great deal but could have a more systematic approach to

task before them. Some discomfort with the process of C & T's attempt to reach a male/female balance in collective.

Outreach: Similar critique to C & T's; did not seem to pre-define its work. Members stretched extremely with workload.

International Day: Criticism that International Day collective had bias emphasizing ecological/spiritual/ills of the planet to exclusion of economic/political plight. W.g. itself felt the contacts made by its outreach were highly successful, especially nationally. W.g. ready to take on Second Int'l. Day. Stalemate on ideological differences between Int'l-Day's strongest proponents and critics.

Coordinating Council Evaluation: in which the c.c. attempted to evaluate itself!

Well-attended meeting - much self-criticism. Proposal that w.g.'s representatives be elected for terms, to correct haphazard attendance and clique-ness nature of c.c. Some said political discussions should be part of c.c. -- others said that is inappropriate -- others pointed out that political discussions were taking place at c.c. for lack of better place: other large LAG Councils with more authority were infrequent and sometimes sparsely attended.

There was a basic split between those who wanted c.c. to extend its purview and those who object to such extension.

- by Virginia Frantz

Making the Actions Happen Nothing Will Happen Without Working Groups!

At the LAG Congress we consensed to an ambitious program for October anti-Euromissiles involvement; our plans include a large rally on October 22, civil disobedience on the 24th and possibly other dates, and a grassroots education/recruitment project, as well as an endorsement of a legal demonstration at Livermore Labs on October 29.

A few people are already working on the projects, but unless there is an immediate upsurge in working group involvement, the great plans we laid will be pipe dreams.

Working groups are a great way to get into political organizing in roles other than blockading and action support. Helping plan an action or event often gives people a much greater sense of connection, and a stronger feeling that these really are OUR actions.

On this page are brief descriptions of LAG's working groups, plus a special no-obligation return coupon. No need to make an immediate commitment--just mail us the coupon, and folks working on the groups will call you to answer your questions, update you, and go into more depth about the range of projects and opportunities with that group.

Send the coupon back now--time is short!

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ALLIANCE

BUILDING (Outreach). Presents slide shows, talks, and LAG orientations. Co-ordinate speaking tours. Network with other organizations, communities, and constituencies in the bay area and elsewhere. COAB needs many new people.

PUBLICATIONS. Co-ordinates and produces "Direct Action", the action bulletin, leaflets, pamphlets, and other printed materials. We need writers, typists, artists, and production volunteers. We'll utilize your skills, and/or teach you new ones. This collective also co-ordinates research on weapons, the Labs, and keeps files on the government.

MEDIA. Facilitates media coverage of LAG actions and events. Sends out press releases and announcements, organizes press conferences and talk-show appearances, writes and submits articles on LAG. Learn media skills while working for LAG.

MATERIALS PRODUCTION. Design and produce posters, flyers, buttons, T-shirts, etc. Artists and logistical helpers needed.

FUNDRAISING. Co-ordinate LAG finances. Help with creative grassroots fundraising like benefits, raffles, blockade-athons, grants, fund-appeals--we need lots of new ideas, and lots of energetic people to help make them happen. LAG raised (and spent!) \$74,000 last winter and spring--let's keep the money flowing in.

OFFICE. Maintain phones in LAG office; network among AGs, working groups, and public; deal with voluminous LAG mail (incoming and outgoing), answer questions, etc. The office is a great place to learn about the general scope of LAG's activities--volunteer for an afternoon a week and find out what's happening.

LEGAL. Provide legal support for actions and events. Both lawyers and non-lawyers are needed for our ongoing work.



MONTHLY ACTIONS. Explore ways of maintaining constant pressure on Livermore Labs in between larger LAG actions. Autonomous c.d. actions, vigils, leafletting, fasts; new ideas are welcome.

JAIL PLANNING. Develop and share solidarity and legal tactics; plan pre-jail and in-jail workshops. Suggest ways to use jail space and time.

TABLING AND CANVASSING. Educate local communities while fundraising for LAG by maintaining tables in public places and canvassing. Some members are volunteers; regular workers can receive 40% of the funds raised.

