

The newsletter of campaigns and activities of the Toronto Disarmament Network

250 groups found Canadian Peace Alliance

Close to 300 delegates and 100 observers from peace groups across Canada agreed unanimously to found the Canadian Peace Alliance at a convention held in Toronto November 8-11.

250 Peace groups from every province in Canada and the North West Territories were represented at the convention which adopted a seven point basis of unity as part of a four page structure document outlining the procedures for the new alliance.

The delegates agreed on a wide range of goals including the mobilizing of the Canadian public to pressure their government to take concrete action for disarmament, the declaration of Canada as Nuclear Weapons-Free Zone, support for economic conversion, the recognition of the special responsibility of both superpowers to end the arms race, the strengthening of world institutions for the peaceful resolution of conflict, and the redirection of wasteful military

spending to the funding of human needs.

Toronto area attendance was limited to keep decision-making as regionally based as possible but 28 delegates representing the TDN, member groups and other Toronto peace organizations attended the four day meeting. More than 200 TDN volunteers helped make the event run smoothly.

The convention also unanimously agreed to a proposal to form the Peace Alliance steering

committee from members of the same 30 organizations (including the TDN) who had formed the planning committee that led to the convention.

The steering committee met briefly after the convention to form sub-committees that will

bring proposals on hiring, office location and budgets to the next steering committee meeting which will be held at the end of February in Calgary.

The Peace Alliance will facilitate campaigns rather than organize them itself. In this way the CPA will not become a "super group" or single voice for Canada's diverse peace movement, but rather help the many voices work together more effectively.

—Robert Penner



Thousands walk for peace



"End the Arms Race- Feed the World" was the theme of this year's October 26 demonstration to mark Disarmament Week. This year's rally focussed on the link between escalated military spending and increased world hunger. A second theme called for no Star Wars contracts to private Canadian corporations.

Seven to ten thousand supporters marched along a route that wound its way through Toronto's main streets as they headed for a rally at the Parliament Buildings in Queen's Park.

The march culminated in an afternoon of speeches, music and comic entertainment. Music was provided by Cee Dees and Matrix of TDN Youth. Noted Toronto journalist June Callwood hosted the event, and speakers included Wendy Wright of TDN, Lennox Farrell, speaking on behalf of both the Anti-Apartheid and Anti-Intervention coalitions, and Owen Wilkes from New Zealand.



Photos by Alex Jones and Karen Hinds.

NORAD: the Star Wars link?

The TDN is currently laying plans to launch an educational campaign to ensure that the Canada-U.S. North American Aerospace Defence (NORAD) agreement is not used to drag Canada into Star Wars. The five year bilateral agreement expires in March 1986, and there is currently a Parliamentary Committee conducting a review that will report in February.

On November 21, the TDN presented a brief to the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence which outlined how current NORAD activities would be linked to any strategic defence. Over the 28 years since the original agreement was signed in 1957, NORAD's role has evolved to include space surveillance and to provide warning of missile defence, responsibilities potentially important to any plan for Star Wars. Evidence of this was discovered earlier this year when it was learned that a key phrase was secretly removed during the last NORAD review. The phrase "Canadian participation in the activities of NORAD's aerospace warning system does not involve any commitment by the Canadian government to take part in an active ballistic missile defence arrangement" was removed, opening the door to Star

Wars participation.

NORAD's space surveillance role includes monitoring satellite orbits in preparation for their detection by the new U.S. anti-satellite (ASAT) missile that is carried by F-15 fighters. The North Warning System agreement signed at the Quebec City Summit in March has given the U.S. permission to operate the same F-15 fighters and air borne radar planes (AWACs) from Canadian bases. Some of these F-15's will be equipped to carry the anti-satellite weapons. The TDN is currently researching to what extent Canada will be involved in the anti-satellite program. The anti-satellite weapon is considered an important aspect of a strategic defence, as it would block Soviet communication and disrupt missile guidance systems.

NORAD's current ballistic missile warning system has allowed its computer to quickly analyse data from warning satellites and radar around North America. These computers would be used to send information on any anti-missile weapons that are part of Star Wars.

The more traditional air defence role will be tied in to Star Wars as well, as it is the main defence against low-flying cruise

missiles. There would be little point defending against high-flying missiles if no attempt was made against cruise missiles and bombers.

Last July it was reported that the U.S. Army had let a contract for the "Braduskil" project. It is intended to intercept high-flying intercontinental missiles over northern Canada, and would probably be based in Canada, according to project sources.

None of these projects will be cheap. Canada is still paying off the \$5 billion for its jet interceptors and is committed to well over \$1 billion more for the North Warning System. In the meantime, Star Wars is the major stumbling block preventing arms reduction between the superpowers.

