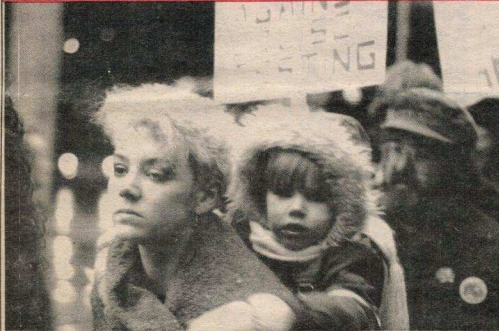


THE ACTIVIST

Newspaper of the ACT for Disarmament Coalition



A young peace activist at PC headquarters, photo Rob Fantinatto

Cruise Tests:

Ontario Reacts

The ACT Coalition is now actively pursuing its winter program of organizing actions in response to cruise tests, and of preparing for the April 26th, fourth annual Canadian day of protest for peace. We are doing our best to spread the word about these actions: a peace movement that is not visible on the streets is a peace movement that is too easily ignored!

TORONTO:

On January 17th, the day the cruise was scheduled to be tested, a noon hour picket at the downtown Toronto office of Indian Affairs Minister David Crombie presented a statement and a list of questions that pointed out that cruise testing violates the aboriginal land claims and the express wishes of the inhabitants of the area over which the cruise is being tested. On the next day, as a "successful" cruise test ended with it crashing and breaking into three pieces, a similar picket heard Native spokesperson Jay Mason and climaxed in a die-in in which a team of radiation-suited Contact School students removed victims in the plastic (garbage) body-bags.

On Saturday, January 25th, 200 people braved miserable weather to march from PC headquarters up Yonge Street to a brief rally at the city hall Peace Garden, followed by a warm-up and very active discussion inside City Hall.

CROSS COUNTRY

ACT once again called across the country to encourage other cities and towns to do demonstrations, partly by passing on information. We know of actions at the Edmonton Legislature, and

More Secret Agreements

by Michael Rosenberg

This year there will again be cruise missile tests in the Northwest Territories and Cold Lake Alberta. The signing of the two testing agreements in 1983 without parliamentary approval is essentially the same process which is now going on with the renewal of the NORAD (North American Air Defense) agreement.

As the clause prohibiting Canadian involvement in Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) systems was removed in 1981, and the US has since embarked on the "Star Wars" ABM program, it is likely that Canadian involvement in the arms race will increase dramatically unless the Cruise and NORAD/Star Wars programs are halted.

The Cruise testing program itself continues to make Canada a part of current "war fighting" nuclear strategies. Testing the cruise has expanded to include

in parks in Winnipeg and Thunder Bay, as well as at the base itself. While the cross-country reaction may have been less than in previous years, the Southern Ontario reaction was unprecedented. There were protests, mostly centering on MP's offices, in Hamilton, London, Peterborough, St Catharines and Kitchener (see articles).

We will be holding further actions, both at Tory headquarters at Richmond and York, and at local MP's offices, with the co-operation of community groups. If you or your organization would like to confront your local Tory, please call ACT at 960-2228!

4th Annual Spring Protest

APRIL 26th: Last chance to make ourselves heard on NORAD

"Defense Agreements" that threaten our lives and those of our children are being concluded behind our backs, and even behind the backs of our elected representatives. The process that began with the umbrella testing agreement in 1983 has reached the point where parliamentary committees are lied to by the Mulroney government, and agreements that include the basing of American nuclear weapons and forces are kept secret from them, as well as from us. The new NORAD agreement will make this country subject to several such agreements. The final date for ratification will be around the middle of May.

So what can we do? DEMONSTRATE...to visibly and publicly make it clear that Canadians do not want their country to be a staging area or forward buffer-zone for a nuclear war. One of the most powerful tools we have is our right to protest. LET'S USE IT ON APRIL 26th to show that we are still out there and that we will continue to be there. APRIL 26th WILL BE A VITAL OPPORTUNITY TO MUSTER OUR FORCES AGAINST THE NEW NORAD AGREEMENT!

Come out on April 26th. We will assemble on City Hall Square at 11 P.M., march up Yonge Street, and have a final rally, with speakers, music, food and workshops, in Queen's Park.

ACT Strategy '86

How do we continue to build the peace movement at a time when spontaneous demonstrations of 10 to 25,000 people are temporarily a thing of the past? What is the most important issue for the Canadian peace movement right now—cruise testing, or Star Wars?

Is the peace movement retreating into a timid conservatism and thereby losing the gains of the past 3 years? How can the Canadian peace movement rightfully take its place as part of the international movement and at the same time dispel some of the distrust we meet with here at home?

Finally, what is ACT's role and responsibility in all of this and what goals and tasks should we set ourselves for the coming year?

tests of tracking by aircraft last year and planned tracking by the "Teal Ruby" satellite this year. This is the first step towards Star Wars involvement in Canada. Most Canadian Star Wars programs will be done through NORAD and through funding agencies such as the National Research Council -- thus Canada is fully involved in Star Wars, in spite of Mulroney's official "no" to it.

It is ironic that upgraded NORAD radar (the North Warning System) and possible deployment of interceptor aircraft in the arctic are pronounced on the basis of the need to defend against cruise missiles, the very weapon Canada has been helping to build and test for the past 3 years.

The decision in 1979 to deploy Cruise missiles was made with in order to exploit a temporary technological advantage. It was not made with the intention to

continued on page 2

continued on page 8

Calling all Activists...

When it comes to demonstrations, YOU are ACT, and we can't build the biggest of them, the annual spring protest, without your help. PLEASE phone or drop by if you can devote even an hour or two to helping do everything from distributing leaflets and posters in your area to helping on the day itself. If you have no time, perhaps you could make a donation to help us get the message out--\$30 buys a thousand flyers or rents a film and projector. Get in touch NOW. Work is already underway, but so much more is needed. YOU are the peace movement...and you alone can make it happen! Call 960-2228 to ACT!

An Interview with

E.P. Thompson page 6

Secret

continued from page 1

"negotiate away" this weapon or to ban it at some future date. The fact that Soviet Cruise missiles have now reached the point where the US is worried about defending against them only makes it more clear that they should have been banned.

WAR FIGHTING STRATEGIES

The massive escalation of the level of arms production with both the Cruise and Star Wars is the result of a strategy that puts military advantage ahead of stability. It is not necessarily that the Pentagon expects to win a nuclear war, but they think that a temporary military gain is more important than the inevitable destruction of the world if there is such a war.

The trend towards war fighting strategies is illustrated by one of the proposed uses of the Cruise missile: "surgical strikes" over the north pole with bombers and Cruise missiles. We should certainly not assume that all the military programs in the north are defensive ones. The changes in the NORAD agreement that are now happening could bring almost any kind of military program to Canada.

PUBLIC PROTEST

The Canadian government may appear to ignore demonstrations, but like any large institution they are very apprehensive about public protest. Even Trudeau, well known for his arrogance, was overheard to say to US Vice President George Bush in the spring of 1983, "There's a slight problem, 80,000 demonstrators."

We should not underestimate the effectiveness of demonstrations -- continued pressure can force the government to reverse its positions, even on nuclear arms.

As Canada joins more and more military programs the most important thing the peace movement can do is keep on demanding concrete action to get this country out of the nuclear arms race. This is why the campaign against the Cruise is so important. See you at the demonstrations!

ACT Chapters

Get involved! Contact:

ACT is branching out. If you would like more information about ACT activities in your area, or have articles or information to pass on to the ACTIVIST, please write to:

ACT Cornwall
c/o Sean Clifton
1308 Princess St.
Cornwall, Ontario
K6J 1S5

ACT Niagara
c/o Bruce Allen
P.O. Box 284
Main Stn.
St. Catharines, Ontario
L2R 677

ACT Ancaster
c/o 475 Jerseyville Rd.
Ancaster, Ontario.
L9G 3M7

ACT PEACE FORUMS

FRIDAY EVENINGS AT 7:00
FEBRUARY 14

ALTERNATIVE STRATEGIES FOR PEACE ORGANIZING
With Dr. Wilson Head

WHAT PRICE UNITY? 21
The Peace Movement in the 30's.
With Bert Keser of ACT

SCIENCE FOR PEACE 28
With Professor Eric Fawcett

MARCH 7 TBA
Dr John Dove, Prof. Chem.
"Military Uses of Lasers" 14

Dr. Andrew Blackwell
"The Peace Movement as Adult Education" 21

Ted Dymont
"Afghanistan- an independent view" 28

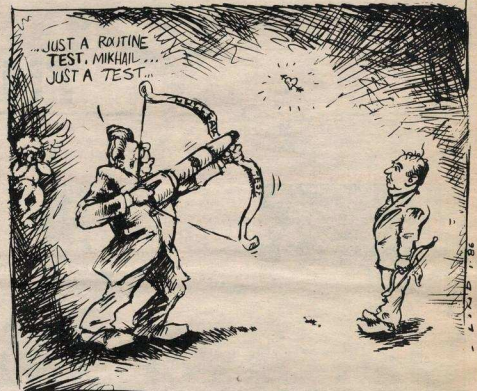
**139 ROBERT STREET
ADMISSION IS FREE**

*** CORRECTION ***

I would like to draw reader's attention to some corrections that were shown to me by Dr. Mark Reitman, (exiled member of the Moscow Trust Group) concerning my article, "Five from Moscow: Conversation with the Trust Group" which appeared in the October/November 1985 issue of the Activist. Dr. Reitman pointed out that Kelly Kanard, the peace activist who gave 250 paper cranes to the Moscow Trust Group for an action authorized by the Soviet Peace Committee is an American, not Dutch as reported. She lives in New York city and wrote her M.A. thesis on the Moscow Trust Group. The informational leaflets the Trust Group distributed with the cranes did not contain information dealing with its seminars.

