

KAMLOOPS-SHUSWAP

PEACE NEWS

PEACE NEWS is published by the Kamloops - Shuswap Peace Council, P.O. Box 973, Kamloops, B.C. V2C 6H1, ph. 374-3269. Membership in the KSPC is open to any individual or organization, regardless of philosophical, religious, or political outlook, which subscribes to the need for a secure and lasting global peace through disarmament. The KSPC is a member council of the B.C. Peace Council and through it, the Canadian Peace Congress and the World Peace Council. We welcome your comments or opinions on any material printed in PEACE NEWS.

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#### EDITORIAL:

The Neutron Bomb, the MX Missile, the Cruise Missile, the Pershing II...all in all a pretty bizarre Christmas shopping list.

But, frighteningly, that's exactly what Ronnie Reagan and his pals in the Pentagon have planned for us as we approach the festive season; more and more deadly toys for the boys in the Army to play with.

Perhaps it's all a little bit hard to grasp at once. After all who can really comprehend the effects of a weapon which will destroy human and animal life (with the exception of insects) while leaving buildings intact? That's the Neutron Bomb. Or what about an 18 foot long computerized jet rocket loaded to the brim with nuclear death that can skim along the surface of the earth, below radar, which can be transported in the back of a van and is virtually undetectable? That's the Cruise Missile.

Or how about a \$26 Billion missile system, more powerful and accurate than anything else in the US arsenal which will be able to withstand a direct hit from a nuclear bomb and still deliver it's payload...entitled cruelly by the US President "The Peacekeeper"? That's the MX system.

No, even though more people around the world than ever before; including an unprecedented million people in New York on June 12, took to the streets this past year, there is still a great deal for the peace movement to be afraid of.

And, the fear and anger should not be directed solely towards Washington and the Pentagon. In the face of thousands of Canadians demanding that the new Cruise missile not be flight tested in our country, the minister of external affairs assured us that "no amount of public pressure" would change the government's mind. In the face of literally hundreds of thousands of Canadians voting 'Yes' in disarmament referendums, the government of B.C. invites the Pentagon to Vancouver to teach Canadian companies how to join the lineup at the Pentagon defence contract trough.

So, as we enter the season of peace, as we rededicate ourselves to another year of activities, rallies and marches to bring our concerns to the attention of the politicians...remember the fact that today the dominant sentiment in the world is the demand for meaningful action for nuclear disarmament and that one day, the leaders must follow.





KAMLOOPS VOTE YES CTTEE HOSTS M.P.'s

The Yes for Disarmament Committee, consisting of several peace groups including the United Church peace group, the KSPC, Operation Dismantle and individuals, hosted a meeting on November 12th at the Christian Education Centre, where M.P.'s were invited to speak on the Municipal Disarmament Referendum.

Vancouver folk singer, Tom Hawken, entertained with a few songs. He remarked that he preferred to think of peace meetings as a "celebration of life rather than a doom and gloom gathering of people. We should think of the good things in life; music, art, etc and remember that what we have is worth preserving", he stated.

Liberal M.P., Paul McCrae from Thunder Bay is one of the M.P.'s who signed a minority report to Parliament that said that Canada should ask the U.N. to impose a freeze on the development, production and deployment of nuclear weapons. He said that some leaders are beginning to accept the frightening idea of a limited, winnable nuclear war. "There's a very strong possibility of nuclear war in this decade. I would say a probability, unless some very large changes are made", he stated.

Kamloops M.P., Nelson Riis wound up the evening by saying that the Pentagon is the largest corporation in the world with assets valued 1.5 trillion. He blamed the economic woes of the world on the military budgets that reach an annual total of 600 billion.

NAME THAT CITY

Many people living in Kamloops have given little thought to what would happen to us in the event of an exchange of nuclear weapons...and even if they do give the whole idea some thought, most dismiss it quickly under the belief that no one would ever drop a nuclear bomb on Kamloops

But, consider the following. Most arms control experts consider it likely that every city of more than 20,000 people in North America is targetted with at least one nuclear weapon. Every civil airport is targetted with at least one nuclear weapon. Major transportation points, such as areas where two railways pass through, or where major highways travel are all targetted with nuclear weapons. Areas which produce militarily useful metals such as copper are all targetted with nuclear weapons, as are all centers close to Canadian Armed Forces bases.

Does that description remind you of any city you know? We'll give you a hint, try a city starting with 'K' and ending with 'S'.

"In 1982, when the nations of the world began to disarm, the transformation began. Nations actually started to turn their swords into ploughshares, though the swords were ICBM's and tanks and submarines and the ploughshares were whole factories for making ploughs and water pumps, school textbooks and medical equipment. All nations took the money saved from disarmament and invested it in their own economies. Simultaneously massive aid went from the industrialized nations to nations struggling for industrialization. As a result of the worldwide aid program several remarkable changes took place on planet earth. The gap between rich and poor began to decrease. Life expectancy in developing countries climbed month by month and year by year."

So begins a book written just before the First Special Session on Disarmament at the U.N. in 1978 in which the authors of analyzed the world peace situation. The above quote is from the prologue, of the year 2001. As we now know both Special Sessions failed. The first session at least issued a document containing resolutions and recommendations, while the delegates to the second session were unable to agree on a document of any kind.