CLIP THIS COUPON--NO OBLIGATION! WE'LL CALL WITH MORE INFO ON WORK GROUPS OF YOUR CHOICE!!

INREACH. We are concerned about internal problems in LAG such as sexism, racism, homophobia, classism, ageism, fat phobia, discrimination against the handicapped, as well as less-easily labeled conflicts among individuals and groups. We organize workshops and articles on these issues, and work on ways to improve internal process.

CHILD CARE. Organize child care for LAG meetings and events. Includes getting volunteers or hiring workers who are experienced and sensitive. This collective needs some real work; but a few people could make a big dent in our problems.

STRUCTURE. Evaluate the overall structure of LAG to see that it is best suited for our goals and plans; suggest changes to regional councils. This group also reviews new proposals for structure changes.

FLEA MARKET. Help run the LAG Flea Market; help with sales and outreach at the flea market, or donate quality goods to us. One of the most pleasant ways to help with fundraising and outreach.

PORT CHICAGO SUPPORT GROUP. Explore ways to develop the ongoing networking between LAG and the Port Chicago (El Salvador solidarity) Campaign, which includes CISPES, the Walnettos (a LAG a.g.), and other groups. Develop material for the newspaper, mobilize LAG in support of El Salvador issues and actions.

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES. Study and discuss the voluminous materials LAG receives from peace and social justice groups around the world. Prepare articles and excerpts for LAG publications and slide shows. This group includes LAG's overseas emissaries, who will share their experiences and networking information.

INTERNATIONAL DAY. Develop and implement plans for a second International Day; network with groups nationally and internationally to co-ordinate actions. Plan networking tours, mailings, and the action bulletin, write letters and articles.

EUROMISSILES INFORMATION WEEK. Co-ordinate activities before and during Information Week; mobilize AG's to work on educational events. Develop resources and materials. Co-ordinate follow-up work.

OCTOBER EUROMISSILES DEMONSTRATIONS. Mobilize LAG for the legal and CD actions planned for late October; network with other groups in the October coalition. Prepare materials for Direct Action.

- ☐ Outreach
- ☐ Publications
- ☐ Media
- ☐ Materials Production
- ☐ Fundraising
- ☐ Office
- ☐ Legal
- ☐ Monthly Actions
- ☐ Jail Planning
- ☐ Tabling & Canvassing

- ☐ Inreach
- ☐ Child Care
- ☐ Structure
- ☐ Theatre & Music
- ☐ Flea Market
- ☐ Port Chicago Support
- ☐ International Study
- ☐ International Day
- ☐ Euromissiles Information Week
- ☐ October Euromissiles Demos

NAME _____

PHONE (____) _____

BEST TIMES TO CALL _____

(Return to: LAG, 3126 Shattuck, Berkeley 94705)

SANTA RITA JUNE 20 1983

Announcements

The Progressive magazine is going under and needs help with fundraising to pay debts--call David Rabin, (h)346-8284 or (w)839-9230.

Fast For Life needs monitors--people with patience and tact needed to receive visitors at the Oakland fasting center. The fasters' celebrity is drawing numbers of people at times other than the 5:30-7pm social and prayer time. Call Hal Durst at the Fast For Life, 533-0345.

Europe Actions--want to participate? Call Geoff, 564-4562 for info on December action in Germany.

Posters, signed by eleven former NATO generals, which implore Americans not to deploy cruise and Pershing II missiles, are being distributed in the U.S. by the Berliner Compagnie for posting in train and bus stations and other public areas. The LAG office has several dozen posters, and more can be ordered from the Riverside Church, 490 Riverside Drive, New York NY 10027. Cost: \$1 each, less for bulk orders.



A National Freeze Walk-a-thon is planned for October 1. The San Francisco walk will begin at 10am in Golden Gate Park. The distance is 10 kilometers (6.2 miles). Balloons and refreshments at the end, prizes for top pledge-getters, plus a prize-drawing for all who pre-register. Contact the SF Freeze at 621-0858.