Also Dr. Reitman told me that the frequently imprisoned Moscow peace activist, Nikolai Khranov, is 23, not 25 years old as reported. Khranov has been released from the VB hospital where he was illegally detained during the Moscow Youth Festival. Another error brought to my attention by Dr. Reitman is that the imprisoned Soviet peace activist Aleksandr Matrasov's mother lives in Krivoi Dog in the Ukraine, not in Moscow as indicated.

John Bacher.



- RON ISSUES IN THE NEW YEAR -

Letters

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

Dear ACT,

Thank you for the reading at the Fallout Shelter last week. It was really good to launch Blue Ridge in such a way so as to raise a bit of money for the peace movement.

To my mind ACT has done more to promote peace than any other

group in Toronto. I have played a small role in the peace movement since 1965 and the Viet Nam war protests. The chief issue today, as it was 20 years ago, is Life vs. Death, Peace vs. War. ACT has a great part to play in this struggle. I am always willing to help in any way I can.

Fraternally,
James Deahl

THE ACTIVIST



THE ACTIVIST
January 1986

Second Class Mail
Registration # 6769

The ACTIVIST is published 6 times per year in Toronto by the ACTIVIST Collective.

The ACTIVIST is the newspaper of the ACT for Disarmament Coalition. It's purpose is three-fold:

- 1.) to present the views of ACT
- 2.) to provide a forum for debate within the peace movement, and
- 3.) to act as a source of information on events and campaigns which are of importance to the peace movement.

Signed articles do not necessarily reflect the viewpoint of the ACT coalition or the editorial collective.

Contributions of articles and photos are always welcome.

Subscriptions to the ACTIVIST are offered in 6 issue installments. We welcome subscriptions for 6, 12, or 18 issues. A regular subscription is only \$ 5.00 per installment. The rate for institutions and funded agencies is \$10.00 for each six issue installment.

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Editorial and Production Collective:

- John Bacher
- Steve Barker
- Angela Browning
- Marina Crawford
- Stephen Dankowich
- Celine Groux
- David Goodman
- Doug Harrison
- Bert Keser
- Gia Lim
- Garth Lind
- Bill McKnight
- Francis Oloff
- Chris Reid
- John Reid
- Kathleen Solose
- Susan White
- Dianna Wilson

Graphics:

by Gareth Lind

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Correspondents

- Cornwall -Sean Clifton
- Kitchener -Chris Reid
- Niagara -Bruce Allen
- Ottawa -Larry Bruner
- Peterborough -David Webster
- Ancaster -c/o 475 Jerseyville Rd.
- Hamilton -Simon Threikeld

THE ACTIVIST
c/o ACT for Disarmament
Coalition
139 Robert St.
Toronto, Ont.
M5S 2K6

Here are the answers to the Peacequiz Elaine:

1c 2b 3c 4a 5b 6c 7a 8b 9c 10e

■ In May of this year the North American Aerospace Defense Agreement (NORAD) comes up for renewal. Canadians will then discover if NORAD shall remain an early-warning system to detect and assess a nuclear attack. There is a great possibility however that Canada will be drawn into U.S. nuclear strategy through NORAD. Now is the time for the Canadian government to say "NO" to any further Canadian collaboration in NORAD. And before its renewal for up to 15 years in the spring.

NORAD is the primary agency of Canadian-American defense relations in North America and the most important bilateral agreement Canada has ever had with another country. Since its inception in 1958, and through subsequent agreements in 1968, 73, 75, 80 and 1981, NORAD has ostensibly provided the function of deterrence.

NORAD was not to be engaged in active, aggressive and destabilizing, defense systems. This was specified in an important clause of the 1968 NORAD agreement: "Canadian participation in the activities of NORAD's aerospace warning system does not involve any commitment by the Canadian government to take part in an active ballistic missile defense arrangement." Mysteriously, the renewed 1981 NORAD agreement of 5 years duration no longer contained that clause, leading one to think that Star Wars research was not

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UPDATE: US MILITARY PLANNERS GET THEIR WAY

The Parliamentary Committee report, to be released late February, recommended not only that the NORAD agreement be renewed for another five years, but also that defence spending be nearly doubled from 2.1% of the GNP to 3.9%. Other recommendations include:

- that the renewal agreement need not include a clause stipulating that the treaty not "involve in any way a Canadian commitment to participate in active ballistic missile defence." This clause was quietly removed in 1981 completely without debate or public knowledge.

- more Canadian-American naval cooperation in patrolling the Arctic Ocean;

- and a suggestion that Canada undertake a military space program involving satellite technology for our own defence needs, as well as completing missions that the newly unified Space Command will undertake on NORAD's behalf. The Space Command could become the organization responsible for any future operation of the Star Wars style defences.

- Opposition critics have argued for re-introducing the clause regarding this country's role in ballistic missile defence.

The NORAD agreement will be officially signed in May. The few months until then are our last chance to express our concern about this agreement. April 26th will be an opportunity to say something about what we, the Canadian people, want. It will be a chance to demand an independent, non-nuclear Canadian foreign policy, not dictated by US military strategy which seems to be headed toward nuclear war.

NORAD

The Prelude to WWIII

by Stephen Dankowich

planned only since March 1983. Is Canada fast getting dragged into active ballistic missile defense systems with the U.S. through NORAD?

In light of dramatically new strategic doctrines, Canada must seriously reconsider renewing the NORAD agreement. Recent efforts by both the Soviets and Americans to develop nuclear attack defenses have created a most destabilizing escalation of the arms race. These efforts will increase the likelihood of accidental nuclear war, violate the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty, and most frighteningly, create the illusion of a survivable nuclear exchange.

It is becoming increasingly

apparent that recent developments in U.S. strategic policies will demand fundamental changes in the role of NORAD. The Star Wars doctrine attempts to provide the U.S. with a nuclear war-fighting capability within a first-strike strategy. The strategy to win a protracted nuclear war is based on a pre-emptive first strike to knock out a majority of the others' missiles but also on a defensive system to knock-down those missiles that were missed. It is most probable that such a ballistic missile defense system will be deployed in Canada's north and with Canadian approval through NORAD.

There is a clear link between U.S. strategic plans in general and NORAD, SDI and the North

Warning System (NWS). In the words of a senior U.S. Air Force official, "If you're going to fix the roof, you don't want to leave the doors and windows open." This statement and many others uttered by defense officials indicate clearly NORAD's integration into U.S. nuclear war-fighting planning.

The NORAD, SDI and NWS triad comprise the parameters within which a whole array of specific developments are taking place to help the U.S. establish a credible first-strike threat. A book could be written elaborating on these many developments (especially if the ACTIVIST had access to all the secret information!).

Consider the extension of runways in the north, anti-satellite weapons, F15's, cruise missiles on B-52's, Airborne Optical System (AOS) research due for testing in 1988, electronic countermeasures, point defense, artificial intelligence, kinetic-energy weapons and lasers, satellite surveillance, charged particle beam weapons to be deployed in space, NAVSTAR and MILSTAR. Of particular interest is the newly created U.S. Unified Space Command and the Strategic Defense Architecture 2000 (SDA 2000) which will integrate NORAD together with many of these developments.

In conclusion, there are many reasons why Canada should not renew the NORAD agreement. It provides no guarantees of keeping Canada clear of an ABM role or involvement in Star Wars; it is one of many secret bilateral defense agreements which are not debated in Parliament; there have been no broad public debates on NORAD; the consent of native northern peoples is not assured; the Canadian Joint-Commander of NORAD is emasculated by his U.S. counterpart; the Canadian military is so autonomous from political direction that it is impervious to criticism; there is already a marked absence of Canadian participation in a lot of planning; the Canadian north is the "logical" place for U.S. nuclear planners to have ICBM's knocked down over, thus making a joke of Canadian sovereignty; and the Americans themselves consider it unlikely that there will occur a polar bomber attack on North America.

Canada now must decide either to support the ABM Treaty or strategic defense. We cannot support both. In fact, current trends in reshaping Canada's aerospace role in NORAD demands the collapse of arms control.

Minimal demands to further arms control would be for the re-insertion of the ABM clause in the NORAD agreement, public and parliamentary debate before renewal, and a renewal period of one year's duration. Unfortunately, past practice indicates that U.S. military planners always get their way.

Conventional military planning and ideologies in the nuclear age paves the road toward humanity's self-destruction. Consequently, the Canadian and American peace movements must focus increasingly on NORAD, the necessary component of Star Wars, and the prelude to World War Three.



The familiar Peace Symbol originated in the Ban the Bomb movement in England in the fifties. It incorporates two semaphor positions, N and D, standing for Nuclear Disarmament.

