

# Network

The newsletter of campaigns and activities of the Toronto Disarmament Network

## EDITORIAL

40th anniversary of Hiroshima/Nagasaki A-Bombing

### The Horrors of Nuclear War Remembered

Those active in the work to prevent nuclear war are often confronted with those who maintain it could never happen, that either by fate or design nuclear war is not possible. What many people (including peace activists) sometimes forget is that nuclear war has already happened.

40 years ago this month the first nuclear war began and ended over a period of 3 days in August. It left in its wake hundreds of thousands dead and hundreds of thousands more condemned to a life of suffering. Recently, a group of Hiroshima survivors — Hibakusha

— travelled to the United States, and requested a meeting with President Reagan. En route to Washington, two members of the group addressed a disarmament meeting in Cleveland. They spoke of their personal experience with nuclear war.

Mrs. Pakiko Yamaguchi described the hysterical search for her husband and rolled up her sleeve to show a wound received moving rubble. Weeping, as she spoke, she told of the death of her family and of human flesh literally rolling off victims' arms.

Mr. Shoji Sawada in a soft voice recounted the moans and screams of the injured, the chaos, the desperate attempt to reach potable water.

Too often we think of nuclear war in abstraction. We are told that a certain bomb will kill a certain number of people. Even in the peace movement we can forget that that six digit figure represents laughing, breathing, walking lives.

Nuclear war has real victims and nuclear war can happen — this is the message of the Hiroshima-Nagasaki days. We remember August 6 and 9 to overcome the numbing of a society which allows nuclear holocaust to be considered dispassionately.

This year many commemorative events are planned, each with its own way of remembering and each with its own method and reasoning for calling people to action. Hiroshima-Nagasaki Relived seeks to remind people directly of the events of 40 years ago. The Cruise Missile Conversion Project demonstrates its conviction with civil disobedience. The Per-

### City to wake up to shadows of holocaust

Hiroshima and Nagasaki commemorations this year will begin in a particularly dramatic fashion through the night of August 5/6 with hundreds of Toronto peace activists participating in the International Shadow Project.

When the first nuclear devices were exploded over Hiroshima and Nagasaki, one of the many horrifying effects was the creation of 'shadows'. These shadows were the result of the vaporization of human beings and were permanently etched into the walls and pavements of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. These shadows were all that was left of thousands of innocent people.

This year Performing Artists for Nuclear Disarmament (PAND) is organizing the Shadow Project for the fortieth anniversary commemoration. Its purpose is to replicate the shadows of Hiroshima here in Toronto. On the night of August 5-6 hundreds of people will hit the streets with vinyl cut-outs of their own shadows, buckets of washable liquid chalk, and the desire to alert the public to the dangers inherent in the nuclear arms race. Working through the night, they will place thousands of shadows in conspicuous public areas. The city will wake to find these images in the streets as a startling reminder of the horrors of nuclear war. In previous years the Shadow Project proved very effective in New York and Portland.

This year the project is taking on international dimensions and is being organized by the Friends of the Earth and PAND chapters around the world. PAND Toronto is organizing the events in Canada ensuring there will be shadows in the streets of communities nationwide.

There will be an organizing meeting and training session for the Shadow Project held at the



Bathurst Street Theatre, 736 Bathurst Street on Monday, July 29 at 7:30 p.m. A last minute training session will also be held on the night of August 5 at 8:30 p.m. For further information about the Shadow Project call the PAND Shadow Hotline at 533-3859.

— Brian Eng

### Cruise project remembers by disobeying 'legal insanity' at Litton

Every year since Litton was awarded the contract for the guidance system of the U.S. Cruise missile, the Cruise Missile Conversion Project has organized a gathering at Litton to commemorate the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings.

This year CMCP is one of 40 groups in North America planning non-violent resistance at a military facility on August 6. Well known U.S. peace activist Shelley Douglas has described this form of resistance: "Going to jail, doing civil disobedience, isn't all that special or threatening. It's just something that has to be done in a world where insanity is legal. Civil disobedience is a fact of life. I hope we can learn to accept it gracefully."

This will be the fifth year that members of the peace movement have gone to Litton to say—with their bodies—no more.

People who have not prepared for civil disobedience are strongly encouraged to attend a preparation session. These sessions provide an opportunity to discuss civil disobedience, non-violence, resistance, and to get logistical and legal information. Please contact CMCP at 532-6720 for preparation session times and other information.