Collecting the story of the 1983 LLNL blockade--we need your help in putting a book together. We want copies of diaries or notes from jail, statements issued, recollections of experiences, outlines of notes from meetings or workshops, songs, jokes, skits, messages, photos, poems, drawings, newspaper clippings, etc. Suggestions on how the book might be done would also be appreciated. Please include name and phone, and indicate if material is confidential. Send to Blockade/Peace Camp '83, c/o Reed, 7730 Hwy 9, Ben Lomond, CA 95005, or drop items in the box at the LAG office.



Unarmed Brigade to enter war zone. The Peace Brigade International is planning to station unarmed volunteers on the border of Honduras and Nicaragua, beginning mid-Sept. People interested in supporting this call Doug Oman, 654-4049, or Fred Moore, 524-4778.

Electronic Warfare Conference in Palo Alto, Sept 15-16. 22 speakers planned--demonstrations also planned, sponsored by CANE. We're planning to be there to greet the delegates from 7-9am on Thursday the 15th, continue a vigil the rest of that day and Friday, and then bid the delegates farewell from 4-6pm on the 16th. The conference is at the Hyatt-Rickey's in Palo Alto. Call CANE, 326-8073 for more info.

LAG and Livermore Labs debate the conversion of the labs and other issues on Sunday, September 25 on the "Action Line" program on KYA 1260AM and 93.3FM. Includes a call-in time. Phone KYA for time.

The Jail Rumor Control Collective will meet on Tuesdays to discuss ways to upgrade the rumors that circulate in jail. We'll be offering workshops in creative imagination, wishful thinking, and malicious misinformation, with a special emphasis on relaying news received from the guards.

The Over-reach working group will meet to discuss anything Outreach and Inreach might have overlooked.

Announcements

PORT CHICAGO SEA BLOCKADE

An ongoing alert for the Port Chicago Sea Blockade is being organized. Blockades of naval supply ships carrying arms to Central America may be called on short notice.

Boats, life jackets, rafts, land support, transportation, and communications are needed.

To help, or to join the alert, contact David Hartsough, 752-7766.

Ooops! We Goofed!

T-Shirt Sale

OOOPS - WE GOOFED with the wrong date. A limited edition T-shirt: red and white circus tent on black "SANTA RITA PEACE CAMP - THE LIVERMORE 1000 - July 19, 1983" is available from the LAG office for \$4.00 plus \$1.00 postage and handling. Also available with the correct date, June 20, 1983, for \$7 plus \$1 postage and handling.

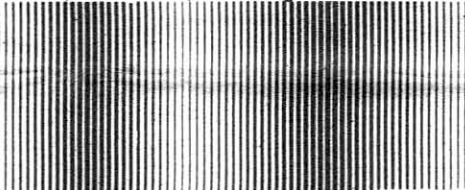
Clothes from Santa Rita not returned: 2 pr heavy grey wool socks, long-john top with sleeves (small), grey/black/white sweater with check-pattern--marked with silver tape, "Spiderwort-Hill". Please call the LAG office, 644-3031.

Lost a job while at Santa Rita? I am interested in getting a flyer out. If you can provide info, please call Lisa, 849-2279 (eves) or leave a message at the LAG office, 644-3031.

Probation: If you received a 2-year probation sentence and are interested in challenging it, please call Karen Musalo, 528-2048, or the LAG office, 644-3031.

Thanks to the Pentagon for its generous offer of 100 old Minuteman missiles to the LAG flea market; the offer was turned down, however, as the missiles were scratched and somewhat musty.

Writers/performers: I would like to start a Readers' Theatre Group on living in the nuclear age. Call Lisa, 849-2279, evenings.



"Skills Workshops"

Thanks to your support, the former LAG staff have had good opportunities to develop organizing skills. In the spirit of an organizational commitment to developing organizing and leadership skills in everyone, we would like to organize a number of skills-sharing workshops in late September on networking, fundraising, media, logistics, outreach and general organizing. If you are interested in signing up, call Ken Nightingale on or before September 10. 415/644-3031.

THINK GLOBALLY, ACT LOCALLY!

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Magnetic strip will not function.