MAY 16 APR 16 1986
OUR TIMES Magazine

The Months in Review

Photo: Bruce Allen

Remembrance and Hope

by John Reid

On Monday, November 11, ACT held a candlelight Remembrance Day ceremony at the Cenotaph in front of old city hall. The ceremony proceeded smoothly through unusually cold winds as speakers clutched their notes at the podium, addressing the crowd of thirty, faces lit by a multitude of tiny flickering flames from hand held candles. It was highlighted by a moving appeal for peace by ACT chairperson Angela Browning, and a message of hope from University of Toronto chaplain Eilert Freirich. Sheila Hoyer of North View Heights Secondary School spoke for the High School Network. The laying of the wreath was accompanied by the bagpipes of Patrick MacDonald. A message of peace prepared by Frances Oloff and read by John Reid, both of ACT, quoted the Veterans for Multilateral Nuclear Disarmament:

"Our comrades died to make a better world. All for which they fought and suffered will be lost, all freedom will be ended, all hope gone if nuclear war ever comes."

We in ACT believe in working to free humanity from the unimaginable horrors of nuclear apocalypse. It makes no sense to mourn those who died in past wars, if we do not make an attempt to prevent the death of billions more by working for disarmament. John Reid performed an original song for the ceremony which then ended with everyone singing the "anthem" songs "Strangest Dream" and "Blowing in the Wind".

ACT's Third Anniversary

At the beautiful mansion ACT supporter John Scythes loaned us for the occasion, ACT celebrated its Third Anniversary with a buffet dinner and Christmas Party on the evening of Saturday December 7th. Live entertainment was provided by "Code 3", a promising young band that kept

FALLOUT SHELTER

by John Reid and Kathleen Solose

The Fallout Shelter's "open stage" sets on Fridays have been the scene for new music from the amateur musicians around Toronto with messages of peace. Now, with professional sets appearing on Fridays as well, things will be getting even livelier with a rich variety of sounds. Come on in to the only nuclear-free cafe in Toronto - next Friday at 9pm, right after the weekly ACT peace forum. Remember, every cent you spend here helps continue the work for peace! If you are a musician, bring your instruments and spread the sounds of peace!

Also, keep your eyes open for the special Saturday night events at the Fallout Shelter. The Bill Smith Ensemble, together with some surprise guests, will be hosting three more Saturday evenings at the Fallout Shelter -- February 15th, March 15th and April 19th. Their performance last September as "Whispers" was an exciting blend of free jazz, poetry and theatre. January 25th's event, "Twins", featured Bill Smith (reeds, voice, and percussion) and David Prentice (violins and viola) and slides in an evening of Beckett, Dali and Ferlinghetti. February 15th will be an evening of performance with Paul Dutton, poet, together with Bill Smith (reeds) and David Lee (bass) - "an evening of multi-media entertainment featuring improvised music, sound poetry, satire, and stories". Don't miss it!

Also coming in March: Willie P. Bennett (Mar.21) and Leif Baker (Mar. 22)!

everyone hopping. Kathleen Solose provided a classical interlude on Scythes' Steinway grand, after which a giant Birthday cake was presented.

Many thanks to all those who made the evening a success. We hope to make this an annual event!

Free Brodsky Campaign

East European Working Committee Report

by Marina Crawford and Bert Keser

The ACT East European Working Committee was formed in September 1985 in response to the need to more effectively organize our growing concern for the safety and freedom of persecuted peace activists in the Eastern Bloc.

LONG RECORD OF SOLIDARITY

The ACT Coalition's support for independent East European Peace activists had been publicly stated to large rallies as early as the summer of 1983. Our first demonstration specifically devoted to this issue was one in Queen's Park in December of 1983 to demand that charges against Moscow Trust Group Member Olga Medvedkova be dropped.

Subsequently, ACT was instrumental in arranging speaking tours an for public meetings for such exiled Soviet peace activists as Luba Pothina, Sergei Batovrin, and, on two occasions, the Soviet feminist Tatyana Mananova.

Most recently, the newly organized Working Committee had the honour of hosting a meeting for a very recently arrived Trust Group member Dr. Mark Reitman

In June of 1985 we held a



ACT at the Soviet Embassy in Ottawa.

rally to celebrate the third anniversary of the Moscow Trust Group's formation, and to also initiate a letter writing campaign against a recent spate of arrests. Among the victims were Nikolai Khranov and two high school students, Olga Kabanova and Natalya Okulyonok. At that time we also mentioned another member, Alexander Snatavka who was in a labour camp for gathering signatures for the Moscow Trust Group's initial appeal. He is still there today; his initial three year sentence for the "crime" of petitioning for peace having been extended for another three years on trumped-up charges.

THE PERSECUTION OF DR. BRODSKY

An urgent recent concern has been the case of Dr. Vladimir Brodsky, a founding member of the Trust Group, who was sentenced to three years in a labour camp in August 1985.

Our previous issue outlined our surprise reception by the Soviet Press Councillor Eugene Podznyakov and the lively debate a dozen peace activists had with him in Ottawa, in the course of presenting the Brodsky appeal. We were, at that time (Sept. 21st) promised a reply "within a week to ten days".

continued on page 9

Anti-cruise protest at MP's office

A small but vocal group of anti-nuclear protesters yesterday condemned Canada's involvement in cruise missile testing by picketing the offices of St. Catharines MP Joe Reid.

About 30 people from Niagara's Act for Disarmament Coalition chanted slogans and carried signs, one of which read: "Hey Brian, (Mulroney) go fly a kite. They don't kill people."

Bruce Allen, the Coalition's spokesman, said he was pleased with the turnout, considering his group has been in the city only six months and that there is general apathy toward disarmament issues. "We realize this isn't the kind of city where this kind of thing takes place commonly so our expectations were the high. We feel 30 to 35 people is sufficient to bring our point across."

An 82-year-old man who said he lived through the Second World War but refused to give his name watched the protesters walk in a circle in front of Mr. Reid's headquarters.

"They are the real heroes,"

"I admire them for what they are doing. The nuclear clock is getting closer to 12. We either live together or we die together."

Protester Angela Browne said the public should be more appreciative of the right they have to free speech. "There are peace movements in other countries where they don't have such freedom of speech and they're being persecuted by their governments."

Mr. Reid was in Ottawa and isn't expected back until the weekend. Contacted at his parliamentary office, he said anti-nuclear groups have "rather legitimate" concerns and that everyone should be working toward world peace.

However, he rejected the notion that Canada could take a leadership role by refusing to get involved in the cruise tests.

Our participation is a "small price to pay" as an active member of NATO (North American Treaty Organization), he said adding that if the government didn't go along, it would risk being

"shunted aside" by that group.

He said most Canadians probably don't approve of the testing but they do agree with operating from a position of strength.

Mr. Allen didn't accept Mr. Reid's theory. "That kind of rationale has led to 40 years of continuous escalation of the arms race. There's no indication that things will go the other way unless people collectively around the world act to stop it."

John Bacher, another protest organizer, said new testing of the cruise missile in Canada amounts to "a conscious decision by the Mulroney government to contribute to the acceleration of the arms race."

"The Coalition believes that humanity will only rid itself of the menace of the arms race and the fantastic waste which it involves if ordinary people, East and West, stand up to the superpowers and demand an effective end to the militaristic policies."

ACT ON THE MOVE

The ACT High School Network

THE STUDY FOR PEACE CONTINUES
by Lisa and Danielle

"Our fathers and ourselves sowed dragon's teeth. Our children know and suffer the armed men."

-Stephen Benet

We feel there is nothing more important than the issue of nuclear war among youth of today.

Yes! The ACT High School Network is still alive and kicking. In fact, we've grown. We have affiliates in London, Orillia, St. Catharines and many more places.

Our leaflet is newly printed and ready for distribution. It outlines briefly, our group, and what our goals are. If you'd like to obtain one, feel free to call any of the numbers listed below, or drop by the ACT Peace Center at Harbord and Spadina.

The students in our group offer hope and support to anyone who needs help and encouragement in the fight for peace.

On the day of the first cruise test, we started our "appeal for peace" campaign. Over 300 Don Mills C.I. students, and smaller numbers in other schools wore white armbands to symbolize their disapproval of these tests. We'll be doing it again! Please publicize this event and do participate in your own school.

We also took part in the ACT Saturday, January 25th rally, and will be participating in future "reaction" protests. See you there and on April 26th!!!

What do you REALLY know about the arms race??? We know a lot more now than when we started. Mostly due to many visits from guest speakers representing various organizations and sectors of society.

Upcoming in the new year, we hope to have more social events, as our recent dances and video nights proved to be very successful. The past year seemed to be a good one as far as conferences are concerned. Several of our members attended some of these conferences and found them to be very enriching. Contacts with other concerned youths were made at these conferences and dedicated members such as Lisa Beales formed new friendships which proved helpful in the aims of the High School network. Another representative, Sheila Holyer, expressed the views and opinions of the network at a conference held in Hamilton. This established our willingness to spread the message of peace.

We hope the upcoming year will bring more such conferences with the view point of peace being front and centre.

If you would like to attend a meeting, the high school network holds regular discussions every first and third Sunday of the month. We are looking forward to seeing you.

Yours in peace,

Lisa Beales
782-7629

Danielle Shaw
222-5075

Sheila Holyer
222-7506

ACT Niagara

by Bruce Allen

Since early autumn ACT Niagara has grown in number and expanded its presence in the St. Catharines area. Our overall membership is now up to around 20 people. Most of this influx has come from our two high school clubs. One has been meeting regularly and has had consistently good turnouts. The other is starting to get off the ground.

