

the ACTivist

Newspaper of the
ACT for Disarmament Coalition
February-March 1987

NATO Invades Innu Homeland

By Randy Dryburgh

On April 1st NATO war-games began again over the interior of the Quebec/Labrador peninsula. At the invitation of the Canadian government fighter bombers from the air forces of Britain, West Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium and the U.S. practice low level flight testing to perfect the NATO war fighting strategy, 'Deep Strike'.

The number of low level military flights over Quebec/Labrador has accelerated rapidly since 1979 (there were 4000 last year). And, if the Canadian government has its way the number of flights could increase to 250 per day if a \$700 million NATO Tactical Fighter Weapons Training Centre (TFWTC) is established in Goose Bay. (Defence Minister Beattie is presently working hard to convince NATO that Canada is a better option than Konya, Turkey, the other possible location.)

Resistance to this militarist intrusion came originally from the Innu, the Native people of the area. The Innu see this as a direct violation of their land claim to this area which has never been ceded to Canada, and as a part of the process of the destruction of their culture and traditional patterns of life.

The fighter bombers fly routinely as low as 100 feet above ground level causing painful and unexpected "jet-noise" up to 126 decibels (in Ontario car protection is required over 85 decibels). These sonic disturbances drive away wildlife, disrupt the migration and reproduction pattern of the caribou on which the Innu depend and make hunting impossible. They can also damage hearing, especially of children, and produce a stress reaction called the "startle effect". In short, for the Innu, militarism means an end to the traditional basis of their culture, the use of their land. This is known as cultural genocide.

In the last two years a coalition of peace groups has come together to join the struggle against the NATO powers. It has become clear that the testing in Canada is to train pilots in low level penetration tactics as part of "Deep Strike". This is a war fighting strategy which involves deep, below radar, penetration of enemy territory to destroy the ability to command, reinforce or supply from line forces. Nuclear, near-nuclear and conventional weapons will be used as part of a strategy which is based on a "spirit of offense" (the goal is winning rather than "containing" aggression). Because of the "dual capability" of

NATO fighter planes need to practice flying at tree-top height in order to successfully avoid radar in a surprise attack against enemy forces.

many of the aircraft, the specific nuclear role of some (eg. British Tornados) and its offensive nature, this strategy is threatening and destabilizing. It could support offensive, first strike operations or provide pre-emptive attacks in a time of crisis.

For all these reasons the peace movement must be opposed to the low level testing in Quebec/Labrador. But the possibility of a NATO base is also completely unacceptable. This would provide the government with a militarist model (sic) of development that it could use in many areas of the North, it would make the movement towards Canada as a nuclear wea-

pons free zone virtually impossible and would reinforce Canada's relationship with NATO, making the possibility of Canada getting out of the military alliance even more remote. Last year it looked like a close contest between Canada and Turkey but recent information from Europe suggests that the likely location will be Goose Bay. The decision could be announced as early as this May at the Foreign Ministers meeting.

To date the coalition has organized a number of tactics and events to highlight and oppose the testing and the TFWTC. A letter writing campaign directed at the NATO

powers has been under way for a year. Last year the "Boom Project" brought the taped sounds of low flying fighter bombers to communities in Ontario, Quebec and the Maritimes. Two civil disobedience actions (the most recent was April 6) at Ottawa's Department of National Defence, raised the issue. A 'phone blitz' in the first week of April this year targeted each of the embassies of the NATO governments that test in Quebec/Labrador. Future support actions include ACT For Disarmament's April 25th protest and a speaking tour (Contact ACT for more info).

Recently the low level testing in Quebec/Labrador has become even more relevant for other regions in Canada. The government announced in late February that low level testing of B-52s, F111s and eventually B1 bombers will take place in flight corridors in Northern Ontario, Northern B.C. and in a corridor that takes in Northern Alberta, Saskatchewan and the N.W.T. The Cruise has company. Both NATO and NORAD forces are increasingly making direct use of Canada and both are perfecting low level testing, the primary role of air forces in the age of Star Wars.

Nuclear weapons testing over Canada is accelerating rapidly and the Conservatives are attempting to ensure that this happens with little or no disruption. The protest movement against the cruise missile demonstrated that peace activists would not let this happen without a great deal of noise and controversy. It is now time to do the same with low level testing (What is the Tornado but a Cruise with a pilot?). Our message should be clear: "No low level military testing anywhere in Canada. No NATO base in Goose Bay or in Turkey."

Protest! 5th Spring Protest for Peace April 25, 1987 (Saturday)

Assemble at noon:
Toronto City Hall
(Queen & Bay)
March to Queen's Park

- End weapons testing from Nanoose Bay (B.C.) to Goose Bay Nfld.
- No tritium transport or export
- Remember Chernobyl, Stop Darlington



Canada continues to be deeply involved in the arms race. From coast to coast, this country is being used as a practice ground for World War III. Cruise missile testing, Star Wars research, chemical and biological weapons manufacturing, and low-level flight testing are being conducted across the country. Canada is no peacemaker.

Canada's involvement in the nuclear arms race is becoming even greater with Ontario Hydro's proposal to export tritium to the United States for use in hydrogen and neutron bombs. Less than one year after the catastrophic reactor accident at Chernobyl, the Peterson government is continuing construction of yet another reactor at Darlington, despite promises in the last election that it would be cancelled.

We have to phase out and start converting now. It is a long process. Each of us must take the responsibility to stop our government's increasing involvement in genocidal preparations for war.

A Project of:
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Editorial: Reykjavik, Euromissiles and Non-Alignment

Following the collapse of the Reykjavik Summit the appearance of a "consensus" emerged within the pan-Canadian peace movement. This "consensus" claimed the Reagan Administration was wholly and exclusively to blame for the failure of the superpowers to conclude sweeping reductions in their respective nuclear arsenals in Iceland. And indeed it is true that the main responsibility lay squarely with the Reagan Administration owing to its crazed obsession with SDI. Likewise, much of the responsibility for the continuing standoff between the superpowers can be blamed on the Reagan regime's totally inexcusable failure to make a positive response to the Soviet moratorium on nuclear weapons testing. Yet, despite these things, this "consensus" needs to be shattered within our movement. And the task of doing this logically falls to those of us who draw much of our inspiration and analysis from our sisters and brothers in Europe's non-aligned peace movement who live on a continent occupied by the armed forces of both superpowers.

Living as they do where the nuclear confrontation has such immediacy and having seen their movement develop in relation to the deployment of the superpowers' Euromissiles these activists noticed some things about the summit which certain "spokespersons" for the movement in Canada have been silent about. Specifically, our European friends are only too conscious of the fact that it

was the USSR which prevented the realization of a partial deal on medium range missiles in Europe. As can be seen from Mary Kaldor's editorial in the December/January issue of the Journal of European Nuclear Disarmament it did not escape our friends at END that the Soviets had stated that such a deal without an agreement concerning SDI was possible then proceeded to send Gorbachev to Reykjavik with a set of proposals containing exactly the opposite position, thereby blocking an agreement. The USSR's subsequent return to its pre-Reykjavik position separating Euromissiles from SDI has vindicated the editorial position the END Journal adopted leaving the aligned view that "it was entirely Reagan's fault" in ruins. The more recent Soviet turnaround on short-range rockets in Europe reveals essentially the same lesson, one which our friends in Europe have not needed to learn much to the disaste of people like the official Soviet peace bureaucrats who attended last year's convention of the European Nuclear Disarmament Campaign in Evry, France. On two occasions these people tried to accuse the core activists of Western Europe's peace movement of holding the same views as Reagan!

The lesson is that we as peace activists must neither be immediately enthusiastic nor suspicious each time the USSR floats another peace proposal. We must however react very skeptically to those within our movement who

do. This more cautious approach typifies a non-aligned perspective on the arms race. This view is not based on some abstract and false pinning of equal blame on each of the superpowers. What it does is recognize the reality of their sharing the blame for it and allows us to direct that blame from a detached and hopefully objective, factually sound point of view. Non-alignment, as such, remains a very misunderstood, and in some quarters very unpopular, concept within the pan-Canadian peace movement.

ACT For Disarmament is convinced that the analysis which underlies non-alignment has to be integrated into the theory and practice of our peace movement to the maximum degree possible. Doing this will inevitably open up a Pandora's box of issues linked to the arms race which have hardly been debated within the peace movement in English Canada.

We do not fear such a prospect. We desire it just as we desire whatever arms limitation agreements the superpowers can achieve as well as a new, more meaningful era of detente between the military blocs. In our view, both arms agreements and grass-roots political activism directed at the underlying causes of the arms race are essential if we are serious about achieving a meaningful, lasting peace. An appreciation of the importance of non-alignment is a guarantee that we will pursue both and attain this kind of a peace.

Letters



Halton Hills Cruise Protests

The ACTIVIST received a copy of the following letter dated March 2. It was sent to the producer of CBC TV's program "Sunday Report".

Dear Sir or Madame:

Last night your reporter indicated that, since less than 100 Albertans appeared in public to protest Cruise testing, therefore public protest might be dying out for future tests.



Today's protests, like this one at Cold Lake, Alberta, may be smaller than four years ago, but they continue in many forms.

On the contrary! Our own small group here in Georgetown generated at least 100 phone calls to the Prime Minister's Office on the eve of the tests, and local high school students wore white armbands in protest all day, following a school announcement of their symbolism. I spoke to two local ministers yesterday, and both deplored the testing during their services.

Perhaps the peace movement is not on the streets as much as it used to be: but only because we are doing the much harder "invisible" digging that goes on through letter writing,

talks in public auditoriums and church halls, and in the daily contacts we make with ordinary people. In the past year in this area alone, 2 new peace groups have formed, and the United Church has formed a "Peace Team" with contacts and activity in almost every church in the entire Presbytery.