Proposals for the TDN campaign on the issue have included a public forum on NORAD and Star Wars, information sheets and a suggestion for a demonstration at the NORAD Regional Operation Command Centre (ROCC) in North Bay.

Watch the Networker for campaign updates.

—Steve Shallhorn

Phone calls for peace

TDN volunteers will be involved in a phone appeal fundraising campaign over the next several weeks. They will be phoning past donors and asking them to again become active in supporting the TDN.

The TDN is raising money in December to help balance our books for 1985 and to build a fund to help support the proposed campaign to publicize the connections between Star Wars and NORAD.

Please contribute if you can when called by a TDN volunteer, or better still why not phone us with your pledge! The TDN thanks all contributors for your consistent support of TDN activities during 1985 and the important role you have played in making peace a major issue in Canada.

Peace Trees

Celebrate the holiday season with a genuine "Peace Tree" from the Toronto Disarmament Network's selection of over 1,000 Scotch Pine, Spruce and Balsam trees. The second annual Peace Tree sale runs from December 6 to December 24 from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the Bathurst Street United Church, 736 Bathurst St., just south of Bloor, below Honest Ed's.

The sale last year was a great success, contributing over \$5,000 to the TDN. This year it is hoped that even more funds can be raised to support the work of the TDN.

You can do three things to

help make this year's sale a success: The first is to buy a tree. The second is to publicize the sale of the trees by calling friends and including a notice in any newsletter or bulletin you can think of. The third way is to volunteer to help us sell the trees! Most volunteers found "working the lot" an enjoyable way to make a Christmas contribution to the peace movement.

Gold-plated peace dove pins, Christmas cards and sweatshirts will also be available. The TDN will also be selling hand-made Christmas wreaths and decorations.

Come out and join the fun!

1985 shows peace movement growth

1985 was a particularly active and important year for the Toronto Disarmament Network. Large and small events throughout the year culminated in the Government's rejection of Star Wars, the founding of the Canadian Peace Alliance and the building of a stronger and larger peace movement.

At the TDN Annual General Meeting held in January, a comprehensive plan for the year was adopted. The plan called for direct pressure on the government's defence and foreign review coupled with a highly visible recruitment and lobbying program.

In early spring, the TDN was given an opportunity to implement these ideas in launching the Stop Star Wars campaign. As part of the ongoing TDN education and outreach program, the Stop Star Wars campaign enabled the TDN (in cooperation with peace groups throughout Canada) to claim one of its most substantial victories in recent years. The ambitious campaign was effective in persuading Prime Minister Mulroney to formally reject the invitation to participate in Star Wars. The cumulative effect of the phone and letter-writing blitz and lobbying of MPs served to wear down Conservative support for the plan. A demonstration held to oppose visiting General Daniel Graham's Star Wars project on June 12 and a submission by the TDN to the Star Wars Parliamentary Com-

mittee hearings held in Toronto were part of a campaign that influenced the government's position on the issue.

During the month prior to the handing down of the Star Wars decision, the fortieth anniversary of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki were commemorated. The TDN participated in the International Shadow Project sponsored by the Performing Artists for Nuclear Disarmament. Startling images of human shadows painted on the city streets and sidewalks served as a sombre reminder of the insanity of nuclear war. The Toronto event was the largest of more than 300 cities participating in the shadow project around the world. The TDN supported other successful events marking these important dates.

Educational events were held throughout the year. The perception of nuclear war as insanity was reinforced by Dr. Helen Caldicott when she spoke to an overflow crowd of 1800 at Convocation Hall in April as part of a TDN Speakers' Series. U.S. Defence Analyst William Arkin, who had earlier revealed secret U.S. Defence department plans to deploy nuclear weapons in Canada during wartime, spoke in Toronto as part of the Series in the spring and returned to address the Canadian Peace Convention in the fall.

The TDN was active in organizing the process leading to the founding of Canadian Peace

Alliance (See article this issue). The successful founding convention followed close on the heels of one of TDN's major events of the year, the October 26 peace march.

Under the theme "End the Arms Race-Feed the World" the demonstration coincided with the beginning of the "International Year of Peace" and showed that large numbers of people remain active in working for peace in Toronto.

Organizationally the TDN progressed as well. Close to 20 new groups joined the TDN, bringing the current groups membership to 82. Two permanent committees became functional during the year. The TDN education committee sponsored a variety of events and produced educational materials to support TDN campaigns. The "Ar-treach" committee was formed by visual artists who have become extremely active in promoting peace using creative, professional images.

The number of TDN supporting members rose from 500 to close to 3000 individuals, each making a donation to help finance the TDN. These individual donations combined with merchandise sales, public events and a major walkathon in May helped the TDN approach its goal of balancing the budget for a full year of peace activities in Toronto.