Our most successful venture in recent months consisted of a local campaign to expose the true nature of Mulroney's phony "No to Star Wars." We held two public forums which attracted some 25 persons and got good local media coverage. We also staged a letter writing campaign aimed at the press which resulted in four letters being published. Complementing this was a front page article published in the Brock University student press.

ACT Niagara was well represented at two autumn disarmament rallies. One was the October 26th action in Toronto. The other was a November 2nd rally in defense of imprisoned Soviet peace activist Dr. Vladimir Brodsky. Our group also had two persons present at the founding convention of the Canadian Peace Alliance both of whom were quite outspoken at that event.

More recent activities include jointly sponsoring films on Women and peace with the Brock University Women's Resource Centre and two December

The response has been so encouraging, both from people we have met on the streets during leafletting and from area peace groups and activists, that it is now our firm intention to hold a mass Peace March on April 26th, 1986, complete with a week of events leading up to it.

In the meantime, due to popular demand, we will be holding demonstrations on the day of each cruise test. Our next target will be Waterloo M.P. and Cabinet Minister Walter McLean's Constituency Office.

An ACT delegation also addressed a meeting of the Waterloo Regional Labour Council on February 4th to request the backing of the labour movement. We were given solid support; a startup grant--which is much appreciated--and a regular delegate from the council.

ACT (Waterloo Region) has stated that it is not our intention to "replace" any of the existing local peace groups, but rather to work with all area peace groups and activists, as well as the labour movement, church groups, and others for the advancement of the peace movement as a whole. We therefore have, up to now, sought input, advice and support from as many individuals and groups as possible, and it is our firm

speaktouts in the downtown area. The latter events featured leafletting and button sales. The money went to local work by our group and to helping to finance The Activist.

Much is planned for the new year. Most importantly we plan to stage a local protest to coincide with the first cruise missile test. There also plans to work with the UAW in St. Catharines in organizing a UAW seminar on world peace and to sponsor talks by Dimitri Roussopoulos of the Quebec Coalition for Peace and Disarmament. The latter events will be an important part of our ongoing efforts to network with other non-aligned peace groups.

Finally, mention must be made of the formation of ACT Ancaster as it is a spinoff group from ACT Niagara. ACT Ancaster is well established in the town's local high school and is planning an action to protest the Cruise missile tests this winter. There is now also an ACT member in another Hamilton area town, Grimsby. Persons wishing to get in touch with ACT people in either of these localities or with us are urged to contact:

ACT Niagara

P.O. Box 284
Main Station
St. Catharines
Ontario L2R 6T7
Tel: (416) 934-6233

intention to continue to work with all interested groups and individuals, while providing a vehicle for adding an activist dimension to the area peace movement.

ACT (Waterloo Region) is definitely ON THE MOVE!

THANKS TO PROJECT PLOUGHSHARES

At a meeting of the Wilmet Chapter of Project Ploughshares on January 21, 1986, held in New Hamburg, the members of this mainly Christian peace group gave not only moral support and encouragement to the new ACT Chapter in Waterloo Region, but immediately began setting up an "emergency phone tree" to mobilize their members and supporters for ACT-organized events and actions, such as the planned demonstrations on the day of each cruise test.

True to their word, several Ploughshares members participated in the Saturday January 25th demonstration at M.P. John Reimer's Constituency Office, many of them coming from miles away on a cold and snowy day.

The members of Ploughshares have shown impressive dedication and energy, and it is the sincere hope of ACT that our two organizations will continue to work in close co-operation for the advancement of peace and disarmament.

ACT Waterloo Region

by Gia Lim and Chris Reid

Until January 15th, 1986, ACT had few members in the Kitchener-Waterloo area, and certainly no cruise test demonstrations, let alone two demonstrations in one week.

Since then, demonstrations have been held, organized by ACT (Waterloo Region), both on the day of the cruise test, and on the Saturday after it, an ACT high school network has begun to organize, and valuable contacts have been made with several local peace groups, unions and individuals.

On January 15th, ACT held an informational meeting at Kitchener's Public Library.

Our first action, less than a week later, was a January 21st demonstration at Tory M.P. John Reimer's Constituency Office, in response to this year's first (scheduled) cruise test. The demonstration was small, but received considerable media coverage

In the days following January 21st, ACT (Waterloo Region) received an enthusiastic endorsement from area chapters of Project Ploughshares and an offer, which was gratefully accepted, from the Kitchener N.D.P. Riding Association to publish an ACT statement in its upcoming newsletter.

ACT's second action in K-W was a demonstration, again at John Reimer's Constituency Office in Kitchener, on Saturday January 25th; a mere four days after our first action. Thirty-five people turned out to demonstrate against cruise testing, and to demand an end to Canadian government complicity in the nuclear arms race, including members of the Kitchener-Waterloo Peace Network, the University of Waterloo Peace Society, and of Project Ploughshares and, perhaps most encouraging, many people of all ages who had never before been involved in the peace movement.

An interview with

We thank Option Paix for this interview with E.P. Thompson, on the occasion of his attendance at the Canadian peace convention (see editorial), featuring questions and comments by Jean Yelle, Erik Poole and Dimitrios Roussopoulos. Option Paix is the independent organ of the non-aligned Coalition Quebecoise pour le Desarmement et la Paix (CGDP). This interview marks the beginning of a continuing exchange or articles of mutual interest. Questions have been (we hope faithfully!) summarized in some instances.

Q: THE IMPRESSION HERE, OR THE MISINFORMATION, IS THAT THERE HAS BEEN A WIDESPREAD DEMOBILIZATION OF THE PEACE MOVEMENT. IF THIS IS NOT TRUE, WHY IS IT NOT TRUE?

Obviously the final crisis of 1983 was obsessional, and it was a crisis not just about military technology, but also about hegemony, United States hegemony, and its symbolized domination over the SOCIAL territories. The predicted demobilization of the movement did not take place. Our opponents predicted demobilization, and the media ceases to report our activities, so that they attempted to present it. In fact the infrastructure of the European peace movement is extraordinarily strong, the international one is also extraordinarily strong and the intellectual culture of peace remains very strong. There has been a recession in activism in some areas, notably in Italy, although there are growth areas, notably Spain, because there was a national question; the referendum on NATO. Also, certain other areas have shown growth in the last two years, like Ireland. I think the reason for the continued strength is that the theme of autonomy from the two superpowers is still growing, and an enlargement of international understanding continues to strengthen the movement.

I find now in Britain people are tired. I find smaller meetings, although the structures are all there. Possibly the issue of Star Wars will revive a mass movement again. I don't know.

IS IT THE UNITED STATES ESTABLISHMENT THAT IS DETERMINING OUR AGENDA, OR ARE WE DETERMINING OUR OWN?

I think it's not only determining the agenda, but also [is playing] a sensitivity to the peace movement. The European, and I think United States' establishments do never want to live through another four years like that four years. They need to try to manage and outflank peace opinion. To an extraordinary degree, they actually study our scripture; they actually try and take over

our own language and agenda, but turn it subtly in their own direction. Star Wars was precisely such an attempt to outflank the United States "Freeze" movement by taking over their language.

And we have this problem also in the increasing concern of our peace movements to move forward to the agenda of the cold war itself and the breakdown of the block system. All the time, the Reagan administration [and] NATO governments are trying to find a way to use this in a militarist fashion, as part of the cold war propaganda. So we have to distinguish our positions all the time; it's very very complex.

TO WHAT DEGREE HAS THE MASSIVE PEACE MOVEMENT IN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AFFECTED THEIR ATTITUDES TOWARD THE UNITED STATES AND MOVED THEM TOWARD THE POSSIBILITY OF EAST/WEST RAPPROCHEMENTS INDEPENDENT OF THE U.S., AND TO WHAT EXTENT ARE SUCH GESTURES SIMPLY ATTEMPTS TO COOPT THE MOVEMENT?

I think this is now not just a future perspective, but [in] actuality a problem, and one we have to be flexible about, because they won't say this openly, but even the traditional conservative European elites are so alarmed by the nationalist and isolationist or aggressive isolationism of the United States, that there's a continental drift between Europe and the United States. Not Canada and the United States. So there are significant moves towards a modified "Ostpolitik" from even traditional conservatives. Mrs. Thatcher—MRS THATCHER—has been to Budapest and did not behave in confrontational way. And there is a movement towards building a second tier of diplomacy: an Ostpolitik between East and West Germany, between western Europe and eastern Europe, and I think the peace movement can't take a negative attitude toward that. One doesn't like to see these hypocrites building structures over our heads, but nevertheless, this seems to me a process of detachment from United States hegemony, and building of alternative structures, which, if they are accompanied by direct peace movement and citizen initiatives beneath the level of the states, can be productive.

COULD YOU, IF IT CAN BE AT THIS TIME, ENCAPSULATE, FURTHER EXPLAIN WHAT YOU SAID IN YOUR SPEECH LAST NIGHT, ABOUT LESS NO. AND MORE YES?