The Northern California Support Manual Collective is preparing a "Support Manual" which would concentrate on support functions at direct actions. Members of the collective are gathering and organizing experiences of individuals and affinity groups. We have produced a working outline which we would like feedback and suggestions on. For a copy, write to us. Also, we are interested in narratives of support experiences. We hope to hear from you, Support Manual Collective, P.O. Box 858, Redway, CA 95560.

Guitarist and singers needed for Fast for Life liturgies, September 6-9. Contact Patrick, 763-4388.

Musicians/creative types wanted to do "Alternative Opera" (a parody of "Otello") in front of the SF opera house on the night of September 9 (or later, possibly). Call Patrick, 763-4388.

Learn computer operation by helping with the LAG mailing list. Join the mailing list working collective. Learn computer operation and simple programming, work with office staff on updating the affinity group and Direct Action mailing lists. No experience necessary! Contact Laurel at 465-7605 if you can help with these important networking functions.

AFFINITY GROUP

SWITCHBOARD

LOOKING FOR
a new affinity group?
an old affinity group?
new members for your A.G.?
a second affinity group?
IN ORDER TO
be a part of LAG decision making?
do plan actions?
do support work for CD?
do community outreach/education?
get emotional support?
read and discuss ideas together?
CALL
Anne, 282-2843, or leave a message at 221-4444, ext. 605.

Lost & Found from June Livermore and March Vandenberg actions are at the LAG office, 3126 Shattuck, Berkeley, 644-3031. Unclaimed items will be flea marketed after October 1, 1983!

Adopt-a-Guard at Vandenberg AFB! Help us collect names of guards (look on your arrest papers), and then by corresponding with a guard--they may or may not respond, but it will help our ongoing relationship with the guards and military. We'll provide names of guards and addresses, suggestions, and encouragement. Donations of cash or stamps also much appreciated. Abby Kirk, P.O. Box 3469, Berkeley CA 94703.

September 1983

Ongoing--Fast-for-Life Prayer Service every evening 6-7, preceded by questions and discussions at 5:30. At House On The Way, 8555 Golf Links Road, Oakland. 98th Ave exit from Fwy 580. 933-0346.

2 International Disarmament Task Force meeting, 976 Miller Ave, Berkeley. Grazia, 528-4341.

5 LAG Flea Market visits the Shattuck Ave co-op on Labor Day--join us and lots of other neighbors for a great time. To donate articles, phone Lu or Meryle, 525-0112. Pick up some bargains, benefit LAG, and help pay jail expenses too.

6 Initiative to make Albany a Nuclear-Free Zone will be presented to the City Council at 8pm, Albany City Hall, 1000 San Pablo Ave.(corner of Marin) Joe Kempkes, 524-9687 for info.

Continuing through Friday 9/9, Fast-for-Life vigils and demonstrations at the Federal Building and the Soviet Consulate, SF, 11am-1pm. Info 548-0450. Fed Bldg 450 Golden Gate, SF Soviet Consulate 2790 Green, SF

7 Fast-for-Life vigils and demos, see 9/6.

Nonviolence Preparation, 6-10pm at Friends Meeting Hall, 2151 Vine, Berkeley. Pre-register please--Darla 644-3031 or Terry 548-0450.

8 American Indian Support Group meeting, 7:30, 225 Valencia, SF. Get together with people working on issues relating to the Native American Struggle. Everyone is welcome. Hear updates and find out how to get involved. Info 486-0478.

Fast-for-Life vigils and demos, see 9/6.



9 Civil disobedience for the Fast-for-Life at the Federal Building 450 Golden Gate Ave, SF, 11am. Info 548-0450.

Fast-for-Life Vigil at MacArthur BART, 5-6pm. Sponsored by Basta Ya A.G.

Green Party's Rudolph Bahro from West Germany will speak on "The New Peace Politics in Europe", Dwinelle Hall Room 155, UC Berkeley, 7:30pm. Bahro was imprisoned and deported from East Germany in 1979. Info from Disarmament Resource Center, 495-0626.

No-Nuke Blues Boogie with Birdleg and the Tight Fit Blues Band, 9:30pm at Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo, Berkeley. \$5-\$10 sliding scale. Benefit for Sleepers Awake A.G. and the family of Dave (Deepwater) Fontino. Info, 530-3163.