So please refrain from drawing gloomy conclusions about a fading movement: we are stronger than ever, if not as visible!

Yours truly,
Janet Duval

Subscribe!

For almost three years now, *The ACTIVIST* has published articles on disarmament issues concerning the Canadian peace movement, as well as a review of the activities of the ACT For Disarmament Coalition (now active in several cities in Canada).

The *Activist* has a circulation extending across Canada and beyond. This imposes a considerable financial burden on our coalition and requires us to make the newspaper's circulation increasingly subscription-based. Toward this end, we are asking our readers to purchase a \$5.00 annual subscription. If you cannot afford the \$5.00 but wish to remain on *The ACTIVIST* mailing list, please write or phone and tell us.

The prospects for the future of *The ACTIVIST* and the ACT For Disarmament Coalition are very encouraging. Through your support of *The ACTIVIST*, they will be even better. Don't miss out on a single issue!

The *Activist*
456 Spadina Ave.,
Toronto, Ontario,
CANADA, L2R 6T7
960-2ACT

To Our Supporters:

Have you considered making a major donation to ACT but thought you couldn't afford it? Have you decided to make a donation to charity instead, knowing you could get a tax reduction? Now, thanks to the Riverdale Greens, you can make a donation to ACT and get an INCOME TAX CREDIT as well.

The RIVERDALE GREEN CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATION supports our work for peace, and now has a policy of turning over to ACT any donation it receives from people wanting to support the peace part of its program. With Ontario election laws, such donations are seen as a donation to a political party (since the cheque is made out to them) and this entitles you to an income tax credit for having donated to a political party.

Donations to political parties are better tax write-offs than donations to charities. This is because the first \$200 gives a 75% rebate on your income tax. (ACT is composed of members with a number of different political views. The general membership accepted the offer of the Riverdale Greens because people who are making major donations to ACT would have some way of receiving a tax benefit for supporting us. It does not tie us or you to the Green Party in any way.)

Now supporters have two options—sending a cheque directly to ACT, or sending a donation to the Riverdale Greens Constituency Association, saying you support peace. They will send an equal amount to ACT and mail you a receipt for income tax purposes.

We need your support; donations from our sympathizers are essential for our work to be successful. Thanks to the Greens, you can also get a tax break!

ACT encourages all individuals who would like a receipt for political contributions to send a cheque denoting their area(s) of interest(s) to Riverdale Greens Constituency Association whose policy is to send ACT monies earmarked for PEACE, directly, wholly, and exclusively to ACT.

Name _____

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Anyone with taxable income can contribute. If you pay income tax, you can get up to 75% of your donation back in rebate directly off your tax payable (i.e. if you give \$200.00, you get back \$150.00, so it costs you only \$50).

FOR: Peace
 Ecology
 Conservatism
 Decentralism

TO: ACT For Disarmament
456 Spadina Ave., Toronto,
Ont., CANADA, M5T 2G8

By Lyle Jory

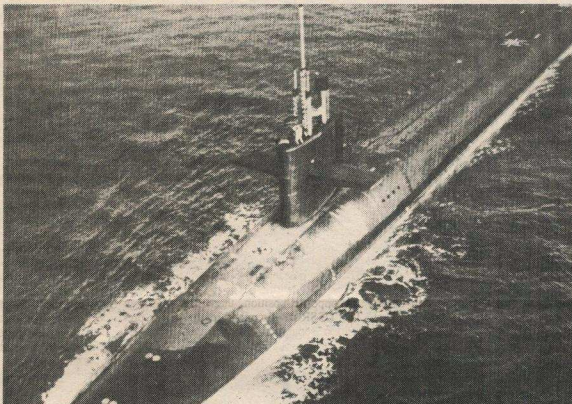
If you haven't heard of Nanose Bay or the Canadian Forces Maritime Experimental and Test Ranges (CFMETR), you can count yourself among the majority of the Canadian public. If you have, please tell someone else. We appreciate any help we can get in spreading the word.

For those in the majority, I will give a brief background on the meaning of Nanose Bay to the arms race, specifically to the development of Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) technology by the U.S. Navy.

Nanose Bay is located near Nanaimo, B.C. approximately half way up the Eastern coast of Vancouver Island. The Canadian Base (CFMETR) was established in Nanose Bay in 1966 at the request of the U.S. Navy and has been expanded in size to include a separate section of the ocean at Jervis Inlet on the mainland. The facilities at Nanose consist of a highly sophisticated underwater test range, which is instrumented and connected to a complex computer system that analyzes the data and provides graphics of the action on the range. Under the terms of the Canada-U.S. treaty which established the Nanose Base, all the computers and other equipment at the base is supplied and owned by the U.S. Navy. The use of the range is not controlled by the Canadian Commander at the base even though it is designated as a Canadian base. This authority rests with the U.S. Commander at the Keyport, Washington base. Keyport is the central command centre of all U.S. testing ranges in the world. There are a number of testing facilities used by the U.S. Navy placed strategically around the world but Nanose Bay is one of the two most technically sophisticated ranges available for use.

The testing which is carried out at Nanose is all related to Anti-Submarine Warfare research. A major part of this has been the development and testing of the two torpedoes which are the mainstays of the U.S. Navy, the M-46 and M-48. Because both of these torpedoes are now relatively old in design the U.S. Navy is developing new more sophisticated torpedoes, using Nanose as the site for testing various components, such as the guidance systems.

In addition to these underwater weapons Nanose has been used to test at least one air launched weapon, the ASROC which also is used as an anti-submarine weapon by U.S. surface ships and submarines. The ASROC is capable of being armed with a nuclear depth bomb of one kiloton. This proves that statements made by the Canadian Commander of Nanose that there were no nuclear capable weapons tested at Nanose were uninformed or deliberate lies. Furthermore, the U.S. submarines and surface ships that use Nanose are armed with a number of nuclear capable weapons systems. We do not know if these weapons were nuclear-armed while they were at Nanose because all the Canadian ministers of Defence respected the policy of the U.S.



Nuclear-powered nuclear missile-carrying submarines similar to the Ohio, pictured above, are the deadly denizens of Nanose Bay.

Three Years in Nanose Bay

Navy to neither confirm nor deny the presence of nuclear weapons on board their ships.

In this area the latest development has been the presence of submarines carrying the Tomahawk cruise missile which can be used as a strategic weapon if it is equipped with a single warhead. The fact that these ships are very unlikely to disarm their nuclear weapons before entering Canadian waters makes a mockery of the official non-nuclear stance of the Canadian government which states that we will neither own nor accept nuclear weapons on our territory.

The Nanose Conversion Campaign has been working to stop the testing at Nanose Bay and convert the land to peaceful productive purposes since the fall of 1984. There had been some efforts to stop the testing previous to this by a coalition of Vancouver Island peace groups, but Nanose was only one of several issues this group was working on and the individuals who formed the Nanose Conversion Campaign (NCC) felt that the conversion of the base was a problem that required a concentrated effort by itself.

We have used a number of different strategies to make as many people aware of Nanose as was possible given our limited numbers and finances. Locally, one of the main focuses was the establishment of a Peace Camp which we set up opposite the base across Nanose Bay in the spring of 1985. The camp was within view of the main highway running North and South on Vancouver Island, making it a highly visible symbol to the base personnel and local residents of our commitment to changing the situation at the base. It was also a place where the public could get information

about the campaign and offer support. The other public outreach event we conduct is an annual Peace Walk from a local store to the gates of CFMETR. This is held on Armistice Day and has attracted about 300 people for the past two years.

NCC has also held a number of demonstrations at the gates of the base in response to the presence of subs at the base. Even though these have usually been called with only 48 hours notice there has been a good response from peace activists on the island. There have been a series of civil disobedience actions conducted at the base facilities as well. These have included blocking the road into the base and landing on base pro-

perty to hold a symbolic picnic.

This latter action took place last August. It involved eight women and was called the Motherpeace Action. The women landed on Whincheola Island which is about a mile from the main part of the base and is the computer centre for the range. All of the women were charged with trespassing and went to court in February. However, it turned out that when the landing took place the women were below the high tide mark which is legally the start of the Department of National Defence's property. Therefore the judge threw the case out of court and let all the defendants go free. While we were relieved that there were no fines to pay we

had hoped the court case would allow us to raise some questions about the testing at Nanose.

Another civil disobedience action was a joint venture with members of Greenpeace from Vancouver. It took place in September 1986 and involved blocking a sub out of the bay until the RCMP came to remove the activists and the rope which they had strung across the bay. Charges arising from the action have yet to go to court.

A more national focus of the campaign has been to raise the issue of the testing at Nanose with various politicians and, with their assistance, bringing forth the issue in the House of Commons. Jim Manley, a local NDP MP has provided invaluable assistance with this part of the campaign and he has been joined by a number of other MPs as more information about Nanose became available to them. However, the Conservative government has refused to even allow a debate on the testing at Nanose. This part of the campaign has made a number of individuals and MPs from other parts of Canada aware of the situation and has complicated the normally quiet continuation of the agreement.

A last bit of good news concerning the Peace Camp at Nanose is worth noting. We were forced to move from the location by the owners of the land, but a local supporter of NCC has purchased a house just up the bay from our old location and has agreed to rent it to us on a long term basis. This means we now have a permanent base for the campaign to use and we plan to move our office to the house as soon as alterations are made to give us sufficient room. The struggle continues.

If any peace groups or other organizations are interested in getting more information or seeing a slide show presentation about Nanose they can contact me at Box 627, Station P, Toronto, Ontario M5S 2Y4, or through ACT For Disarmament's Toronto office. I can also be reached at (416) 530-4760.