— Paula Rochman

## Member File

### Hiroshima survivor promotes disarmament

The commemoration of Hiroshima and Nagasaki will end with a noon hour event organized by Hiroshima-Nagasaki Relived (HNR). Founded in 1974, HNR has achieved one of its goals which was to make sure these important days do not go unnoticed. From the only group working on August 6 and 9 events in 1975, HNR is now one of seven organizations sponsoring commemorative actions for this year.

The fact that August 6 and 9 have become a major rallying point for the Toronto peace movement can be in part attributed to the efforts of HNR's founder Setsuko Thurlow, herself a survivor of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima.

Mrs. Thurlow has become a widely known disarmament spokesperson, often speaking to groups and conferences around the world on the importance of



Setsuko Thurlow

disarmament action. Hiroshima-Nagasaki relived See **Survivor**, page 2

## COMMEMORATIVE EVENTS FOR AUGUST 6 & 9

- **PERFORMING ARTISTS FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT—SHADOW PROJECT**  
Monday August 5—Tuesday August 6... Paint your shadow midnight till dawn in this international project designed to remind of the horrors of nuclear war.  
Preparation Sessions— Monday July 29, 7:30 p.m. 736 Bathurst Street, Monday August 5, 8:30 p.m. 736 Bathurst Street  
For further information Contact 533-3859, 977-9648
- **CRUISE MISSILE CONVERSION PROJECT—PROTEST AT LITTON**  
Thursday August 6... 7:15 a.m.—Gather at Litton. Buses to Litton— 6:30 a.m. Buses leave Bathurst Street United Church 736 Bathurst Street. Please phone CMCP to book space.  
Preparation Sessions for Civil Disobedience— 1) Wednesday July 31 and Thursday August 1, 7:30 p.m. 2) Saturday August 3 and Sunday August 4 10:00 a.m.
- **ACT FOR DISARMAMENT—MARCH AND VIGIL**  
August 6 & 9 p.m.— Candle light march starting at Yonge and Bloor followed by a continuous vigil at City Hall until Friday August 9 at 11:30 a.m. For further information contact: 960-2228
- **HIROSHIMA-NAGASAKI RELIVED**  
Friday August 9, 12 Noon... City Hall Commemoration with speakers including Father George Zabeika, Mayor Art Eggleton and poet Joy Kogawa. For further information contact 344-7955
- **PARTISAN GALLERY—STOP STAR WARS PEACE SHOW**  
Saturday August 10—10 p.m.—Gallery show at 1140 Queen Street West, to commemorate Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Artists interested in submitting visual work, poetry or music should contact Charlotte or Brian at 463-4813.
- **GALLERY 44—THE WAR ROOM**  
Thursday August 8—August 31... Gallery 44 presents the "War Room" a photographic documentation of the effects of nuclear war. 109 Niagara Suite 202.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON ANY OF THE ABOVE EVENTS PLEASE CONTACT THE TORONTO DISARMAMENT NETWORK 535-8005

### Campaign confronts Star Wars Salesman

The threat of Star Wars has injected new energy into the peace movement, as witnessed in a spirited TDN demonstration on June 12, protesting the visit of General Daniel Graham. Graham, the director of the 'High Frontiers Star Wars' project, was speaking to an audience of 200 at the Royal York Hotel, while 150 demonstrators picketed outside the hotel with banners proclaiming 'Enough is Enough' and 'Stop Star Wars'. Some members of the TDN attended the busi-

ness luncheon inside and confronted Graham with questions about the reliability of Star Wars. It was noted that Graham's eight minute film was interrupted twice with technical problems.

The Royal York demonstration was the first event organized on the theme 'No Contracts, No Government Subsidies'. The TDN is concerned that the government may make no public statement on Star Wars, but may quietly aid Canada.

See **Star Wars**, page 2

## TDN BRIEFS

### Plans for October demo underway

Planning is underway for TDN's annual disarmament week peace rally. The October 26 demonstration will be the largest TDN event of the year and will be held in conjunction with similar events in other Canadian cities and with peace movements in other countries.

The demonstration will also mark the beginning of the United Nations-declared International Year of Peace. Overall plans are being laid and subcommittees will be struck. All planning meetings for this major event are open to new participants with the next meeting to be held in the TDN office on Thursday August 15 at 7:30 p.m.

### Council ponders legal NWFZ for East York

Since the end of April, the East York Peace Committee has been gathering support for the idea of making East York a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone (NWFZ). The group has collected over 60 letters requesting that the borough council include such a provision in its new official plan. If the provision is adopted, a by-law can be passed banning the manufacture and storage of these weapons in the borough. While other municipalities have been

declared Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones, East York is the first in Ontario to consider incorporating this declaration into its legally binding official plan.