Yes, I'll get to that but first let me add something else. I'm sure it is appreciated in Canada, but in Quebec this is a problem that should be worked because of the French connection; that is that the drift from the United States does not have to go in a peaceful or positive direction, and there is an alternative scenario, which is to build a West European mini-superpower around the French and the British nuclear weapons and German high-tech conventional forces. And this is now being supported by what I call the Atlanticist defectors; those who have defected from Atlanticism, and are now seeing a revived West European militarism, which probably would gravitate toward West Germany.

(Dimitri Roussopoulos): CANADA HAS, ON A HISTORICAL LEVEL, POTENTIAL DEFECTORS LIKE THOSE YOU MENTION, IN THE MIDDLE OF THE STAR WARS DEBATE, IN AN OTHERWISE UNREPORTED INTERVIEW BY LE DEVOIR, LIBERAL PARLIAMENTARY CRITIC IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, JEAN CHRETIEN, ONE OF THE PARLIAMENTARY CRITICS OF THE NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY, STEVE LANGDON AND SUZANNE BLAISE-GRENIER (DUPLESSIS) OF THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY, ALL EXPRESSED THEIR RELUCTANCE ON EMBARKING IN STAR WARS, BUT SUPPORTED THE IDEA OF CANADIAN PARTICIPATION IN THE FRENCH EUREKA PROGRAM.

This is an area that I am very uncertain about. I have been told that, after long discussions, CODENE [the major French non-aligned peace organization] has decided to oppose Eureka.

WHY WAS THERE SUCH A LONG DISCUSSION?

Well, first Eureka is based on what remains in the French Socialist Party of a Marxist analysis; that, in fact, one of the main functions of SDI was, under cover of getting huge federal moneys, which could not be got for direct civil projects because of capitalist market ideology, under cover of defense, to renovate and invest in United States high technology to get an overwhelming competitive position in the world. So that was the real objective of SDI and a dominating one; using security controls to drain and subcontract in Europe, and to drain high-tech.

Therefore Mitterrand's Eureka was an answer to SDI, going DIRECTLY to civil investment; to high-tech investment, without the pretense of it being military investment. However, as you know, there are so many similarities in the areas of research, and there are so many possibilities that this could be, in fact, for a "European Defense Initiative" or a "tactical defense initiative"; "TDI", a division of roles in which the US deals with strategic defenses and Europe deals with low-level cruise and intermediate defenses, that it really begins to smell of militarism.

(Erik Poole): BECAUSE OF THE STRONG CULTURAL, AND ESPECIALLY LITERARY CONNECTION, WHAT HAPPENS IN FRANCE HAS GREAT CONSEQUENCES FOR QUEBEC, COULD YOU TELL US WHAT IS HAPPENING NOW IN FRANCE, AT BOTH THE GOVERNMENTAL/MILITARY AND THE PEACE MOVEMENT LEVELS?

IS IT WISE TO FOCUS ON STAR WARS AS A SINGLE ISSUE, IN VIEW OF THE LIMITING CONSEQUENCES OF SINGLE ISSUE CAMPAIGNS, AS DEMONSTRATED BY THE DOWNTURN AFTER THE CRUISE WENT AHEAD?

As I understand it, in France Star Wars is not an issue, because the same Gaullist trick has been played. The Force de Frappe is for France. It can be pointed at Britain, at the United States.

The same Gaullist trick is now being played with Eureka. However, it is worth noting that the Eureka argument is getting stronger and stronger. Nationalist capitalist competition is reviving in the continent of Europe also. It's not just [a matter of] the weakening competitive situation of the





Edward P. Thompson - in motion

E.P. Thompson

United States, but you must have noticed the increasing rancour of the British and the French towards each other in many areas particularly in the issue—did you notice the issue of the Ptamigan Battle Communications System?

NO.

About six weeks ago Mrs Thatcher wrote a personal letter to president Reagan, which became published, asking Reagan to intercede to insure that the British, together with, I think, G.E.C., an American Corporation, contract for a new battles communication system called Ptamigan, be given preference over the French bid, which was with Rockwell International. And it was a 3.5 billion package; I mean a very big package. And Mrs. Thatcher said "Britain has been so loyal about Star Wars, you know, surely you will pay us off by giving us this contract." And implying that if Britain got the contract, then the British government would go along with rhetorical support for Star Wars. Notwithstanding which, I think the French will get the contract.

The main point I'm making is that the Gaulist evasion; the Gaulist political evasion of Eureka has once again defused Star Wars as a French issue.

The other question of single issue campaigns is for your judgement. I would keep the position open. If Star Wars is to be a technological debate about whether it would work or not—unimportant. If it develops to a point where NATO is beginning to break apart, because the real issue is seen as a new attempt at domination and

control, and security control, under the guise of Star Wars, then it is, of course, important.

■ (D. Roussopolous): THROUGH THE COURSE OF THE END CONVENTIONS, A RICH DEBATE ON MANY ISSUES COVERING THE WHOLE RANGE OF POLITICS BETWEEN THE TWO BLOCS HAS INCREASINGLY OPENED UP WITH EACH CONVENTION. DO YOU AGREE THAT THIS IS THE TRAJECTORY OF END?

D'accord!

Which can, however lead to problems, in the sense of a detachment of committed peace activists; a minority, and some of it a bureaucracy, and of intellectuals, who are failing to actually deliver a movement powerful enough to actually impinge on political processes, and that's our problem.



I am entirely in favour of the development of a North-South dimension; I am entirely in favour of increasing consciousness, publication, awareness of a perspective, which also leads to non-alignment being seen as bringing about a new economic relationship between non-aligned nations. This, I think, is very important.

However, I resist a certain tendency to accuse the European peace movement of being "eurocentric" when we concentrate on the question of the division of Europe, because, it seems to me, the division of Europe, and the bloc system, which is so much acute in the heart of our continent, is one of the major sources of the cold war itself, which then pumps itself outwards, into the third world, in the form of armaments, in the form of military infrastructures and in the form of military

ideologies. And therefore it is not eurocentric to say we have to try and solve our own problem, whose consequence would be to detach some advanced nations into a non-aligned position where they could then make a much more...

What I am afraid of, to be quite frank, is a certain sentimentalism, in which, if you talk about world famine, or you talk about Nicaragua, it is consensual, no one disagrees in the peace movement, no one. And it is very easy then for the peace movement, as it does in some sections of Britain, to become a do-good, charitable, aid-to-the-third-world type of movement, because when you discuss Czechoslovakia, or when you discuss the question of the two Germanies, it becomes a non-consensual, and sometimes rather sharp internal debate; it's divisive. There is a tendency for some sections of the peace movement to run away from the political problems on the back of the third world.

■ HOW SHOULD THE PEACE MOVEMENT GO ABOUT SUPPORTING THE POSITIVE INITIATIVES OF CERTAIN WESTERN GOVERNMENTS; DO WE SEND THEM A LETTER SAYING "KEEP GOING"? HOW SHOULD WE MANIFEST OUR SUPPORT?

If things went well, it could become more urgent. New Zealand is the learning example for us. If there had been attempts clearly to destabilize Lange's government, there should have been an international outcry. If Britain should have a Labour government, and should send Cruise back and seriously discuss removing the United States bases, there will be an attempt to destabilize that government immediately, by classic means. By a flight of the pound, by economic sanctions or financial measures provoking an economic crisis in Britain; possibly even by cables of the military. Even the New Zealand military have tried to resist it. And that will then become an international issue, just as if Canada were placed in the same position, it would be an international issue, and we'd be preparing for giving of support.

■ GETTING BACK TO BACKING INITIATIVES BY STATES; ARE YOU AWARE THAT TRUDEAU'S PEACE INITIATIVE WAS VERY DIVISIVE FOR THE CANADIAN AND QUEBEC PEACE MOVEMENT? WE DID HAVE A SPLIT INTO THREE FACTIONS: THOSE THAT SUPPORTED HIM OUTRIGHT AND CARTE BLANCHE; THERE WERE FULL-PAGE ADS IN THE GLOBE AND MAIL, THOSE THAT THOUGHT IT WAS A BUNCH OF HOGWASH, AND OBVIOUSLY OPPOSED IT COMPLETELY, AND THOSE WHO FOUND THEMSELVES IN BETWEEN, SEEING IT AS A GOOD IDEA, BUT POINTING OUT THE OBVIOUS CONTRADICTIONS IN CANADIAN POLICY. WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE, AND HOW SHOULD WE REACT TO ANYTHING LIKE THIS IN THE FUTURE?

I can't imagine anything as ineffectual happening again. But this is a very eurocentric view. We had expectations of Trudeau. One had the notion that he genuinely wanted some peace initiatives. And he would not get hold of the only issue that mattered; he ducked the only issue that mattered. So he began to make himself look foolish; he made Canada look foolish by trying to act as a senior peace statesman who was trying to evade the main problem. And we were just very sorry.

I don't think Trudeau even supported the non-aligned nations initiative. There were two things he could have done. He could have taken a clear position on the Euro-missile crisis, which we hoped he might do, but it could be a mediating position. He could have said "Come on, this is a major crisis. As a mediator, maybe I can do better than the Geneva negotiators. He could have done that, or he could have aligned himself with the Indian initiative, and I know he was leant on to do this. I know he was approached again and again to do this.

[These are] The two obvious things that a Canadian peaceminded Premier could have done. This is a European view; we had hoped for something different.