ACT Fallout Shelter 456 Spadina Ave., Toronto • 960-2228

In the spacious ACT Toronto performing artist centre, the peace movement has been treated to a wide range of exciting talent. From punk to poetry, the Fallout Shelter Peace Cafe has something for everyone.

Upcoming performances include the roots-pulse reggae of JamAfrika with art displays, readings and poetry on Friday, April 24 at 7:30 pm. Following the April 25th demonstration, there will be a post-Rally social. On May 2, the always new music of Violence and the Sacred will be featured, while on the 8th come listen to the cool sounds of Maury Coles' Jazz Quartet Extempore. Then on the 9th, we are sharing a benefit performance with the Canadian Poetry Association showcasing 18 different poets. On the 15th, Kid Blitz brings their Ramones-like sound to the Shelter, with Varoshi Fame playing the 23rd.

These events are all held under the auspices of a Special Occasions Permit. Bring your friends. P.S. Look forward to a full month of Jazz in the Fallout Shelter during August.

Every Thursday, refer to the ACT FALLOUT SHELTER in the Club Listing's of Toronto's popular NOW magazine. Just look to the top left corner to keep up with upcoming events.

By David Webster
& David Goodman

As the new peace movement of the 80's ages a little, we are increasingly compelled to analyze the social role of the arms race and our connection to the larger world. It is no longer adequate to simply remain focused on nuclear weapons systems and potential nuclear holocaust. The fact that the peace movement addresses such issues as civil rights—east and west, non-alignment, cold war influences in the media, the economics of militarism, the relationship between sexism and militarism, intervention, and nuclear power clearly shows that the politics of peace are not synonymous with a single issue focus on weapons systems.

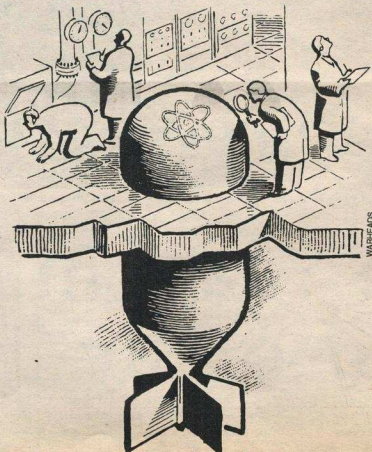
It is on the issue of nuclear power that this narrow definition of peace threatens to hold back the movement and bar it from the opportunity to broaden and extend into new constituencies.

The peace movement has traditionally tried to keep separate the issues of nuclear power and nuclear bombs. Some even supported atomic power and upheld the idea of the "peaceful atom" to bolster the argument that nuclear disarmament didn't mean going backwards technologically. After the Three Mile Island accident, this began to be less true. But groups which worked "for disarmament and the environment" were still marginalized in the peace movement.

In the aftermath of Chernobyl, it has become more acceptable to make these connections, and an increasing number of activists are becoming dissatisfied with the movement's artificial separation of atomic energy and warfare.

Nuclear power and "the bomb" are clearly connected in practice; after all, it's virtually impossible to mass produce nuclear weapons without nuclear reactors. Third world militarists

Nuke Power & the Peace Movement



acquire nuclear technology for its military value, just as they squander their nation's resources on conventional armaments purchased from their first and second world counterparts. In 1974, India set off a "peaceful" nuclear explosion, using plutonium from a CANDU reactor, without even bothering to use the electricity produced. Canada

has also sold CANDU reactors to Pakistan (India's traditional enemy), Argentina, Romania, and South Korea, none of which are noted for the rights of citizens to scrutinize their governments' activities.

The Canadian nuclear industry also supplies fissionable materials directly to nuclear weapons states. Canada supplied

the uranium for the Hiroshima bomb and is the leading exporter of uranium today. Ontario Hydro is now planning to export tritium to the U.S. in sufficient quantities to allow the production of 100 more warheads worth of plutonium a year.

In the face of such demonstrated links between nuclear weapons and energy, economic failures, and potential nuclear disaster, one often hears the argument that the public isn't ready to make the necessary links and that for peace organizations to do so would alienate supporters from the peace movement. This is especially true in towns heavily dependent on the nuclear industry such as Pickering, Port Hope, Peterborough, and Kincardine.

However, there are problems with such arguments. First of all, such an analysis implicitly assumes that people are too stupid to see the obvious links between nuclear bombs and reactors. But it is our experience as activists within ACT that anti-nuclear sentiment in the peace movement lags behind that of the general public. Opinion polls of the past year have shown that a majority of Canadians are concerned about nuclear power—and this is in the absence of a strong anti-nuclear movement in Ontario. Resistance to the inclusion of nuclear power onto the peace movement's agenda doesn't come from the base of the movement, but rather from its leading activists.

Secondly, adherence to this segregation of disarmament and ecological issues panders to conservatives and traditional leftists within the peace movement, at the expense of disenfranchising the majority of peace activists and sympathizers, especially the younger ones, who are ready to make the connections.

And, thirdly, even if anti-nuclear sentiments were not so strong and the political climate were not as receptive as it has

been since Chernobyl, the peace movement should still be taking principled positions and acting on them, publicly raising the issue and making common knowledge the links between nuclear power and weapons.

The trend within the international peace movement is anti-nuclear. British CND's last conference passed an anti-nuclear motion. Chernobyl brought forward strong anti-nuclear statements from independent peace groups in the S.U., Yugoslavia, GDR., and a demonstration by Freedom and Peace against Poland's nuclear programme. Chernobyl has also revived the anti-nuclear movement in West Germany and spurred on Sweden's phasing-out nuclear power.

It is encouraging to see the Nuclear Weapons Free Ontario Campaign adopt opposition to tritium export and transport as an issue. This is an important connection to make, but much more is needed.

The peace movement should take a stand against nuclear power. Nuclear power does indeed contribute to the arms race and endangers human health. It is an integral part of the arms race and of its psychology of acceptable and unacceptable. The peace movement should regard nuclear power as regards other aspects of militarism in our society, and make it a part of our struggle for peace.

We need to phase out nuclear power, and we can start by cancelling construction of a nuclear power station at Darlington, as promised by David Peterson in the last provincial election while he was still in opposition. We need to stop all nuclear exports, including the tritium shipments scheduled to begin this year. We need to confront Ontario's Nuclear Weapons Free Premier with some very hard questions, not just about his integrity, but also about the hollowness of his commitment to the spirit of democracy.

Tritium Trafficking

By David H. Martin

A spectre is haunting the highways of Ontario; the spectre of a constant stream of trucks transporting tritium. Not only is tritium extremely toxic, but it's also the "secret" component for modern fission bombs as well.

Tritium is a radioactive form of hydrogen that emits beta radiation. One five-hundredth of a gram (about 20 curies of radiation) is fatal to an average-sized person if ingested, inhaled or absorbed through the skin, and as little as one billionth of a gram will cause cancer. Tritium is a major radioactive pollutant from the CANDU reactor system, so for many years environmentalists have advocated its removal from the heavy water of CANDU reactors. Tritium levels in the drinking water

of Toronto, Pickering, Whitby, and other lakeside communities have been steadily increasing because of pollution from the Pickering nuclear power plant.

However, a major problem is that Ontario Hydro is planning to build only one tritium removal facility at the site of the Darlington nuclear generating station, which will necessitate the shipment of vast amounts of tritiated heavy water from the Bruce and Pickering nuclear plants to Darlington, which is east of Oshawa. Ontario Hydro has designed a new transportation method, using twin 4900 litre shipping flasks on the back of a flatbed tractor trailer truck. There will be a minimum of one 9800 litre shipment per day to the tritium removal facility when it is operating at full capacity. Although Hydro has refu-

red to give exact shipment dates, a recent statement indicated that regular shipments would be delayed until sometime in the summer or fall — perhaps wishing not to coincide with a possible provincial election campaign.

More ominous still are Ontario Hydro's plans to export the tritium once it is removed from the CANDU's heavy water. Tritium is used in "boosted" fission weapons, which cause a secondary fusion reaction that increases the efficiency of the fission explosion. This causes a bigger blast and reduces the "yield to weight" ratio, for lighter warheads and greater flexibility in delivery vehicles. Nuclear-capable cruise missiles would not be possible without tritium-boosted warheads. Tritium is also the crucial ingredient of the multi-stage hydrogen bomb — it is in fact the "hydrogen" isotope for which the bomb is named.

Tritium exports can contribute to nuclear weapons in a number of ways. There is first the question as to whether purchasers will treat Canadian tritium as a fungible commodity to be mixed in with existing supplies, or keep it physically

separate so that we can be sure it is not used for military purposes. This is a serious concern, since Canadian uranium is treated as a fungible commodity

likely to have military spin-offs.

There is also little doubt that exports of tritium will "free up" American tritium to be used for nuclear weapons. The federal government has already approved the export of tritium, even to countries that have not signed the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. It is an ocean of things to come when Ontario Hydro (through the Canadian Fusion Fuels Technology Project) is already selling tritium technology and expertise to Oak Ridge National Laboratories and the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, both centres of nuclear weapons research and production in the U.S.

The bottom line is that Ontario Hydro is drawing Canada into the nuclear arms race through the back door. Ontario's supposedly peaceful nuclear power program is becoming increasingly integrated into the production of American nuclear weapons. Not only that, but by increasing the quantity and number of radioactive material shipments, they are posing a serious threat to the environment and public health.



when it is sold to the U.S., and there is no doubt that some of it ends up in weapons. Much of the Canadian tritium is supposedly for fusion research, but even "civilian" fusion research is

Mining:

Two companies operate at the Elliot Lake uranium mine in northern Ontario. Denison Mines and Rio Algom (a subsidiary of the British mining conglomerate Rio Tinto Zinc, the largest mining corporation in the world). Uranium is sold to Ontario Hydro on a long-term binding contract, which forces Hydro to pay over four times world prices.