10 Co-ed slow pitch softball (C and low B). \$130. At Healdsburg High School field. 18-team double elimination, continues Sunday 9/11. 8am. Benefit for LAG. Trophies. Sponsored by Fission Impossible A.G., 1003 Sunset Dr, Healdsburg, CA 95448, (707)433-7761 or (707)433-3246. Sign up by 9/6.

Action Calendar

Green Party's Rudolph Bahro from West Germany speaks on "Perspectives for Fundamental Social Change in the Industrial West", 7:30pm, New College, 777 Valencia, SF. See 9/9 for more info.

11 Dinner with 3 blockaders to raise money for trial, 6pm. Video and entertainment. Sponsored by the Sunflower Brigade A.G. Phone Doris, 339-1910 for reservations and address.

12 John A. Holden of UC Berkeley speaks on "The Euro-missiles, Implications of Deployment and Strategies for Action," 7:45pm, Fort Mason Center Building A, SF. Info, call Lawyers Alliance for Nuclear Arms Control, 391-7996.

13 Diablo Canyon Update--PRC decision on licensing Diablo for testing expected in September. Find out what's happening at 7:30pm, Community Center of the Page St Library, 1833 Page, SF. Call Abalone Alliance, 861-0592 for more info.

"Ladies Against Women", a satire by the Plutonium Players, in a special benefit for LAG! 8pm at La Pena, 3105 Shattuck, Berkeley(near Ashby). Info at 841-6500. Donation \$5, seniors and students \$4.

14 Euromissiles slide show and talk: what they are and why they pose a special danger. 7:30pm at St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 1601 Mary Dr, Pleasant Hill (near Contra Costa Blvd and Taylor Blvd). Sponsored by Contra Costans for a Nuclear-Free Future. Call Patty, 838-7624 for info.

15 "The Buddha is Smiling", slide-tape show on nukes and the export of nuclear technology to the Third World. 7pm at the SF Richmond branch library, 351 9th Ave SF. Discussion follows with Mark Evanhoff of Friends of the Earth and Patrick Heffernan of Ground Zero. Sponsored by Richmond Involved in Safe Energy, 386-3491 or 752-4688.

Plutonium Players at the Old Spaghetti Factory, 478 Green near Grant, SF. 982-1984. 8pm, \$5.

Electronic Warfare Marketing Conference, continues Friday 9/16. Demonstrations planned by CANE, 326-8073. At the Hyatt-Rickey, Palo Alto. 7am today will be a demonstration to greet conference delegates. Vigil rest of day.

16 Plutonium Players at the Old Spaghetti Factory, 8:30, \$7. See 9/15 for more info.

Electronic Warfare Marketing Conference continues from 9/15. Demonstrations planned by CANE, 326-8073. Vigil all day today, with demonstration as delegates depart, 4-6pm. See 9/15 for place.

"A Luta Continua", film of the liberation struggles in Mozambique. Dolores St Baptist Church, 15th St and Dolores, SF, 7:30pm. Discussion follows. Sponsored by Women Against Imperialism. Donation. Info, 652-4401, ex. 656. Childcare.

17 Plutonium Players at the Old Spaghetti Factory, 478 Green near Grant, SF, 8pm \$7; 10:30pm show just \$5. 982-1984.

18 "A Luta Continua", film of the Mozambique liberation struggle. La Pena, 3105 Shattuck, Berkeley, 7:30pm. More info see 9/16.

Massage-a-thon benefit to raise money for jail expenses. Get a massage from one of six volunteer professionals. \$25-60 sliding scale for one hour. 10am-6pm. Reservation required, Treelight, 534-5749. At Oceana Center, Berkeley. Mail half-payment by 9/15. Put your body on the table for peace!

19 Anti-nuke letter writing party. We'll have info, addresses, topics, refreshments. Bring paper and pens to Helen's house at 106 Longfellow Dr (1 block north of Oak Park and Putnam) in Pleasant Hill. Info, call Patty, 838-7624. Sponsored by Contra Costans for a Nuclear-Free Future.