At a July 8th meeting East York council agreed to draft the wording for the NWFZ by-law, but no final decision will be made until late August or September.

While activists are apprehensive, East York's earlier support for disarmament is cause for some optimism. In June of this year Council gave unanimous support to a resolution urging the federal government not to participate in Star Wars research. This resolution — and an earlier adopted proposal calling for a nuclear freeze — was spearheaded by the East York Peace Committee.

—Gideon Forman

### TDN members attend international conferences

Members of the TDN Co-ordinating Committee attended several international peace conferences in June.

David Kraft attended two European meetings. The first was a preparatory session for a world peace conference to be held next year. The other was the fourth annual European Nuclear Disarmament Convention in Amsterdam. The focus of

this conference—attended by over 1000 peace activists from around the world—was on new strategies for the peace movement after the deployment of Cruise and Pershing missiles in four out of five deployment countries. The conference also dealt with North-South and East-West issues.

Bob Penner attended the first international peace conference held in China in over 20 years. Resulting from a changing Chinese foreign policy, the conference was attended by about 80 Chinese officials and peace activists from around the world. The conference was on the broad topic of safeguarding world peace.

Wendy Wright and other women from the TDN attended an international Women's Peace Conference in Halifax (see report below).

Full reports from all these conferences are available from the TDN.

### Women's conference discusses negotiating alternatives

Three representatives of the TDN's Women's Committee attended an international women's conference in Halifax, in June that brought together women from across Canada and around the world. Entitled "Women's Alternatives for Negotiating Peace" the 4 day conference dealt with a variety of issues concerning disarmament, development and women's issues. Attending from the TDN were Vera de Jong, Darlene Fichter and Wendy Wright. Women from several TDN groups were also in attendance.

Procedures at the conference attempted to reflect women's concepts of decision making. Consensus decision making and a non-hierarchical structure were used to produce a ten point final statement on issues ranging from developing a world-wide women's peace network, to support for a comprehensive test ban as a step towards disarmament and for Nicaragua "as a symbol of hope that must be allowed to live."

Other discussion at the conference focused on the different, but mutually supportive, work that is being carried on by women whose primary focus is nuclear disarmament and by those whose struggle is against war currently being waged in their own countries.

A Toronto follow up to the conference is being planned for early October.

—Wendy Wright

### Commemoration conf'd forming Artists for Nuclear Disarmament will attempt to bring the grim reality of nuclear war to everyday people in Toronto with the Shadow Project. ACT for Disarmament focuses on high visibility public protest with an evening march and vigil in downtown Toronto.

Rather than stage a specifically TDN-sponsored event, the Network is supporting the events already planned. While the many groups and individuals in the peace movement may disagree on specifics and strategy we all share the horror of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and all feel the need for action.

### Star Wars cont'd



### TDN picket of Star Wars booster Daniel Graham

dian firms seeking contracts.

The letter writing stage of the campaign is also proving successful. Richard Gwynn of the Toronto Star wrote on June 2 that only six Canadians had written to the government in support of participation in Star Wars research, while 5000 had written declaring opposition to the programme. Gwynn said that both the volume of mail and the percentage of those opposed were

extremely high, and credits public pressure for the government's hesitancy on the issue.

Thousands of TDN Star Wars letters have been distributed by member groups and the card has been translated into Portuguese and Greek, with Italian and Chinese soon to come.

A lobby bureau has been started, keeping track of Toronto area M.P.s on the Star Wars question. Seven M.P.s have been lobbied by TDN member groups, with more scheduled.

The TDN has been asked to make a submission to a special parliamentary committee on Star Wars in late July. The Special Joint Committee on Canada's International Relations was set up due to public and opposition party pressure. The committee was mandated to make an interim report on Star Wars and free trade by August 23.

Earlier in the summer the TDN participated in a federal Liberal party task force made up of M.P.s and party officials. It travelled to seven cities seeking broad support for a national policy of nuclear disarmament. A four page brief outlined the TDN's opposition to Star Wars and concern about a recent increase in the Canadian defence budget.

—Helen Armstrong

## City council overturns TDN Grant

By vote of 11-7 City Council overturned a Neighbourhoods committee recommendation that the Toronto Disarmament Network receive a grant of \$5000.

The grant was opposed on the grounds that an agreement was made two years ago that only one disarmament organization should receive Council funding. This criteria does not apply to other types of groups who receive city grants.