Tailings (waste from the mining process) pollute the Elliot Lake area — most notably the Serpent River, where all fish have been killed by radioactivity — and the area around the disused uranium mine at Bancroft, north of Peterborough. In addition, uranium miners suffer extremely high levels of cancer, and safety measures to protect their health are very poor.

Refining:

Yellowcake from the Elliot Lake mine is refined to uranium trioxide at the nearby Blind River refinery, owned by Eldorado Nuclear Limited. Eldorado has been government-owned since 1942, when the government took over Eldorado Gold Mines to manufacture uranium for the U.S. and U.K. efforts to develop the atomic bomb.

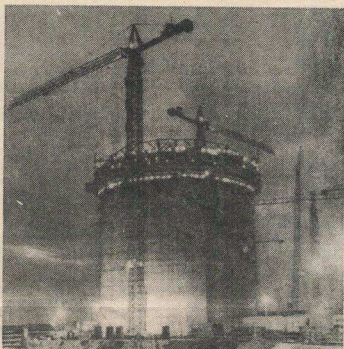
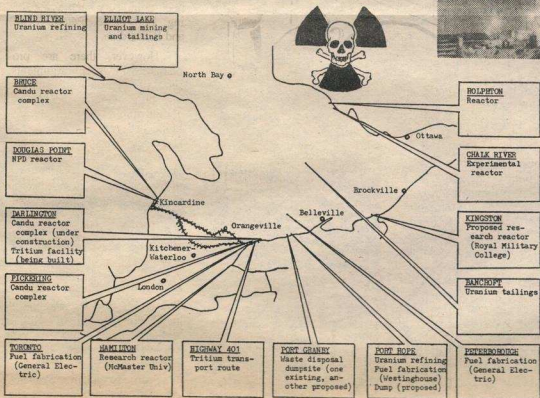
Further refining into the CANDU fuel uranium dioxide and uranium hexafluoride for export is done at Eldorado's refinery in Port Hope, a small town in eastern Ontario once known as "The Town that Radiates Friendliness" — until radiation began threatening the lives of Port Hoppers.

Fuel Fabrication:

There are two companies which compete to make fuel rods necessary for nuclear fission to take place in Ontario Hydro's CANDU reactors. Canadian General Electric casts uranium pellets at its "ceramics factory" in Toronto, then ships the pellets to its Peterborough plant for final manufacture into fuel rods.

The other company, Westinghouse, makes its fuel rods in

Ontario's Deadly Circle



ABOVE: Despite escalating costs and nuclear accidents, the construction of the world's largest nuke power plant continues at Darlington, Ontario.



ABOVE: The discovery of radioactive soil put a damper on Port Hope's initial nuclear enthusiasm.

Port Hope alongside Eldorado Nuclear Lake CGE. Westinghouse is a subsidiary of an American multinational with ties to the U.S. Department of Defense.

Fission:

Ontario Hydro has two reactor complexes, at Pickering east of Toronto and Bruce near Kincardine, and is building another at Darlington which when completed will be the world's largest. Hydro also has reactors at Douglas Point, Rolphon and Chalk River. Spent fuel from

the Chalk River experimental reactor is sent to the Savannah River plant in South Carolina, where the United States produces the material for its nuclear weapons programme. (Spent fuel from research reactors at the University of Toronto and McMaster University is also shipped to Savannah River.)

As part of their operation, Hydro's CANDU reactors produce tritium, a material needed for the upkeep of nuclear bombs. This is a unique feature of the CANDU (the initials stand for Canadian Deuterium Uranium, with deuterium — heavy water — and uranium being the fuels it uses.

Hydro is planning to separate tritium from other by-products of its reactors and export it to the United States and other countries, which will aid

any country in a nuclear build-up. To this end a tritium removal plant is being built at Darlington. Tritium will have to be transported from Bruce and Pickering to Darlington for separation. It will be transported in large vats chained to the back of a flatbed truck along Highway 401, through the most heavily populated area in Canada. According to Hydro officials transport will start late this summer.

Waste Disposal:

At all stages of the nuclear fuel cycle, radioactive by-products are produced, which remain dangerous for periods ranging from years to centuries. At present, there is no place to permanently dispose of these nu-

clear wastes in Canada. Instead, waste is kept at its place of origin in temporary disposal facilities like the "swimming pool" at Pickering or is allowed to pollute the environment as at Elliot Lake and Port Hope.

Three sites for a permanent waste site are being considered — two in Port Hope, and one in nearby Port Granby. None has been shown to be environmentally safe. The government has postponed a decision in the face of local opposition to nuclear dumping in their backyard, and with it postponed a solution to the problem of waste disposal.

The likely outcome of this procrastination is the selection of a dumpsite somewhere in northern Ontario, with even more severe environmental implications than the Port Hope and Granby dumps.

Chernobyl Day

By Simon Thekrelid

An international anti-nuclear protest is shaping up for Chernobyl Day on Sunday April 26th. In the U.S., the Greens and the New York City branch of Performing Artists for Nuclear Disarmament are among those organizing and promoting it. Chernobyl Day protests are also expected in several other countries including Canada and a number of East Bloc countries.

April 26th is the anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear reactor disaster, the worst reactor accident in history from which thousands will suffer and die for years to come. Chernobyl is a powerful symbol for all that is wrong with nuclear technology. There will be great media and public interest in Chernobyl Day and it is certain to be emotionally charged.

Some imaginative ideas have already been developed for Chernobyl Day events. One features the music of peoples who are especially victimized by nuclear technology. Examples are the Ukrainians, the indigenous peoples of the South Pacific and Canadian natives. Another initiative will involve having several minutes of silence for all the victims of nuclear age. The intensity of this gesture will be heightened by having all of the participants gather in a circle while holding photographs of some of the many involuntary victims of atomic radiation exposure.

ACT For Disarmament is organizing rallies in Hamilton and Toronto in conjunction with this historic international protest. For more information contact the ACT chapters in these cities.

Soviets Ignore Chernobyl Lessons

For most of the world, it was "the end of the nuclear dream". But those running Chernobyl and the other Soviet nuclear power stations remain unimpressed by the explosion at Chernobyl reactor #4 last April.

According to an article in *Soviet News and Views*, published by the press office of the Soviet embassy in Ottawa, the USSR will double the per-

centage of its energy needs generated by nuclear power by the year 1990. This will include completion of two new reactor units at the Chernobyl site.

Apparently operating on the principle that "lightning never strikes the same spot twice", the Soviet government has already brought back into service reactors #1 and #2 at Chernobyl, and more recently #3, which shares a

containment building with the destroyed #4 reactor.

The increased reliance on nuclear energy will help cut down the level of air pollution, said one nuclear official. Setbacks like the Chernobyl disaster, it seems, only increase Soviet infatuation with all things nuclear.

Meanwhile, here in Canada, construction at Darlington proceeds apace.

Czechoslovakia Today: A P

By Peter Parlar

The long night train ride from East Berlin was over. I arrived in Prague in the grey December dawn. I had returned to witness the latest turmoil that the 1000 year-old mystical city was experiencing.

Turmoil is not a new event in Prague, the capital of Czechoslovakia. Prague and her thousand towers have seen occupation by Germans, Austrians, Swedes and Russians over the centuries while the waters of the river Moldau flowed by.

The latest occupation occurred in August 1968 when Soviet-led Warsaw Pact troops invaded Czechoslovakia to put an end to the Dubcek government's dangerous flirtation with "communism with a human face". Since then, the hard-line regime of Gustav Husak has tried hard to keep the country in a deep freeze.

Czechoslovakia has one of the most repressive governments in Eastern Europe. This repression, combined with shell-shocked and discontented youth and a startling ecological crisis of proportions makes Czechoslovakia one of the most potentially volatile countries in Europe.

Much to the dismay of the government, the unofficial, the underground, or in the words of renowned playwright and founding member of Charter 77 Vaclav Havel, the "SECOND" culture has begun to stir.

Charter 77 is the best organized and best known Czechoslovakian unofficial opposition

group. The Charter was formed in 1977 with a petition that asked the government to honour the human rights provisions contained in the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe final document that the government had signed in Helsinki in 1975. The several hundred people that have joined the Charter by signing the petition are a diverse group of intellectuals, priests, workers and artists whose views range from Catholicism to radical democratic Marxism. Charter 77 signatories can expect to lose their jobs and spend several years in jail as a result of their activities. But to many people the cost is worth keeping the human rights issue high on the international agenda.

Charter 77 members publish an underground "samizdat" newsletter called "Information about the Charter" which brings wide circulation to the documents that the Charter submits to the government. These documents urge the government to take action on specific issues. Subjects include cases of unjustly prosecuted persons, ecological problems, the continued Soviet occupation of Czechoslovakia, the cultural repression faced by youth and the issues of peace and disarmament.

With respect to peace and disarmament issues, Charter 77 has put forth a number of documents such as the Prague Appeal (1985) which urged greater co-operation between Western peace groups and Eastern human rights groups. These documents

"It is obvious that a clear majority are profoundly critical of the government and the Soviet Union, although most are afraid to speak out publicly."



stressed that there can be no peace and disarmament unless human rights are respected.

However, not all of the Charter 77 membership is supportive of the peace movement (even a non-aligned peace movement) since they feel the threat of Soviet aggression is too great. I.D., a Charter signatory, told me "When I was in jail they forced us to watch TV as part of our political 're-education'. I had to watch these Western kids demonstrate against the Ameri-

can cruise missiles with absolutely no mention of Russian military aggression. All the while I was rotting away. I became very pessimistic about the peace movement after that."