■ I WOULD EXTRAPOLATE FROM WHAT YOU ARE SAYING, THAT AS LONG AS A CANADIAN PRIME MINISTER, OR A CANADIAN STATESMAN STAYS WITHIN THE CONFINES OF NATO SOLIDARITY...FORGET IT.

Exactly! I mean, you don't have to split in the face of NATO. I mean, as Lange has demonstrated in the ANZAS thing, you take a dignified, self-respecting independent stand on certain issues of principle, and if NATO doesn't like it, then they can split at you. I take this view about Britain; that I don't think that a demand that Britain has to leave NATO is a necessary demand for the peace movement. A demand that Britain takes principled, self-respecting actions for peace, and NATO can shove it, if it doesn't like it; that's, I think, a position we should have.

I agree with you, I think that was the limitation of Trudeau's move, that he didn't ever want to in the end...



ACT Strategy Conference

Rebuilding the Movement

continued from page 1

These were the questions the ACT for Disarmament Coalition (formerly Against Cruise Testing Coalition) was asking itself at the Annual ACT Strategy Conference held on November 3, 1985 in Toronto - a day long discussion, open to all, with proposals being presented by ACT members. This conference was the second part of a strategy discussion which had begun 2 months earlier. Representatives from the St. Catharines chapter, the ACT High School Network, ACT U of T, the Activist, the Falouts Shelter collective and other parts of the coalition were present.

NEW POLICIES DEVELOPED

The conference strengthened ACT's policies on the arms race and on Canada's role in it. It was agreed that Canada's participation in the arms race through such means as cruise testing, Star Wars contracts, and uranium mining should be the primary focus of ACT and the Canadian peace movement. Our position that the arms race can only be stopped through internal pressure on governments in every nation was reaffirmed.

The conference recognized that cruise missile testing remains Canada's most dangerous role in

the nuclear arms race. In view of the atmosphere of defeat created by the continuing tests, it was agreed that more educational work is needed to link the cruise tests with other nuclear and social issues, in order to re-awaken public concern.

ACT developed policy detailing the differences between the two superpowers. The role of the United States as the instigator of most arms escalations was condemned, but the contribution of the Soviet Union by matching each American technological innovation, and occasionally attempting to introduce innovations of its own were also deplored. (SEE BOX)

The world belongs to all people; it must not be the sparing ground for two superpowers holding the rest of the world hostage. No lasting world peace can be achieved until the East/West power blocs are dissolved and the dynamic of the struggle of both for nuclear superiority is halted. To encourage such trends ACT unanimously agreed that we must take part in the worldwide peace movement, which crosses East/West barriers. It is imperative that the western peace movement support our East European counterparts and educate people about their existence.

Just as the Canadian peace movement cannot be an arm of our government, so, in the Soviet Union, only those who work independently of their government can hope to effect genuine pressure to stop its role in the arms race. ACT decided to continue our full support of the Independent Peace Movements of Eastern Europe and to actively expand our networking in this area, while maintaining communications with "official" peace organizations.

A STRATEGY OF ACTION

The decline in numbers at demonstrations was noted as being in direct contradiction to the increasing concern for disarmament throughout all sectors of society. This is due partly to the natural fluctuations which occur in all social movements. It is also due to the lack of a strong, immediate focus because many peace groups have dropped cruise testing as a major issue, but failed to find an alternative—even as Canada's complicity in the arms race is drastically accelerating.

As well, ACT sees the need to put a much greater emphasis on education over the next year than we have in the past.

The trend towards a lobbying orientation for the peace movement was discussed. It was felt that this emerged out of a tendency to forget that our real strength lies with the Canadian people. Also peace groups have suffered from bureaucratization, top down structures and from efforts to water down issues out of a desperate desire for legitimacy—as if structures can replace people! These tendencies in the Canadian peace movement are not surprising, but to be expected after any great upsurge such as occurred in 1983-84. To counter such trends, ACT confirmed its political strategy as the following:

- 1) ACT is primarily concerned with building a grass-roots, mass movement for disarmament.
- 2) ACT will continue to politically confront the government and to thereby press for change.
- 3) ACT will continue to focus on cruise testing while extending its educational work so that every action will link nuclear disarmament issues and raise public awareness.
- 4) ACT's main and primary activity will be public mobilizations aimed at building a mass movement for disarmament.



Part II:

The Campaign

Campaign '86 must be instrumental in expanding ACT's base of support both in the Toronto area and through ACT chapters in other parts of Ontario. It should also maintain ACT's role as a high profile mobilizing force in the peace movement. This means we must continue to organize large demonstrations, as well as frequent pickets and symbolic events. Grass-roots networking is also of primary importance.

In Toronto itself, ACT must expand its community work. (We have been very active already in the high schools, campuses and on the street.) With this in mind, a campaign was developed which incorporates the need for more community organizing and education with networking of major public actions. The campaign which emerged was also designed for the participation of Ontario ACT chapters, the ACT high school network, ACT U of T, and the community college network, as well as the mainstream body of ACT.

CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS

- 1) Cruise Testing M.P. Pressure Campaign.
- 2) Saturday after cruise testing demonstration - Saturday after 1st cruise test, 12 noon, PC Party Headquarters.

- 3) Municipal Pressure Campaign.
- 4) April 26: National Day of Protest.
- 5) June 2nd: anniversary Moscow Trust Group.
- 6) August 6th: Hiroshima Day remembrance.

CRUISE TESTING-M.P. PRESSURE CAMPAIGN

In the process of reacting to cruise tests, both in Toronto, and through ACT Chapters, in other towns, we will be focusing on individual Tory MP's as well more usual symbols of the Tory government. ACT will thus be attempting to relate the tests and the fatal Canadian complicity in the arms race they represent both to the portfolios and the local constituencies of some Tory MP's. This will also re-activate local peace groups, and hopefully create some new ones.

MUNICIPAL PRESSURE CAMPAIGN

Although Toronto is officially a "nuclear weapons free zone", the label is of course totally without substance. The municipal campaign will focus, again on a community level, on the types of military production and research going on in the Toronto area. One municipal riding will be focused on at a time. We will also work within City Hall to bring as much pressure to bear as possible.

APRIL 26th - NATIONAL DAY OF PROTEST

On April 26th, peace groups across Canada will demonstrate against Canadian involvement in the arms race. Both the Cruise test Response/M.P. pressure campaign and the Municipal Campaign will build towards this, with increased community involvement.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE NETWORK

The college network is currently involved in a 3 stage campaign:

- 1) the first stage is film showings with a speaker;
- 2) next, "teach-ins" or 2 way discussions between the peace group and the audience will be held in the college cafeterias;
- 3) the 3rd stage is the "Beyond War" seminars to be held on each campus.

profile and exerting a large amount of pressure on the different levels of government. The focus of the major demonstrations will be, of course, on the federal government itself. We feel it is essential at this point to draw as much attention as possible to the issues of disarmament and to create new ways for people to become involved closer to home.

Please make yourself a part of ACT Strategy '86. The peace movement must expand faster than the arms race. If you are in high school, college, university or live in a community, if you are young, old, a professional or unemployed, the future is in your hands.

ACT CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS:

1. Whereas the United States, owing to its technological edge, has been responsible for most of the major innovations in nuclear weaponry, and is presently pushing forward with the cruise, Pershing II, MX and Trident-launched first strike-capable missiles as well as SDI,

Be it therefore resolved that we publicly condemn the present drive for nuclear superiority through the perfection and massive deployment of first-strike weaponry and de-stabilizing anti-missile launcher-defense systems.

2. Whereas the U.S.S.R. has consistently matched, or attempted to match every innovation in nuclear weaponry, and is in some part responsible for the present escalation in the arms race due to its large-scale production and deployment of anti-satellite weapons,

Be it therefore resolved that we condemn all such Soviet contributions to the nuclear arms race, but to do so in a manner that does not feed into either the myth of Soviet military superiority, or the myth that American escalations are a justified and defensive response to Soviet actions.



REPORT ON BUSINESS

The ACT report on business is a new feature of the Activist that should be of assistance to investors seeking to make a killing in the arms race. Each issue will profile a Canadian corporation which is making a daily contribution to the cause of human destruction. In this issue we feature one of the few Canadian companies that is capable of competing in the race for contracts under the American "Star Wars" or Strategic Defence Initiative program.

Spar Aerospace

Spar represents a profitable spin-off from the late de Havilland Aircraft, a recent government of Canada gift to Boeing Aircraft of America. Emerging out of the Special Products and Applied Research Division of de Havilland in 1967, the company quickly acquired a number of money-making sidelines. These included Applied Chemical Foams Limited, the former York Gears Division of Levy Industry, the Astro Research Corporation of Santa Barbara, California, the government and communications systems division of RCA, and the space

electronics manufacturing assets of Northern Telecom. Spar's chairman and chief executive officer, L.D. Clarke, is an important member of the Canadian military-industrial-academic elite, as a director of both the National Science and Engineering Research Council and of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research.

In its 1977 annual report, SPAR told its shareholders that its "profits had set records" after ten years of operation. The company had grown from a staff of 300 persons operating out of a single plant in Toronto, to a corporation employing 1,500 persons, including a high proportion of engineers and technicians, one of the largest high-technology groups in the private sector in Canada." SPAR currently has six plants in Canada and one in the US.