Those supporting the TDN grant were Aldermen Gilbert, Layton, Campbell, Thomas, Pantalone, Martin and Kanter. Both Kanter and Pantalone had opposed the TDN grant in the earlier stages of application but reversed their vote after lobbying efforts by the TDN.

Opposing the TDN grant were Mayor Eggleton and Aldermen Beavis, Rowlands, Brychuk, Walker, Clifford, Piccininni, Grys, Shea, Korwin-Kuczynski and Jakobek.

Present for the rest of the Council meeting but absent for the TDN debate were Aldermen Hope, Gee, O'Donahue and Johnson. Both Hope and O'Donahue had promised to support

the TDN application.

Mayor Eggleton said he opposed the grant "reluctantly". He cited the past agreement on grants to peace groups while stating "The purposes the Toronto Disarmament Network wants to put these funds are purposes I totally support. Their opposition to the Star Wars program is to be commended."

During the upcoming municipal election the TDN will be raising the issue of Council's lack of concrete support for the peace movement. Despite many positive resolutions by Council less than 1% of its grants go to the peace movement in a city where hundreds of thousands of Toronto residents supported the disarmament referendum in the last election by a margin of four to one.

—Robert Penner

### GET INVOLVED!

The peace movement needs your involvement. Join the hundreds of volunteers that keep the TDN growing. People are needed to help with office work, street distribution, events and the committees that plan our events. Regular volunteer nights are every Wednesday evening. Please contact the TDN at 535-8005 for more information.

The Network is published 6 times a year by the Toronto Disarmament Network, 736 Bathurst St. M5S 2R4, (416) 535-8005. The TDN is a non-profit, not partisan coalition of 77 groups supporting nuclear disarmament. Group membership is \$50 and is open to all objectives. Associate (non voting) membership is open to groups for \$25 per year. Individuals are represented through TDN standing committees which vote as groups at TDN general meetings.

The Network is produced by the TDN Network committee: Gideon Forman, Gideon Forman, Robert Penner, Len Seeds (layout and design). Additional help on this issue from Helen Armstrong, Brian Eng, Pat Evans, Vera De Jong, Darlene Fichter, Mark McGuire, Paula Rochman, Steve Whitburn and Wendy Wright. Layout by volunteers. Printed in a union shop.

### Survivor, cont'd

actually began as a circle of Mrs. Thurlow's friends and acquaintances, whom she called upon in 1975 to help organize a photographic exhibit for the thirtieth anniversary of Hiroshima. The exhibit was named "Hiroshima-Nagasaki Relived" and the name stayed with the group after the show had ended. The group now focuses on the annual commemoration and public speaking requests.

This year HNR is planning an event at 12 noon on Nagasaki day (August 9). Featured speaker at the City Hall event will be Father George Zabelka, the now retired United States Air Force chaplain who blessed the A-bomb pilots before they left. Father Zabelka now speaks against nuclear war. Also scheduled to appear are Toronto Mayor Art Eggleton, and author

Joy Kogawa. Ms. Kogawa will read a poem written by a survivor of Hiroshima addressed to the people of Toronto.

HNR is also co-sponsoring an essay writing contest with the Toronto Board of Education on the theme "The Meaning of Hiroshima and Nagasaki". Two winners will receive an all expenses paid trip to Japan next summer to meet with various Japanese groups to discuss disarmament issues.

Mrs. Thurlow emphasizes that, despite its name, the group's interest does not lie exclusively in the past. The horror of what happened in Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945 is a warning for us now, and Setsuko Thurlow is hopeful that that 'lonely time' before 1975, when August 6th passed largely unnoticed, will not be allowed to return.

—Chelsea Donaldson

## Support the peace movement

The Network is published six times a year with reports and information on peace movement activities. Free subscriptions are offered to Toronto Disarmament Network Supporting Members\* (Contributors of at least \$15 a year. \$10 for low income).

Your contribution helps the TDN produce literature and organize peace movement activities and campaigns throughout the year.

Enclosed is my contribution of:

\$15  \$25  \$50  \$100 (sustaining members\*) Other \_\_\_\_\_

Charge my Mastercard  Visa  Account No. \_\_\_\_\_

Valid from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to volunteer

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Toronto Disarmament Network, 736 Bathurst St. Toronto M5S 2R4 535-8005

\*As a coalition TDN decisions are made by member groups and standing committees. Individuals are represented through the TDN group or standing committee on which they are active. "Supporting" and "Sustaining Members" refers to the important role contributors play in keeping the TDN active.