The Western peace movement has developed a very bad reputation with many Czechs since many people think that all of the Western peace movement is pro-Soviet. This attitude is a result of the barrage of government peace propaganda which includes rhetoric about the "socialist path towards peace", peace festivals attended largely by Communist Party members and billboards that state "Work hard to develop the nation's economy; you will strengthen peace". I.S., a construction worker, pointed out that "They (the government) just want to scare you to make you work hard. They want you to think they'll take care of the nuclear threat for you".

It is obvious that a clear majority are profoundly critical of the government and the Soviet Union although most are afraid to speak out publicly. But many still aren't supportive of the non-aligned peace movement since they have not distinguished it from the Western pro-Soviet groups nor from their own government propaganda.

Young people are, by and large, very critical of the government and many also have a critical view of the West. They recognize that in the West you might have a few more consumer goodies and political liberties. But many also realize that it's the same kind of violent industrial militarist system as in the East. Young people are more interested in their personal space or their personal development through activities such as art, theatre, travel and music. As one fellow said to me, after having drunk some amount of excellent

Czech beer: "You know the nuclear missiles fuck me up, Communism and Capitalism fuck me up, but what REALLY fucks me up is that you're travelling all over Europe with no visas or anything while I can go anywhere beyond the Iron Curtain. I can go to Budapest (Hungary) for a week — if I'm lucky".

Young people have reacted in different ways to the kind of severe repression that includes two years obligatory military service. Some have turned to drug abuse (mainly prescription drugs although marijuana is grown in secret and hard drugs have found their way into the country). Some have turned to apathy and consumption of whatever Western fashions and electronics they are able to afford.

However, many young people have found a sustaining force in underground music. Gatherings of young people usually involve folk music sing-alongs. Many people play guitar and musicians keep personal music notebooks. They painstakingly copy lyrics from underground musicians such as Jaroslav Hutka, Karel Kryl and Satopluk Karasek as well as songs by Western protest folk musicians.

Recorded music circulates much better than literature in the "second culture" since it's much easier to copy a cassette than it is to copy a sheet of paper because access to photocopiers is strictly controlled. A new generation of independent-minded singers and songwriters has emerged as well. These musicians often play to small audiences in youth clubs (where there is little censorship) and popularize their music through amateur cassette recordings that are circulated underground. The importance of music in Czech youth culture is underlined by annual demonstrations held on the anniversary of John Len-

"The latest news indicates that the Czechs and Slovaks are increasingly critical of the fact that no reforms are being made in Czechoslovakia while the Soviet Union is moving in a liberal direction."



Prague's "John Lennon wall" covered with graffiti by Eastern European Lennon fans.

END Journal

Personal Account



non's death on December 8. This year several hundred "hippies" spontaneously gathered at the John Lennon Wall (a wall with commemorative graffiti) and a shrine on the Kampa Island in Prague and marched across the Charles Bridge before being dispersed by police. Last year, the march included the reading of a declaration against the stationing of nuclear missiles in both East and West Europe.

In addition, last year's jailing of seven leading members of the Jazz Section of the Musicians' Union of Czechoslovakia indicates the government's fear of the potential impact of music-

the Northwest mountain regions. The Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences estimated in 1983 that 75% of the trees are badly damaged and 25% are fatally damaged in the national parks which cover 13% of the country.

Production of sulphur dioxide (and other pollutants including radioactive isotopes and fluorine) from coal-fired electricity generating plants continues to increase at alarming rates. As a result infant mortality, respiratory and lung diseases, and work absenteeism due to illness have risen nation-wide in the last few years. Alarming increases have occurred in the

have 30% of energy supplied by nuclear sources by the year 1990. The largest plant under construction is Temelin, near Ceske Budejovice in southern Bohemia. This plant has a planned output of 4000 megawatts. In comparison Darlington, the monster project being built east of Toronto, has a planned output of 2500 megawatts. The Temelin plant will use a Soviet-built reactor similar to the Chernobyl design. Fortunately, the Czechs won't have a problem with radioactive waste storage since it will all be shipped back to the USSR for processing. The plutonium will be isolated, probably to be used in nuclear weapons.

The commitment to a nuclear future is particularly distressing in the absence of

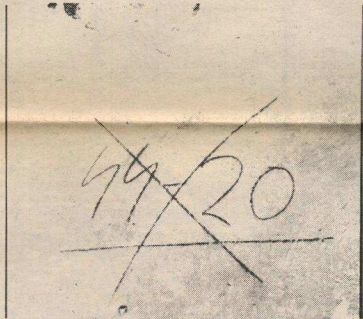
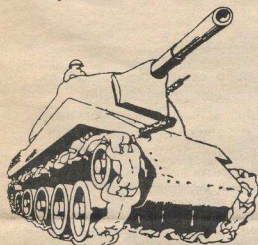
effective energy conservation measures. M.S., an energy technician said: "The plant managers don't take energy conservation seriously since every unit of energy that is saved is taken away from their operating budget in the Five Year Plan."

The question of Gorbachev's reforms was answered with some skepticism on the part of most people this past December. Last winter, two issues of Pravda were banned from Czechoslovakia by the government since they contained statements by Gorbachev that were critical of the Husak regime. The latest news indicates that Czechs and Slovaks are increasingly critical of the fact that no reforms are being made in Czechoslovakia while the Soviet Union is moving in a liberal direction. If the reforms in the USSR are sincere and successful, the Czechoslovak government can't help but loosen its own grip as well.

It is clear that it will be

impossible to extinguish the embers of dissent in Czechoslovak culture. The combined effects of an unshaken belief in human rights, the needs of youth for self-expression and the pressing concerns of ecological survival will undoubtedly be major forces in shaping Czechoslovakia's future.

It is, however, urgent that the Western peace movement give much needed support to the activists in Czechoslovakia as well as to activists throughout Eastern Europe. This can be done by putting the issue of human rights high on the peace movement's agenda, publicizing the unlawful imprisonment of individuals and groups such as the Jazz Section and, above all, communicating through letters and visits between ordinary people. This understanding between citizens "across frontiers" is the greatest hope for a world free of nuclear weapons and filled with human dignity.



Anti-nuclear graffiti protesting Soviet SS-20 missiles.

Update: Jazz Section

al culture. The Jazz Section had been a source of avant-garde records, books, art reviews and monographs over the last fifteen years. Among the Jazz Section's publications was an excellent monograph on the life and death of John Lennon.

Just about everyone, including the government agrees that Czechoslovakia faces an ecological crisis of astounding proportions. However, no one really knows what to do about it. The main problem is the acid rain that has caused the destruction of forests and watersheds. Wholesale devastation has occurred in the especially hard hit areas in

industrialized regions of Northwest Bohemia where workers now have to be paid special bonus wages to entice them to live there.

The question of what to do about the ecological crisis is still unanswered. The government has officially put the ecological question on the agenda. Media statements now pledge environmental improvement through more efficient management and "emphasis on scientific-technological development".

As a means to combat acid rain the government has embarked on an aggressive nuclear energy program which includes

Five members of the Jazz Section were found guilty on March 11, 1987 in Prague on charges of violating article 118 of the Criminal Code concerning those "who without permission carry out private production or any commercial activity for profit to a large degree".

Jazz Section chairperson Karel Šrp received a 16 month sentence while secretary Vladimír Kouril received a 10 month term. Three other members received suspended sentences while two members still await trial.

The Jazz Section has been a major force in avant-garde culture since 1971. Since it operated as a non-profit club, the charges of personal profit-

making are totally unfounded.

The Czechoslovak government merely wants to regain its absolute control over culture, particularly youth culture. Demanding the right to cultural freedom is a major part of the struggle for peace and disarmament. That's why ACT For Disarmament has been involved in protesting the jailing and harassment of the Jazz Section.

On March 10, ACT sent a telegram to Czechoslovak President Gustav Husak demanding the release of the Jazz Section members, the return of their confiscated materials and the reinstatement of the Jazz Section as a full member of the Musicians' Union of Czechoslovakia.

Pressure like this from Western peace organizations such as ACT and European Nuclear Disarmament based in London has been useful in reducing the sentences facing the Jazz Section.

Through demonstrations, publicity and letter writing campaigns, ACT will continue to put pressure on the government in Prague to free our fellow peace activists in the Jazz Section. The path to peace and disarmament requires unconditional cultural freedom East and West!

Persons interested in work in support of the Jazz Section are encouraged to contact ACT (Niagara), P. O. Box 284, Main Station, St. Catharines, Ontario, L2R 6T7.

Update: Moscow Trust Group

By Bob McGlynn

While the media (especially in the U.S.) is focusing on the release of many political prisoners in the USSR, it continues to be quiet with respect to the treatment of the Moscow-based peace and anti-nuclear power Moscow Trust Group.

In recent months the following persecutions of peace activists in the USSR have taken place:

—Trust Group member Sergei Svetushkin was sentenced to one year of forced labour in late January on a trumped up charge.

—Peace activist Mikhail Bombin of Riga was sentenced last August 2nd to two years of forced labour.

—On December 1, Trustees declared a hunger strike in support of International actions on that day for prisoners of peace. Two Trust Group members held a demonstration at Gorky Park. They were subsequently detained, then released. Seven others were placed under house arrest to prevent them from attending this action.

—On January 1, as part of an international "meditation for peace", a number of Trustees held a candlelight vigil in Pushkinsky Square. They were accompanied by an American peace activist. The KGB watched, but did not interfere. When the action broke up and the others went home, Natasha Akulenok was seized. She was released after three hours detention.

—Sergei Troyansky, a founder of the youth anti-war movement, "Independent Initiative", was arrested on October 28th after a raid on his home which netted Trust Group literature, a Western anti-war brochure and Independent Initiative's brochure protesting the Afghanistan war. He was charged under the pretext of drug possession.



Moscow Trust members planting peace garden in front of police office. Sign reads: "Flowers instead of bombs".