In early 1977, Spar's electronic gearbox for General Electric's 700 helicopter jet engine was "ordered into production by the US Army for incorporation in both its new twin engine helicopters, the AAH and UTTAS." Spar expects that this will "give rise to requirements

for several thousand jet engines."

By 1981 the company reported that it had grown to 2,000 employees, including approximately 600 engineers and technicians. Its Astro Research Corporation had become the "world leader" in the market "for lightweight extendible structures" essential for the development of the Space Shuttle. Spar also began "the design phase of the solar array power generating system for the new L-Sat communications satellite being developed by the European Space Agency." In addition, it was awarded a "\$9 million contract by RCA Corporation's Astro Electronics Division to build and test three flight antennas for GSTAR satellites."

As the Globe & Mail's June 18, 1980, "Report on Business" section noted, although the "continuation of the arms race" poses "a thorny problem for diplomats," this means opportunities "for Spar and other manufacturers of sophisticated sensing devices." Spar's infrared passive acquisition system, which enables incoming aircraft to be tracked without giving away the position of the sensor,

received an unexpected boost from the naval engagements of the Falkland War. Unlike radar, Spar's systems do not alert enemy missiles, ships and aircraft that they are under surveillance. After the war, Spar Chairman L.D. Clarke declared that it was "18 months ahead of the game." Clarke saw that there was "more demand for such systems than there is capacity to build them."

Spar's most spectacular achievement is the space shuttle's remote control cargo arm. Like many of Spar's projects, this vital link in any future Star Wars scenario was heavily subsidized by the Canadian government.

Less glamorous, but more immediate, is Spar's contribution to today's wars. Its Repair and Overhaul Division is engaged in the "repair and overhaul of aircraft components, the maintenance and servicing of helicopters, and the sale of aviation products and services." This service is extended to both military and commercial aircraft customers "in Canada, the United States, Mexico and Central and South America."

by John Bacher

Brodsky



continued from page 4

About a month later, we finally received the reply through the good offices of Ottawa Mayor Marion Dewar, who had added a strong personal letter to the Soviet Embassy to her endorsement of our appeal.

In short, Pozdnyakov's letter states that Brodsky was "convicted of malicious disorderly conduct" and that "photos of that criminal urging his apprehension if spotted had been circulated to all public order squads". It was reported that Brodsky "began insulting the two who had detained him, using obscene language. Losing control of himself, he hit Kasatin with his fist, tore his shirt, pulled down the curtains of the window, and seized a chair and tried to smash Kasatin over the head with it."

Other Moscow Trust Group Members recall Brodsky as a gentle, quiet-spoken man, who, even if provoked, would never strike another human being. He is, like other Trust Group Members, a firm believer in working co-operatively within the existing Soviet laws.

On November 2nd, 1985 the Eastern European Working Committee took the opportunity

to present the Brodsky Appeal to the Canadian public. A rally was held at the City Hall Peace Garden. NDP Aldermen Jack Layton and Dale Martin both attended and expressed their support of the Brodsky appeal. Bruce Allen of ACT Niagara spoke on the history of the Moscow Trust Group and the latest wave of repression. Entertainment was provided by Lief Baker, who led several highly appropriate peace songs, ending with "We Shall Overcome", a favourite song of many East European peace activists.

Among the many prominent endorsers of the Brodsky Appeal is Canadian Physicians for Social Responsibility founding president Dr. Frank Sommers, who has carried a considerable campaign of his own for Dr. Brodsky, with whom he is personally acquainted. In addition to several telegrams and phone calls to Moscow, and to the Soviet Peace Committee, Dr. Sommers has carried on an active campaign within PSR, including a recent letter to the PSR National newsletter requesting that fellow members come to the aid of Dr. Brodsky.

The Appeal itself continues to gather support. M.P. Pauline Jewett and her office have circulated it within the New Democratic Party federal parlia-

mentary caucus and obtained the endorsement of Ed Broadbent and many caucus members. A resolution calling for the release of both Brodsky and Shatravka by a major United Auto Workers local narrowly missed coming to the floor at the Ontario Federation of Labour Conference in November because of time constraints. There are indications it would have enjoyed the support of the executive, and probably been passed. The Canadian Labour Congress convention this spring should provide another opportunity.

Brodsky has since ended his hunger strike, at the urging of both his wife, who was allowed to see him for this apparent purpose, and of his friends, both in the Trust Group and abroad. His sentence has been confirmed, and what may be a final visit with his wife on November 11th(sic) yields the information that he still suffers from bleeding stomach ulcers. Nina Brodsky was told that her husband would be deported to the West early in 1986 if he renounced the Trust Group, but that his fate was "uncertain" (as he might go to one of the worst camps) if he did not; he has refused.

In closing, it is fitting to include an extract from a personal letter by Dr. Brodsky to peace activists, written on the day of his re-arrest on July 16th, 1985:

Prison and a correctional labour camp is a very severe trial, and it is not everyone who can stand

it. Oleg Radzinsky, a former member of the Group, could not stand this trial. He statements he wrote after a year in jail speak for themselves. It is hard to blame him for it. There is probably a limit to the amount of human suffering it is possible to endure. Taking this limit into account, I would like to say to all peace supporters: I would like any statements I may make while in prison to be ignored and considered to have been made through inability to withstand physical suffering, should such statements contradict my present beliefs.

Exiled Moscow Trust Group members, and occasional letters from the group itself continue to insist that the continued visible support of western peace activists for their work is their best protection. The ACT East European Working Committee will do everything it can to continue that support, most especially for Alexander Shatravka and Dr. Vladimir Brodsky in 1986, through the continued circulation and publication of the appeal, and through an intensified letter writing campaign. We could do a great deal more with your help.

Please help in our efforts to support and protect the basic human right of everyone to work for peace; send a donation c/o the ACT Coalition, or become involved in the work of the committee by calling or writing to ACT, c/o the Hon. Marina Crawford, East European Working Committee Coordinator.

Founding Convention of the Canadian Peace Alliance

CPA - A Dubious Unity

The November 8th to 11th convention in Toronto, which launched the "Canadian Peace Alliance", succeeded in bringing out an impressive number and geographic range of peace groups, but failed profoundly as a coming together of the pan-Canadian peace movement. The fact that the over 200 delegates included all provinces was encouraging. Other aspects of the convention, however, were deeply disappointing.

It was an English gathering to such a degree that any Quebecois (or who could speak English did). It was also a convention at which scarcely anyone under 25 was in evidence, and whose processes were such that most younger delegates, and especially the younger female delegates felt too intimidated to speak to the floor. And the fact that the same procedural and group-pressure tactics that functioned to silence these women appeared to be directed against anyone who sought to open a discussion of the fundamental political and organizational questions that confront the pan-Canadian peace movement marked an alarming misuse of both traditional rules of order and normal feelings of group solidarity.

CPA'S AVOIDANCE OF NON-ALIGNMENT

The question that the average person usually asks of the peace movement is "What about the Russians?". It comes as a profound revelation to such people that most Canadian peace activists oppose Soviet nuclear weapons as well American ones. And their respect for the peace movement really begins when they come to realize that it is peace activists who are leading the campaigns to support independent Eastern Bloc peace activists like Dr. Vladimir Brodsky and the Moscow Group to Establish Trust.

This one reason why much of the August ENP Conference in Amsterdam (see previous issue) centered on detailed discussions of Soviet as well American militarism, and on how to deepen the links with much-harassed independent Eastern Bloc Peace groups. Similarly, the recent Ontario Peace Conference recognized the importance of such issues by making room for a presentation and discussion of ACT's appeal for the release of Dr. Brodsky on an already crowded agenda, and especially by giving that appeal its strong endorsement.

In contrast, much of what happened at the CPA's founding convention could lead one to believe that an avoidance of all real discussion of the peace movement's attitude to the USSR was the first concern of the organizer's. The whole convention opened with a surprise speech by a Dr. Thomas Perry, who exploited his membership in Physicians for Social Responsibility to drive home his re-

peated strenuous injunctions to "not be distracted by PERCEIVED injustices on the other side..." (presumably meaning to imply that there could be no real ones!) at the Friday night "gala". And the widely advertised "keynote speech" by world-renowned peace movement spokesman and END Vice president E.P. Thompson, surely the main attraction for many who paid \$8 to attend this one open session of the whole convention, was delayed until an hour and a half later and a scarce eighteen minutes long.

Such an order of priorities visibly puzzled some of the audience, but was not entirely unexpected by those of us who were aware of the last-minute pressure by the Canadian Peace Congress to have Thompson's speech cancelled. These failed, but apparently moved convention organizers to attempt to pre-empt Thompson's speech even to the extent of asking him to attend a "briefing session" before speaking.

Edward Thompson is not only arguably one of the peace movement's most articulate spokespeople. He is its best known champion of the need for an explicitly non-aligned position, and for a movement that seeks to unite independent peace activity in both the East and the West.

He has thus been maligned in the pages of Pravda as well as those of the European and American right wing press...and has won the deep respect of non-aligned peace activists around the world. The way he was treated by the organizers of the CPA's founding convention stands as both a lasting embarrassment to the whole pan-Canadian peace movement and a clear indication of just how far the politics are at variance with those of the worldwide peace movement.