22 Plutonium Players at the Old Spaghetti Factory, SF, 8:30, \$5. See 9/15 for more info.

23 The Atomic Comics, Fran & Charlie, at the Valencia Rose 766 Valencia St, SF (between 18th & 19th). Reservations, \$5, 863-3863. Fran kept the Santa Rita Women's Peace Camp in stitches this June--here's a chance to see the whole act!

Plutonium Players at the Old Spaghetti Factory, 8:30pm, \$7. See 9/15 for more info.

24 Fran & Charlie, the Atomic Comics--see 9/23 for detail.

Plutonium Players, see 9/17 for show times, prices.

25 LAG debates Livermore Labs! "Is Conversion at Livermore Possible" and other issues, "Action Line" Program, KYA radio (1260AM and 93.3FM). Listen and call-in! Call KYA for time, 391-1260. (The special call-in number for the show is 478-3240.)

26 Petra Kelly of the Green Party from West Germany, at Florence Schwimley Theatre, Allston Way between Milvia and Grove, downtown Berkeley, 7:30pm.

Info, 849-3020. Sponsored by East Bay Women for Peace, Women's Party for Survival, and Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

29 Plutonium Players, 8:30pm, see 9/15 for place and price.

30 "Our Love Goes Deeper Than Our Anger", A Gathering for Women on Feminism and Nonviolence, at the Cazadero Music Camp, \$30. Continues through weekend. Childcare \$20 (ages 3-9). Contact War Resister's League, 731-1220.

Plutonium Players, see 9/16 for details.

Atomic Comics--see 9/23 for details.

Mutant Sponges benefit dance for the Judy Koretsky defense fund, 8:30pm, at the Unitarian Fellowship 1924 Cedar, Berkeley. Childcare. 548-8457 for more info. Admission at door.

October



1 "Educating for Peace", a day-long conference for teachers, educators, parents, and interested folks. Congressman George Miller will speak; 16 workshops, peace education materials for all age levels. 8am-4pm at Acalanes High School, 1200 Pleasant Hill Rd, Lafayette. Call Carol, 938-9539. Sponsored by Educators for Social Responsibility.

Freeze Walk-a-thon, local part of national event. 9am from Mosswood Park, Oakland (MacArthur & Broadway). You must pre-register with the Alameda County Freeze, 4042 Broadway, Oakland 94611, 655-6872. This event endorsed by LAG.



Atomic Comics--see 9/23.

Plutonium Players--see 9/17 for times and place.

7 "Nuclear War: Our Greatest Health Hazard", a two-day symposium by the Stanford University School of Medicine on strategies for averting a nuclear war. Sliding scale \$40-160. Info 497-9060. Sponsored by Physicians for Social Responsibility.

16 Stop US Intervention in El Salvador Protest. Assemble 11am at SF Federal Bldg 450 Golden Gate. Rally 2pm, Dolores Park, Mission, SF. Ecumenical Service 10:30am, St Boniface, 133 Golden Gate, SF. Sponsored by the Coalition to End US Intervention in El Salvador, 641-7552.

22 Legal demonstration against the Euromissiles, SF--call LAG, 644-3031 for details.

24 Civil disobedience against the Euromissiles--call LAG for info.



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(Mail to: LAG, 3126 Shattuck, Berkeley 94705. Checks payable to "Capp St. Foundation/LAG" are tax-deductible.)

MEETINGS

LAG Co-ordinating Council meets Mondays at 7:30pm. Spokes from Work Groups discuss and network LAG projects and related issues in a gathering open to all LAG people. Call the LAG office, 644-3031 for meeting places.

10 Regional Spokes Council meets at La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley, 10-6. Send empowered spokes to continue discussions from Congress. Phone LAG office, 644-3031 if your AG did not receive the recent mailing about this meeting.

18 October Actions spokescouncil to decide details of October anti-Euromissiles campaign. At La Pena, 3105 Shattuck, Berkeley, 10-6. LAG, 644-3031, for more info.

LAG Working Groups meet regularly, and in the 7 weeks left before the October actions will be needing lots of new people. Call the office for times and places of upcoming meetings, 644-3031.