A day after the arrest KGB cops searched his home again and found clothes with traces of spray paint. This was the basis of his being charged with authorship of such slogans as "Stop the Shameful War in Afghanistan" and "Gorbachev—Murderer of Afghan Children". These have recently appeared on walls in Moscow.

His wife and children can be contacted by writing to:

Eugeniya Isayeva

Ul. Verkhnepervonayskaya 63
Korpus 2, Apt. 23
Moscow, USSR

Independent Initiative members Alexi Yaganov and wife Marguitta Yagonova were arrested November 5th. This was also for alleged drug possession.

Despite continuing persecution, pressure from Western

peace activists continues to force the Soviet authorities to reduce the punishments imposed on independent peace activists. Nina Kovalenko was accordingly released from a mental hospital in late December. Larissa Chukayeva was released at the same time from a labour camp. Her husband Alexander, an independent socialist, was released as part of a recent "amnesty". Kiril Popov was also released from a labour camp.

To help other activists please send protest letters to:

Mikhail Gorbachev

The Kremlin
Moscow, USSR

and/or

Soviet Embassy
285 Charlotte St.
Ottawa, Ontario

**WORKING FOR
THE FREEDOM OF
A PEACEMAKER
IS A WORK OF
PEACE!**

GRAPHIC: LINDA JAMAI

What is Vietnam Veterans Against the War?

Vietnam Veterans Against the War is a national veterans organization founded in New York City in 1967. It came into being as veterans realized that they were not alone in their opposition to the still-raging war in Vietnam. VVAW grew in leaps and bounds until we had a membership of over 30,000 in all 50 U.S. states and several thousand active-duty GIs serving in Vietnam. We had become a strong voice of reason in the early 1970s and our credibility as veterans swayed many Americans into seeing the aggressive nature of the United States in a way it could never hope to win.

Today VVAW still finds a compelling need to speak out as the danger grows that the U.S.

government will again send American troops into combat in a war in Central America or the Middle East for questionable reasons. We are committed to applying the lessons learned during the Vietnam war years to today. We think young men shouldn't blindly offer themselves as cannon fodder without knowing what is at stake. We think the military shouldn't recruit students in high schools, particularly with the promise of jobs and training, without a full debate on the real reason the military exists — to wage war and for defense. We think young men and women should be aware of the problems veterans faced (and still face) upon returning from Vietnam — joblessness,

post-traumatic stress, alienation and continuing health problems due to the spraying of chemical defoliants in Southeast Asia.

VVAW will continue to speak out against senseless wars and misguided American policies abroad. We will continue to oppose the increasing nuclear arms escalation being waged by the United States and the Soviet Union and we will continue to debate the lessons of the Vietnam war that gave us our education. That's the most patriotic thing we can do.

For further information write: Vietnam Veterans Against the War, P.O. Box 74, Van Brun Station, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11215.

February 20, 1987

I want to express my gratitude to peace and human rights groups, individual activists and organizations, ordinary people sharing the traits of compassion — for their help in gaining my release from Soviet mental hospitals.

Hunger, loneliness, bars, humiliation, beatings, anxiety for my child, torture and harassment — that's all that would have left for me as an artist, a person, a mother — if it hadn't been for your involvement.

Thank you and please remember the hundreds of other Soviets who are now still serving their terms for their convictions and many of whom for their concern with peace in the world.

Nina Kovalenko
Member of the Moscow Trust Group

Cruise Response

By Stephen Dankowich
and Kathy Pyatt

Within the peace movement in Canada, there has been no more pre-eminent issue than that of cruise missile testing. For the 4th winter in a row, the ACT for Disarmament Coalition organized protests against the testing of the air-launched cruise missile in Canada's Northwest.

All ACT chapters organized active responses to the testing of February 24th on the same day. In Ancaster, high school students wore white arm-bands. In Hamilton, 60 protested at Gore Park. Peterborough activists, boisterous as usual, gathered outside MP Bill Domm's office to voice their dissent at our pathetic Government for refusing to say NO to the fool hardy escapades of American militarism. A papier mache Mulroney was in attendance at the rally mouthing Prime Ministerial platitudes. Unable to receive permission to protest or march in the street, the crowd marched past the police station in defiance and burned government publications supporting testing.

In Kitchener-Waterloo, a dramatic occupation of MP Walter McEneaney (PC) office ended with the occupiers questions not even being recorded; meanwhile, over 80 people gathered at Markham Square in downtown Kitchener in a vigorous display of their rejection of cruise testing. In St. Catharines, an historic demonstration of over 75 people rallied in front of the city hall in protest. The seven speakers, were received openly. At the end of the rally a spontaneous march developed out of the majority of the group gathered. Meanwhile, in Hamilton, ACT staged a vigorous protest on the day of the first test at a local Tory MP's office.

Vancouver activists, organizing

for more direct action methods chose to occupy International Trade Minister Pat Carney's office to protest against our continued participation in cruise testing. After spending the whole day in her office they were hauled away by the police. The activists in question were all students of Langara College, a hotbed of political activism. Also, on February 24th and 28th noon hour demonstrations were held at Robson Square, both were well attended, with about 200 people at each. After Tuesday's demonstration, a small contingent marched to Pat Carney's office to press their demands for discontinuation of the testing but, unfortunately, the minister was "out to lunch".

In Toronto, a spirited demonstration of 80 peace activists headed scorn on Mulroney and Reagan in front of the U.S. consulate on University Ave. Students from City School organized a street theatre protest which the media flocked to chronicle.

A Reagan-masked activist held up the prop of an oversized salt shaker while some others in death masks held aloft a replica of the cruise missile. The missile went crashing into the salt-shaker (representative of the breaking of the Salt II arms limitation treaty upon the installation of the 131st cruise missile on B-52 bombers), and salt came cascading out, as many protesters fell to the ground in a die-in. The Reagan figure then scooped up generous quantities of the salt and proceeded to rub it into the wounds of the many fallen peace activists.

Protests of the once-again flying cruise continued on Saturday February 28. In Toronto, close to 200 peace activists responded to the ACT call-up for party with a march from P.C. Party Headquarters, up Yonge St. to Dundas, over to the US consulate, and then to the Peace

Garden at City Hall for a rally. At P.C. headquarters, Mulroney was given a gift of a lovely studded dog collar and a note to tell him what was thought of his relationship with Reagan. Meanwhile, at the US consulate, the marchers were frustrated in their attempts to present Ronnie a gift of a Mulroney puppet, complete with a moving chin, so that he could always have Brian close at hand. Apparently, gifts are only accepted during business-as-usual hours at the consulate.

In Kitchener-Waterloo a protest march down King St. was held on the same day, with yet another protest of over 80 people at Speakers Corner on the 1st of March. Then, when Mulroney went to Kitchener-Waterloo on the 4th of March, ACT K-W again rallied peace activists to greet the PM before and during his speaking visit to the University of Waterloo. Despite being taunted by some engineering students with "Nuke the whales!", the message that cruise testing in Canada is unacceptable was clearly conveyed to Mulroney by ACT K-W.

Saturday-after rallies also took place in Peterborough and Hamilton. The Hamilton action was done jointly with ACT chapters in Hamilton, Ancaster and St. Catharines. People from Brock University's OPIRG (Ontario Public Interest Research Group) also made the trip to Gore Park in the heart of Steel City to protest cruise testing.

The ACT Coalition also hastily convened a press conference on Monday February 23rd at the Spadina Ave. Fallout Shelter Peace Cafe. The Media came out in droves to hear Jennifer Ramsay (Toronto), Andrew Short (St. Catharines) and Michelle Duff (Kitchener-Waterloo). All 3 major dailies in Toronto, 3 TV stations, and 3 radio stations sent

reporters to hear about ACT's opposition to the militarism of both superpowers and to the cruise missile in particular.

This year's cruise testings saw ACT working to increase the pressure on the Canadian government through the assistance of our friends in the International peace movement. In response to our direct appeals to protest the cruise, the Canadian government also was made aware that others are watching and protesting its involvement in preparations for World War III. Canada House in Trafalgar Square, London, England had its phones tied up all day with protest calls from activists from Britain's END group. British Cruise-watch activists also were informed. In Bonn, West Germany, many calls were placed to the Canadian Embassy by activists in the West German Greens. And, in New York City, activists blitzed the Canadian Mission with phone calls in protest. ACT has full intentions of extending this network of international protests to the cruise in the future. We are aware that when the world is watching, it often prods the witnessed nation into changing its militaristic policies. Help us to make these links with others.

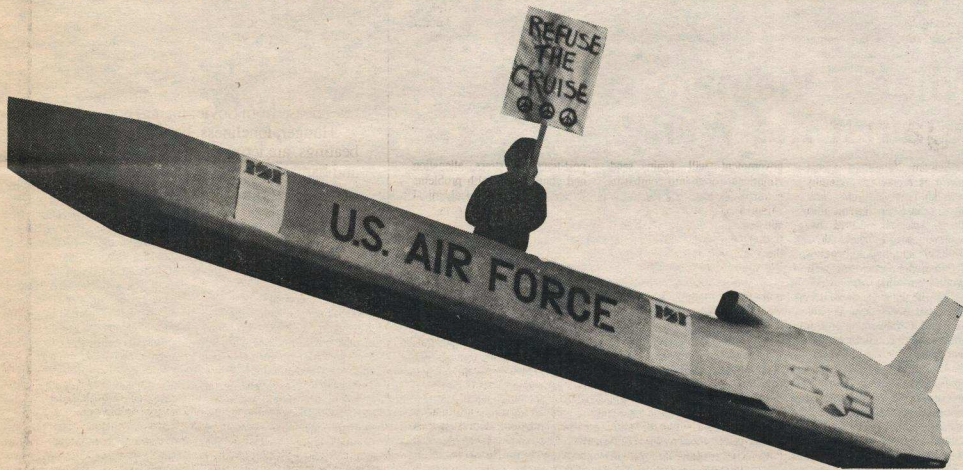
We must stop the testing of cruise missiles in Canada. The cruise missile defends no-one. The cruise is a first-strike offensive weapon, and must be considered in the context of the American governments ever-deepening commitment to "win" a nuclear war. It is a weapon designed to enhance the destructive power of a first strike by the American air force; an integral part of the America's new Airland Battle doctrine, and NATO's follow-on-forces-attack. The senselessness of developing weapons of mass destruction is apparent when one considers that

both superpowers are capable of destroying life on the planet with only a fraction of their respective arsenals. The cruise, like all of the world's 55,000 nuclear weapons, is only capable of killing people and the environment. Nuclear fallout has a nasty habit of not recognizing political or geographical boundaries.