The rest of the convention only confirmed our worst fears. All attempts to amend, or enter into a fundamental discussion of what a self-appointed thirty member planning committee had wrought were either referred to bodies that sometimes did not even exist at the time of the referral, maneuvered off the floor through deft use of rules of order, or defeated with the help of such misinformation as the fact that similar "better motions would be coming up later in the agenda. A whole series of carefully worked out amendments designed to carefully delineate, and ultimately to limit the powers of the steering committee was not only referred to that self-same committee without discussion but not even made available to most of the delegates. And, of course, the convention planning committee was turned into that new steering committee in one quick motion that neatly precluded elections.

The superficiality of one comment best summarizes the whole convention. Bob Penner of TDN, at the convention's sparsely-attended final press conference, claimed the the convention had

represented "...all major peace groups..." and had arrived at "...a unanimous consensus...". This illusion was created mainly by the fact that any real discussion of the critical question of non-alignment was deftly delayed and also by referring any precise definition of organizational powers to the organizers.

The question of non-alignment, more than any other, will determine the future growth of the Canadian peace movement. If it continues to refuse the example of the European peace movement in maintaining an independent stance vis a vis the two superpowers, the CPA will be blocked by an understandable perception of it by large sections of the public, of being nothing more than a transmission belt for decisions of Soviet foreign policy.

The problem of organization--or, to be bluntly honest, the fact that some quarters seem determined to foist grandiose structures on the Canadian peace movement--presents another, not unrelated danger for all of us. Our strength lies in our diversity and lack of inhibiting top-down structures. The sort of information--filtering role and full-time bureaucracy that the present structural ambiguity leaves room for is already crit-

pling the movement's political evolution and stifling initiative in some cities. We don't need it on a national level; the peace movement should provide an alternative to the top-down military, industrial and political hierarchies, not a distorted mirror-image!

There are some signs that such an alternative is continuing to emerge. A free and open discussion of real issues did take place at this convention. It took place at the Coalition Quebecois pour le Desarmement et la Paix/ACT initiated "non-aligned caucus" that came to involve many other activists in its frank (and frankly bilingual) discussions. It also took place in the hallways, in the restaurants, and over cafeteria tables. It is unfortunate that it had to cost us hundreds of dollars and days of frustration to have such meetings. But perhaps it was worth it.

Now through letters, through visits, and through the sort of loose and non-hierarchical cooperation we have always engaged in around cruise tests and every April, the links can be strengthened. And the discussion can continue with some who were not known to us before. Eventually we may, indeed, see the beginnings of a real consensus.

 **ACT PEACE FORUMS** 
FRIDAY EVENINGS AT 7:00 — ADMISSION IS FREE

139 ROBERT STREET at Harbor (see page 2 for schedule)

FALLOUT SHELTER
PEACE COFFEEHOUSE
FEBRUARY

Friday 21st
James Deahl — poetry
Friday 28th
Steve Barker's NEW FOLK

MARCH

Friday 7th
Mike Rogers
& Kelly McGowan
Political folk/rock duo

Friday 14th
Nicholas Power Poetry

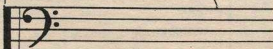
Saturday 15th
Bill Smith Ensemble
Everything You Want

Friday 21st
Willie P. Bennet folk

Saturday 22nd
Leif Baker's
DRIVING FOLK

IT STARTS AT NINE O'CLOCK.
A DONATION OF \$3-\$4 SATURDAY
WOULD BE JUST BOSH.
IT'S AT 139 ROBERT,
off Harbor.
Call 960-2ACT
Presented by
ACT for Disarmament

The last set
on Friday nights
is OPEN.



What is ACT?

ACT for Disarmament is a non-aligned coalition of activist groups and individuals dedicated to mobilizing Canadians against their country's deepening involvement in the arms race. ACT began as the Against Cruise Testing Coalition and organized some of the largest demonstrations in Toronto's history against cruise missile testing in Canada. It has since continued to focus on this issue as well as broadening out as Canada's involvement in US military strategy becomes more inextricable.

But there is another side to the politics of ACT. As part of the international non-aligned peace movement, ACT is opposed to the militaristic policies of both superpowers and their military blocs. We believe that peace can only be achieved through the united efforts of people, East and West, working independently of their governments. ACT for Disarmament publicly supports the right of people to organize and work for peace, free from government interference, be it in East Germany, Czechoslovakia, the USSR, or in repressive Nato countries such as Turkey.

In keeping with our belief that people can bring about change, ACT concentrates much of its energies on mobilizing people, both by building mass demonstrations and by networking on the local and nationwide level. ACT believes that sustained, highly public action is the strongest lever we have on government policy and that demonstrations are an effective way of expressing our view in a democratic society.

ACT strives to reach people in all walks of life. ACT is a coalition that includes a High School Network active in 35 schools, a newly-formed college network and the Fallout Shelter Collective which has involved more than 100 performing artists. There are ACT Chapters in several locations across Ontario, and we hope to be truly Ontario-wide in the future. ACT also holds weekly educational forums, film showings and public meetings. (Help us organize one in your area!)

We know that we can stop the arms race. We also know that we have no other choice. Please help us make peace a reality. Make a financial contribution, come out to one of our many events, or...join ACT.

ACT in Action

1983

- Feb. 12th - ACT networks demonstrations across Canada and mobilizes 4,000 Torontonians 45 hours after the umbrella weapons testing agreement is announced in parliament.
- April 23rd - ACT organizes historic anti-cruise march of 25,000 in Toronto and networks Canada's largest day of protest to date; about 125,000 Canadians in over twenty cities.
- July 23rd - ACT co-ordinates a nationwide (and U.S.!) reaction to the Cruise Testing Agreement and organizes march of 6,000 up Yonge Street in Toronto.
- August 6th - Hiroshima Day commemoration and protest.
- Oct. 22nd - ACT co-organizes demonstration of International Day of Protest which again brings out 25,000 Torontonians.
- Dec. 3rd - ACT puts the Santa Claus parade back on Yonge Street with a 1,500 person Christmas March for Peace.

1984

- March 10th - Demonstration in response to first cruise test, networked nationally. ACT had finally won the right to march up Yonge Street with a permit.
- April 28th - ACT's second annual Spring Protest for peace attracts over 10,000 participants in Toronto and is once again promoted across Western Canada by ACT.
- August 6th - ACT's second downtown Hiroshima Day March of 4,000 is led by federal election candidates who have responded to ACT's challenge to demonstrate that they really are prepared to act for peace.

1985

- Jan. 15th - Press conference and nationally publicized symbolic action at Toronto's Peace Garden.
- Jan. 19th - "Saturday after" march - over 500 brave the cold.
- Feb. 19th - Second cruise test: nearly 200 people attend a weekday, noon-hour protest at which they present pictures of their children to FC headquarters resulting in international press coverage.
- April 27th - Third Annual Protest for peace draws over 4,000.
- Aug. 6-9th - ACT's Hiroshima Day candlelight march draws 2,500 people, and is followed by a three day vigil.

1986

- Jan. 25th - 200 people brave miserable weather to protest first cruise test of 1986 at FC HQ, then march up Yonge St.
- Coming April 26th...4th Annual Spring Protest for Peace.
 - our last chance to protest the new, no longer defensive, NORAD agreement.



ACT

for disarmament coalition

139 Robert Street, Toronto Ontario, M5S 2K6 960-2ACT.

Get Active!

Get active...help stop the arms race by doing what you do best.

Help on one of ACT's committees:

- **PUBLICITY** - designing and distributing of leaflets, posters, buttons, etcetera..
- **DAY'S EVENTS** - co-ordinating the logistics of demonstrations.
- **EDUCATION** - arranging weekly forums, providing speakers and literature.
- **EAST EUROPEAN WORKING COMMITTEE** - support for independent peace activity in the Eastern Bloc and also in such repressive western regimes as Turkey.
- **MEDIA** - Drafting and distribution of Press statements, arranging interviews, alerting and dealing with the press.
- **ACTIVIST COLLECTIVE** - Writing and producing this paper!
- **NETWORKING** - Establishing and maintaining national and international links and co-ordinating campaigns.
- **FALLOUT SHELTER COLLECTIVE** - Organizing and running our weekly peace coffeehouse, booking performers and art shows
- **FUNDRAISING** - Organizing teas, dances, button blitzes, fund appeals, and large and small fundraising events.

If you can help in any of these areas...or want to see if you can, please call, or write using the coupon below.

The APRIL 26th demo needs YOU!

We also need your financial support

Demonstrations cost thousands. This year's Spring Protest, publicity, sound system and materials will cost nearly \$5,000. Please make a donation. YOU are ACT — YOUR energy and YOUR financial contribution can make this an effective event.

By giving to ACT, you will support:

- Toronto's most active disarmament coalition.
- Toronto's only peace centre, hosting forums, films and peace cafe.
- The global non-aligned movement for peace and disarmament.

Here is my donation to ACT:

\$200 \$100 \$50 \$30 \$15 I want to help on April 26th! Area of interest:

I want to subscribe to the ACTivist (\$5)

Mail to: ACT for Disarmament, 139 Robert St., Toronto, Ontario M5S 2K6. (Tel: 960-2ACT)

Name: _____

Tel: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____

Countless volunteers are needed to help publicize the April 26th demonstration. If you can distribute leaflets or posters, help with office or phoning, or if you just want to help on the day, please call us at 960-2ACT now! If you contact US, it will save us a call!

Phone
960-2ACT