This calendar was compiled and illustrated by Doris Bowles.

Thousands March for Jobs, Peace, Freedom

In 1963 in some parts of the country it was hard to imagine Blacks and whites sitting next to each other on a bus, let alone a space shuttle. Some things have changed in 20 years.

But for the overwhelming majority of Blacks, things have stayed the same or gotten worse despite the passage of legislation that promised equality.

The difference between 1963 and 1983, as evidenced by the turnout at the San Francisco Jobs, Peace, and Freedom Rally, is that everybody, not just Blacks, is feeling the brunt of government attacks.

The San Francisco demonstration, organized by the Bay Area Coalition of Conscience, drew approximately 30,000 people from civil rights, religious, labor, anti-intervention, and peace groups.

Unlike the '63 march, which was focused strongly on the question of civil rights for Blacks, the movement now is much more diverse. The succession of single issues that were spearheaded by the civil rights movement of the '60's - anti-war, womens' rights, gay rights, anti-nuke - have finally caught up with each other and are marching, for the first time, side by side.

The undertone of opposition to the overall policies of the government could be seen in the theme - Jobs, Peace, and Freedom - and in the many different banners and contingents.

"We Say No To Racism," "No Vietnam War in Central America," "Stop Plant Closings," "Freeze the Arms Race," "30 For 40," "Stop Corporate War From El Salvador to Livermore."

While some people in the crowd decried the lack of focus, others felt that linking struggles marked a new stage in the movement, because it challenged the underlying cause of all of them.

Harry Britt, a member of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, and the city's most visible gay politician, commented, "What we have today is people who are no longer accepting the rules of the game and are saying it's the rules that have to be changed."

The theme that was reiterated the most was the relationship between cuts in social services and increases in military spending.

"Poor people and people of color are not needed in this country," said Teri Malone, a 25 year old Black woman from Oakland. "The government is hoping that we'll die quietly or we'll have a war somewhere and the poor people will kill each other."



"I don't have a say where my tax money goes. Many of my friends are un- or under-employed and they can't even get benefits. But the government has enough money to make bombs."

March coordinator Geraldine Johnson drew the most applause of the day when she said, "Civil rights is not only a Black issue, but an issue for all Americans. We are here today to prevent nuclear destruction. We are here today to reaffirm the rights of self-determination for all peoples, and to oppose the military intervention of our government against the people of Central America, the Middle East, Asia, and Southern Africa."

Felix Kury, official representative of the FDR-FMLN said, "Jobs, peace, and freedom - these are the things



that the people of El Salvador are fighting for. We are not threatening your lives. The people threatening your lives are the ones making the decisions in Washington, DC."

Despite 20 years of civil rights legislation, Blacks are worse off today than they were in 1963. Black unemployment is 21% (50% for youth), compared to 7% in 1963. Today the median income for Black families is 56% of the median income for white families, and 34% of Blacks live below the poverty line compared to 11% of whites.

The plight of Blacks in this country exemplifies the failure of the system, because even though progressive laws are on the books, they are not enforced. The Voting Rights Act passed, and yet half the people don't vote because they don't see any difference between Democrat and Republican candidates. The Civil Rights Act passed, and yet Blacks have three times the unemployment rate as whites and make half as much money. The Fair Housing Act passed, and yet most Blacks live in segregated ghettos.

Although 5,000 Blacks currently hold elected office, their marginalization in the overall power structure was illuminated in the remarks of San Francisco Mayor Diane Feinstein. "I am glad to see Black Americans taking their place in government among all of us," she said. While Feinstein was totally oblivious to the implica-

(continued on page 2)



Keith Holmes

Regional Council September 10

The next regional L.A.G. spokesperson council will be Saturday Sept. 10, 10am-6pm at the La Pena Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley. We will be continuing the agenda from the LAG Aug. 13-14 Congress. For a report on the congress see page 16 of this issue.

Send empowered spokes to discuss International Day, networking, outreach, structure, and direct action proposals, and continue the discussion on the campaign proposals.

Contact your affinity group or working group spoke or the L.A.G. office for the full text of the proposals.