One cruise missile contains the destructive power of ten Nagasaki's. Warhead after warhead is produced. There have been over 1,500 nuclear weapons tests. We know they work — ask the survivors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Ask the victims of nuclear testing fallout. Yet the superpowers play their deadly games — the U.S. wages war in Nicaragua, the Soviet Union in Afghanistan, with the people of the world held hostage.

War, and all these preparations for war are just not a viable method of dealing with conflict resolution in the nuclear age.

The ACT for Disarmament Coalition will continue to resist our government's complicity in the American war machine. ACT is committed to mobilizing Canadians to turn back this genocidal process that we have become entrenched in. We call for a sane, ecologically sound independent domestic and foreign policy. We urge all Canadians to press for the conversion of military installations to socially productive industries. Instead of guidance systems for cruise missiles, let Liton build guidance systems for wheelchairs. Instead of pouring billions of dollars down the drain of the nuclear industry, let us harness the forces of the sun and wind; forces that could be economically viable without being destructive. Each of us must make it clear that we want a world in which more than the current generation can survive. This about it. The issue is survival.



Nuclear Resistance 1986

by The Nuclear Resister Editors

Tally for anti-nuclear civil disobedience in the U.S. and Canada.

1986 1985 1984 1983

Total arrests:
3,200 3,300 3,010 5,300

Number of Sites:
75 120 85 60

Number of actions:
165 170 160 140

Fences hopped, blood poured, gates blocked, leaflets passed out. Great Peace Marchers crossing white lines across the country. Ghandi's and King's birthdays celebrated with civil disobedience. Activists rocked by a nuke blast in an attempt halt testing at the Nevada test site. The Chernobyl accident recharges nuclear power opponents. Remembering ThreeMile Island, a persistent graffitiist is jailed for one year. Hammers disarm two more Missouri missile silos, forging swords into plowshares.

More than 160 actions, over 3,200 arrests, at least 65 people serving sentences from a month up to 18 years in the United States and Canada. But the dry statistics are only an outline. The content of anti-nuclear civil disobedience in 1986 overflows with the living energy of thousands. Creative, diverse, filled with hope.

The practice of civil disobedience remains widespread, and the number of activists imprisoned for significant terms has not diminished. In fact, many new people are involved in this movement, while many veteran nuclear resisters have been among those arrested opposing U.S. intervention in Central America (an estimated 4,500 arrests nationwide in 1986) and for other causes.

In response to the unilateral Soviet moratorium on nuclear weapons testing, the largest, most visible resistance was at the Nevada nuclear test site. For the fifth straight year the Nevada Desert Experience, a Franciscan group, brought religious activists to pray and resist at the site on three separate occasions. Their efforts in 1986 were complemented by the American Peace Test, a national group of disabled Freeze direct action proponents that organized a series of legal demonstrations and resistance actions as part of the larger movement for the adoption of a comprehensive test ban treaty.

On at least 20 different occasions in 1986, over 640 arrests were made at the gate to the test site or in the backcountry. Dozens of backcountry activists braved the elements and risked personal injury in attempts to prevent

several weapons tests by their presence at or near "ground zero."

In the largest single action of 1986, 244 people were arrested on July 6, at the Heartland Peace Pilgrimage was joined by the Great Peace March for Global Nuclear Disarmament at the headquarters of the Strategic Air Command (SAC). Most were released with ban and bar letters following the action at Offutt Air Force Base (AFB), near Omaha, Nebraska. Both the Nevada test site and SAC were sites of anti-nuclear civil

her approach to the Plowshares action: "These weapons are made by human hands. They should be dismantled by human hands. They can make more weapons, but not in my name."

Also in the midwest, two more "Faith and Resistance" retreats were organized, one in Missouri and the other in Michigan. Both concluded with mass civil disobedience actions at Whiteman AFB in Missouri (78 arrests) and Wurtsmith AFB in Michigan (96 arrests). The Faith and Resistance model of several days of retreat concluding

sentences of three to seven months as a result of their persistent leafletting at a place local authorities assured them is not under military jurisdiction.

While religious based resistance is increasing, strides have also been made to involve more youth in direct action by the Honeywell Project in Minneapolis, by cruise missile testing opponents in Canada, and by the No Business As Usual action network, a national anti-war group currently focused on resistance to Star Wars.

Another highlight of 1986

contributed to the public pressure resulting in the Governor of Massachusetts and many local New Hampshire officials refusing to cooperate with the Seabrook emergency response plan.

Through 1987 and beyond, U.S. nuclear weapons testing will continue to be a focus for protest and resistance. Like many of their counterparts across the country, Nevada organizers are sustained by their recognition that securing a nuclear-free future demands not only public education, legislative and electoral work, and legal protest, but also principled, non-violent direct action which risks arrest and imprisonment. The Soviets stated that their unilateral moratorium on testing will end when the United States conducted its first test of the new year and this is what has happened. Thereafter, the Soviets have said they remain open to a mutual halt to testing and the signing of a comprehensive test ban if the United States will agree. Sustained resistance, coordinated with other efforts, could serve to make the test ban a significant issue in the next two years leading up to the 1988 elections.

Also worth watching in 1987 is the Coalition to Stop Trident's Campaign to Stop the D-5 Missile. The D-5 is the Trident submarine's first strike-missile, virtually unopposed in public debate and due for deployment in 1989. In Florida, resisters are confronting the D-5 test flights as they begin in January, 1987. Major civil disobedience actions are planned for the fall of 1987 and again prior to the 1988 elections.

The H-bomb truck watch, a campaign initiated by Nuke-watch of Madison, Wisconsin, has been adopted by the Mobilization For Survival. In the tradition of the nuclear train campaign and Britain's Cruise-watch network, this citizen initiative monitors and increases awareness of nuclear weapons transport through our communities. As this effort expands, civil disobedience actions opposing this traffic are expected.

Civil disobedience, divine obedience, nonviolent direct action, Nuremberg action, free speech exercises, civil resistance—whatever the particular label, the fact remains that this is a significant aspect of the movement for a nuclear-free future. And as the number of arrests, the number of people in prison, and the steadfastness of the grassroots indicates, it is too large to be ignored.

For more information write: The Nuclear Resister, P.O. Box 43383, Tucson, AZ 85733. Sample copies of the Nuclear Resister are free on request. Subscriptions are \$15/10 issues. Prisoners subs are free.



disobedience in the late 1950s.

This year's longest serving prison sentences were given to the five Silo Plowshares activists. They are now serving seven and eight year terms in federal prison for hammering and pouring blood on two different Minuteman missile silos in Missouri on Good Friday, March 28, 1986. One of the five, Jean Gump, a mother of 12 and grandmother, summed up

with a mass action has proven very effective in awakening people of religious faith to the necessity of nonviolent resistance. Plans are underway for more such retreats at other locations in 1987.

At Michigan's Wurtsmith AFB, as well as Air Force bases in California and Hawaii, first amendment rights have been under attack in federal court. Four Michigan women served

the revival of civil disobedience in opposition to the Seabrook, New Hampshire nuclear power plant. Beginning in the late spring, and continuing through the fall, over 250 arrests were made during nearly a dozen actions at the plant, now loaded with nuclear fuel and awaiting approval to begin operation. The resurgence of a resistance campaign which began over 10 years ago

ACT in Action!

Kitchener-Waterloo

By Gia Lim

Sault Ste. Marie, here comes ACT!

Yes, it's goodbye Kitchener-Waterloo, hello Sault Ste. Marie for Chris Reid and Gia Lim. Working for peace and disarmament can indeed be addictive. ACT K-W did its first action (against cruise testing) on January 21st, 1986 and the group has been growing stronger ever since, through unflinching support from the Waterloo Regional Labour Council and the cooperation of local groups and individuals.

It's been a fun and valuable experience for Chris and I in K-W. However, it's time to introduce a few activists who will help to insure the growth of the peace movement in K-W: Peter Cizek, Chairperson; Julie Bowen and Michele Duff, secretaries, and Bret Hopf, treasurer. Although Julie, Michelle and Bret have been with ACT K-W since its formation, Peter delivered his first speech as spokesperson/chairperson on February 24th, 1987 when we held a protest against the first cruise test of this year outside Tory MP, Walter McLean's office in Waterloo. This protest attracted over 60 people and on the following Saturday, February 28th, over 80 or more supporters came out at noon to protest this notorious symbol of Canada's increasing contribution to the arms race.

Indeed, cruise missile testing is not a dying issue. Instead, the Canadian government is ignoring the pleas of a visible majority by extending the cruise missile testing agreement for another 5 years. This decision will not only aid the U.S. government in breaking the SALT II arms limitation treaty, but it has violated the democratic process of this country. As Canadians, it is time we stood up for our rights. It is time for us to work for a peace-

loving and nuclear-free Canada. Come April 25th, and join ACT's annual spring peace march and rally in Toronto beginning at 1:00 p.m., Toronto City Hall. See you there!