— Theresa Byrne

Youth Tour for Peace and Justice

Members of the Toronto peace community were active in the promotion of the International Youth for Peace and Justice Tour that brought 70 young people from over 20 war torn and underdeveloped countries to Canada. Their first stop in Toronto was hosted by the TDN member organization Youth Corps. Close to 200 participants listened to moving stories from the visitors on the first stop in their two week tour through Ontario.

Vera de Jong and Melissa Paterson co-ordinated the Ontario part of this national project which will see the participants speak at more than 80 events held in 23 Ontario communities.

The Lakeshore Committee for Nuclear Disarmament will be celebrating the holidays with an old Christmas tradition — caroling! Members of the committee will be found singing peace carols in front of their M.P.'s homes during the Christmas season.

The Performing Artists for Nuclear Disarmament will be presenting an evening with Peter Ustinov on Thursday, December 5 at the Jane Mallett Theatre in the St. Lawrence Centre at 8:00 p.m. The evening will be hosted by Dr. George Ignatieff, and will include an open forum for discussion. For more information call 533-3859.

The East York Peace Committee announces that East York passed a resolution declaring itself a Nuclear Free Zone on November 18. The committee is

now seeking to have the NWEZ status included in East York's Official Plan.

The Christian Movement for Peace sponsored Le Theatre Parni Nous' production of "Peacing it Together" in several performances throughout Disarmament Week. Approximately 150 people attended each performance. The Quebec theatre group is currently on a national tour.

The TDN's University of Toronto group, UCAM, is planning a peace and development day for January 16. This all day event will unite more than a dozen campus groups in a program of activities including debates, films and speakers.

UCAM received a recent boost with a \$3000 grant from the Canadian Institute for International Peace and Security to support their campus radio show, PeaceTime. The show, initiated in July, has already produced 20 programs featuring interviews with E.P. Thompson, Terri Nash, war veteran Gif Gifford and others.

— Theresa Byrne

The Networker is published 6 times a year by the Toronto Disarmament Network, 736 Bathurst St. M5S 2R4 (416) 533-8005. The TDN is a non-profit, non-partisan coalition of 80 groups supporting nuclear disarmament. Group membership is \$50 and is open to all organizations which support our aims and objectives. Associate (non-voting) membership is open to groups for \$25 per year. Individuals are represented through TDN standing committees which vote on groups at TDN general meetings. The Networker is produced by the TDN Networker committee: Theresa Byrne, Gordon Forman, Robert Prover and Len Seckl (layout and design). Additional help from Steve Shalhoun, Karen Hinds and Alex Jones. Layout by volunteers. Printed in a union shop.

SECOND ANNUAL
Peace Tree Sale
This holiday season, make sure your tree is a firm grown "Peace Tree"

- Scotch Pine, Spruce and Balsam
- Improved size range and selection
- Specializing in 3-4 ft. "tabletop" Scotch Pine
- All sizes available
- Delivery available

OPENS DEC. 5
736 BATHURST ST.
(South of Bloor, behind Honest Ed's)

If you wish to see the original of the "Peace Tree" Disarmament Agreement, call: 533-4067

Give peace for Christmas

Send your own messages of peace with artistic Christmas Cards

\$5.00 Set of 20
5 each of 4 designs, with envelopes.

A project of TDN Artreach 535-8005

ARTREACH

A PROJECT OF TDN ARTREACH

Working for a Future

Excellent Quality
SWEATSHIRTS
White on Red, Green or Blue
\$18.00

If the shirt fits wear it! Available at Toronto Disarmament Network

Give a Gift Subscription...
the **Networker**

The Networker 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 _____

Gift subscription

Send subscriptions to:
Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____ Postal Code _____
On behalf of:
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.

Give Peace Dove Pins for Christmas

10 KT Gold Plated
\$3 Each
4 for \$10

STOP STAR WARS — Blue, White and Red
NEVER AGAIN — Red and Black
END THE ARMS RACE FEED THE WORLD — Green, Pink and Black

STOCKING STUFFERS

STOP STAR WARS — Blue, White and Red
NEVER AGAIN — Red and Black
WOMEN AND PEACE — Lavender
SIGN UP FOR PEACE — 6 colours

ALL BUTTONS \$1.00
Discounts available for peace groups and bulk orders.

| No. | Item | Price Per Item | Unit Total |
|-----|------|----------------|------------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

Please make cheques payable to the Toronto Disarmament Network, 736 Bathurst Street, Toronto, M5S 2R4. (\$2.50 in orders under \$10)
Postage and Handling Total

Proceeds from all Christmas sales go directly towards the peace activities of the Toronto Disarmament Network