ACT demonstrator in K-W; hard work paying off.

New ACT Chapter starts in Oakville

On Thursday, April 2nd, an organizing meeting for a new ACT Chapter in Oakville was convened. Over 65 people attended and unanimously agreed to become a part of the growing ACT Coalition. The new peace group wasted no time in planning activities for Oakville. It agreed to hold general meetings every second week on Thursdays, to convene educational peace forums, to participate in the April 25th Toronto Peace Protest, and to network in the

high-schools. Consideration was also given to the organizing of a Peace Weekend in remembrance of Hiroshima and Nagasaki on August 7 - 9. The possibility of establishing a Peace Centre in Oakville was also discussed.

Based upon the enormous enthusiasm at the founding meeting of ACT Oakville, we can look forward to exciting activities taking place in Oakville under the sponsorship of a dynamic ACT chapter.

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ACT Kitchener-Waterloo
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ACT Chapters and Contacts

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ACT contact in Cornwall
Sean Clifton
1308 Princess St.
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Hamilton

By Simon Threlkeld

This July 20th there will be three federal by-elections, one in Hamilton Mountain, one in East St. John's and one in the Yukon. Since there will be a great deal of media interest in these, each will present a good opportunity for peace activists to raise the level of public debate concerning disarmament issues.

The NDP candidate for Hamilton Mountain is Marion Dewar, the former Mayor of Ottawa, and the President of the Federal NDP. She attended ACT Hamilton's February 24th protest against the cruise tests and seems to have excellent views on peace issues. Ms. Dewar was also an important supporter of ACT's appeal for imprisoned Soviet peace activist, Dr. Brodsky of the Moscow Trust Group.

Candidate Peace Questionnaire

In the last Federal Election ACT Toronto produced a peace questionnaire/survey to which all the Metro Toronto candidates were asked to respond. This

campaign was very successful and received a lot of media .

Based on this experience, ACT Hamilton is organizing a peace survey for the Hamilton Mountain by-election. The candidates will be asked to answer the questions and their answers will be made known to the media and the public. We will also be encouraging peace groups in the Yukon and East St. John's to run a similar campaign in their areas. They will be free to use any or all of the ACT Hamilton survey as they wish.

For the next Federal Election ACT will make available a package on candidate peace survey campaigns. This will be done in order to assist any interested groups in successfully running a similar campaign in their area.

All-Candidates Peace-Issues Night

In addition, ACT Hamilton is sponsoring an all-candidates night on peace issues to be held on Hamilton Mountain in mid-May. For further information contact ACT Hamilton by telephoning 522-1936.

Guelph to be Nuke-Free Zone?

In the wake of the November 13th vote declaring Ontario a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone (NWFZ), Guelph Citizens for Peace are campaigning to have their city actually become nuclear weapons free. An amendment is being sought to the new Official Plan which would prohibit the "design, testing, manufacturing, deployment, maintenance, storage or disposal of nuclear weapons and/or the components of nuclear weapons" within the city. On January 12th, 1987 City Council voted 8-3 against including such a clause in the Plan but the issue is far from dead as Guelph's peace activists have vowed to intensify and continue their campaign until the new Plan is adopted by Council, said spokesperson Joan Rentoul. The draft Plan will

now be debated at two public meetings before returning to Council for final approval.

The campaign has support from Guelph's Labour Council, student groups, and local churches. Vancouver Mayor Michael Harcourt also urged Guelph City Council to adopt the clause.

While city solicitor Jim Runions said passing such legislation would, in his opinion, be "encroaching on federal jurisdiction", Alderperson Carl Hamilton, himself a lawyer, noted that a municipality has the power to prohibit noxious and offensive industries, which could include weapons manufacturers.

For more information or tips on tactics for your own campaign, contact Guelph Citizens for Peace, c/o Hugh Whiteley, 226 Exhibition St., Guelph, Ontario, N1H 4R5, 824-9345.

JUNE 12 - 14, 1987

ACT ANNUAL CONFERENCE

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1987 END Convention

From July 15-19, the sixth Convention for European Nuclear Disarmament will be held in the symbolic setting of Coventry, bringing peace movements from around the world together in the heart of England.

Despite its name (the "European" part has been outgrown over the last few years) the Convention will reflect the concerns of, and the alternative solutions offered by, anti-nuclear movements from the Pacific to Scandinavia. In a year which will probably see a general election in Britain, the presence of peace activists, political party representatives and trade unionists from around the world, all unified in our demanding for an end to the arms race, will help put our concerns at the centre of the political agenda.

And the debates and discussions on alternative strategies, involving activists, experts and politicians, will help to place a British non-nuclear policy in the international context in which it belongs. The implementation of a non-nuclear policy in Britain

demands the development of a parallel foreign policy; the Convention will provide an opportunity to discuss this issue, and many others, and to present the results in a coherent form to the press and public.



Speakers at last year's END Conference

For five days, these debates, discussions, informal meetings and spontaneous workshops will

take place in the historic atmosphere of Coventry, in the shadow of the Cathedral. There will be cultural events too, and facilities for the disabled, and interpretation and translation into several languages.

The role of women in the peace movement will be fully reflected in the programme, rather than being treated as a "special interest" section. Accommodation will be in the Lancaster Polytechnic, across the road from the Cathedral, and in 500 homes around the area. Both the Cathedral and the local nuclear-free zone council will be extending a welcome to the participants, along with local peace movements and community groups.

An information packet in English or French is available from Fiona Weir or Martin Bucher, c/o END, 11 Godwin St., London N4 3HQ, England, Tel. (1) 272 9092. More limited information is available from ACT (Niagara), P.O. Box 284, Main Station, St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 6T7.

The ACTivist

SPRING 1987
Vol. 3 Issue 2
Second Class Mail
Registration # 6769

The ACTivist is published 4 times per year in Toronto by the ACTivist Collective, plus 1 special edition.

The ACTivist is the newspaper of the ACT for Disarmament Coalition. Its 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.

All articles will be re-printed without permission.

Subscriptions are offered to The ACTivist in yearly instalments. We welcome subscriptions for 1 or 2 years. A regular subscription is only \$10.00 per instalment. The rate for institutions and funded agencies is \$25.00 for each year. Supporting subscriptions for individuals are \$25.00 per year. Larger donations are greatly appreciated.

For foreign subscriptions, please add cost of postage.

The editorial and production collective for this issue are the members of ACT Niagara and ACT Toronto. Special thanks to Blackbird Graphics of Toronto.

The ACTivist

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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 Canada. It has since continued to focus on this issue as well as broadening out as Canada's involvement in U.S. 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 the nation-wide 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 networks of high school students and the Fallout Shelter Collective which has involved more than 100 performing artists. There are ACT chapters in several centres across Ontario and we anticipate having an active presence in other parts of Canada very soon.

History of Action

- 1983
- Feb. 12th — ACT networks demonstrators across Canada and mobilizes 4,000 Torontonians 45 hours after the umbrella weapons testing agreement is announced in parliament.
 - April 23rd — ACT organizes the 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 a march of 6,000 up Yonge St. in Toronto.
 - Aug. 6th — Hiroshima Day commemoration and protest.
 - Oct. 22nd — ACT co-organizes a demonstration on the International Day of Protest which again brings out 25,000 Torontonians.
 - Dec. 3rd — ACT sets the Santa Claus parade back on Yonge St. with a 1,500 person Christmas March for Peace.
 - Dec. 16th — ACT initiates a small but significant Queen's Park protest as part of the successful international campaign to free independent Soviet peace activist Olga Meovdokova.
- 1984
- March 10th — Demonstration in response to the first cruise test is networked nationally. ACT had finally won the right to march up Yonge St. with a permit.
 - April 28th — ACT's second annual Spring Protest attracts over 10,000 participants in Toronto and is once again promoted across Canada by ACT.
 - August 6th — ACT's second downtown Hiroshima Day March of 1,000 is led by federal candidates who responded to ACT's challenge to demonstrate that they really are prepared to act for peace.
- 1985
- Jan. 15th — First cruise test: 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 annual Spring Protest attracts nearly 20,000 people at which they present pictures of their children to PC Party headquarters resulting in international press coverage.
 - April 27th — Third Annual Protest for peace draws over 4,000.
 - Aug. 6th-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 the first cruise test of 1986 at PC Party Headquarters, then march up Yonge St.
 - Jan.-Feb. — ACT Niagara and ACT Kitchener-Waterloo hold protests against cruise tests in conjunction with ACT Toronto.
 - April 26th — 4,000 join ACT Toronto's 4th Annual Spring Protest for Peace. An unusually large number of participants were demonstrating for the first time.
 - May 11th — ACT K-W Mother's Day March attracts 300 people. This is the largest demonstration for peace ever held in Kitchener-Waterloo, showing the tremendous growth in the peace movement in K-W since ACT started there.
 - Aug. 6th-9th — ACT chapters in Toronto, Kitchener-Waterloo, Peterborough and Niagara hold actions on the anniversaries of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings. These involve up to several hundred persons in each community.
 - Oct. 13th-19th — ACT organizes the historic East-West Festival in Toronto and other locations in Ontario bringing together independent peace, ecology, labour and women's movement activists from both sides in the Cold War. Nearly 300 people take part.
 - Nov. 26th — ACT chapters in Toronto, Kitchener-Waterloo and Peterborough join the nationally networked BOOM Project to support the Innu struggle against NATO's low-level flight testing in Labrador.
 - Dec. 4th — ACT Toronto holds a public meeting with Dr. David Suzuki. Nearly 450 attend.
- 1987
- April 25th - Fifth Annual Spring Protest for Peace to be held in Toronto.