Reading this sort of thing reminds one that the ball is in our hands now. The U.N. has proven ineffective in stopping the insane drive to holocaust, so it is up to the people of the world to demand disarmament, to march, write letters, protest the Cruise missile, demand a halt to the building and arming of Trident submarines, and involve ourselves in any reasonable activities to make our voices heard in unison. This does not mean that peace activists should ignore the United Nations, but rather should encourage that body to become effective. Peace is our only shelter.

CHRISTMAS EVE WALK FOR PEACE

In what is becoming an annual event, several Kamloops churchs will once again make their concern over the danger of nuclear war known Christmas Eve with a noon hour Walk For Peace throughout the streets of downtown Kamloops. According to United Church spokesman Hank Woodland, the walk will begin at promptly noon on December 24 and will proceed throughout the downtown. It is expected that a number of local church representatives will deliver a message of peace through disarmament following the walk. All members and friends of the Kamloops Shuswap Peace Council are urged to attend if at all possible.



UNITED NATIONS DISARMAMENT WEEK:October 24 - 30

Disarmament Week began in Kamloops with the KSPC hosting the Peace Caravan (three women from the Kootenays and Vancouver) as they travelled the three Western Provinces publicizing Canada's involvement in the production and testing of the Cruise Missile. The main message was that together, all of us can turn around our governments actions. Jeanne, Carol and Rosemary gave an indepth presentation on the Cruise Missile and also showed Dr. Helen Caldicott's 'If You Love This Planet'.



Aproximately 60 Kamloops citizens came out to hear the Caravaners and we're looking forward to hearing from them soon, as they pass through on their way to the Peace Camp being set up at the Cruise Missile test site in Alberta.

Mayor Mike Latta once again proclaimed the week of October 24 - 30 'Disarmament Week' in Kamloops. Members of the KSPC, Peace Caravan and the Kamloops Yes for Disarmament Committee were present for the signing. Both local Kamloops papers covered the event with photo stories.

Rounding off Disarmament Week was October 30th, which was marked by Canada wide demonstrations against the testing of the Cruise Missile on our soil.

In Kamloops, members of the KSPC leaf-leted local shopping malls with "Refuse the Cruise" pamphlets, which included a postcard to send to the Prime Minister with your own personal message. We had an excellent response from the public with many people stopping to discuss the situation, thanking us for our efforts and urging us to continue our good work.

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NUCLEAR FACT OF THE MONTH:

Nagasaki will have recordable amounts of radiation for 24,360 years.

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WHAT NOW???

Canada after the Vote: Make Canada a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone.

The Canadian Peace Congress Board meeting has agreed to launch a country-wide campaign to make Canada a nuclear weapons free zone as an extension of the world wide struggle to declare cities, countries, entire regions as non-participants in the production, storage or transmission of nuclear weapons and their support systems.

It was pointed out that its application to Canada would mean that there would be no production, deployment or installation, storage or transportation of nuclear weapons or of delivery and support systems or components of nuclear weapons in Canadian territory or air space. The Canadian government would be called upon to conclude treaties or agreements with the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. for the recognition of our status as a nuclear weapons free zone and for the exclusion of Canadian territory as a target in a nuclear attack. This would mean, of course, our withdrawal from existing "defence" treaties including NATO, NORAD and nuclear weapons producing and testing agreements, including the so-called "umbrella" testing agreement with the U.S. now being negotiated.

Although the campaign is a national one, it will have to begin at a local level - cities, neighbourhoods, wards, schools, universities, factories, etc. Material will soon be available for the Congress, and the campaign will be launched with a nationally coordinated paid newspaper advertisement and press releases. In the meantime local councils will start preparing and discussing how they will launch their campaign.

JOY TO THE WORLD & PEACE ON EARTH

Members and supporters of the KSPC are this year determined to ensure that Christmas is indeed a season of peace by launching a public informational and boycott campaign against local stores which feature prominent military toy displays.

According to the KSPC, military toys for young children are not harmless, but rather part of a longstanding effort to have our children accept war and militarism as a way of life. In fact, the latest rage in the toy world - the video games - were developed by the same scientists in Los Alamos who developed the world's first nuclear bomb.

The KSPC will be targetting several local stores with prominent military toy displays and urge that these displays be removed; and if these efforts do not work, will begin to mobilize a toy boycott against the merchants in question. For more information or to help in the campaign, contact either Chum at 374-3269 or Kathy at 376-7663.



### Canada Votes Overwhelmingly "Yes"

For hundreds of thousands of Canadians, from virtually coast to coast, the most meaningful ballot they cast in their civic elections may well have been the "Yes" vote in the nuclear disarmament referendums.

Of the more than 60 such referendums conducted, not a single vote was lost, indicating once and for all that the vast majority of Canadians are squarely in favor of nuclear disarmament, and are now demanding that their governments, at all levels get on with the job of bringing about the reduction of nuclear stockpiles.

Kamloops voters were quite typical of other civic voters where 76.7% of voters cast a "Yes" ballot. This compares with an average of 73% in several Saskatchewan cities, 79.6% in Vancouver, and an astounding 96.8% in Duncan, B.C.

While many apologists for the arms race attempted to first defeat the vote, and then discredit the results by labelling it a motherhood issue which no-one could possibly vote against, an Operation Dismantle spokesman pointed out that with as many as 25% of the voters still voting "No" to disarmament the referendums were indeed a meaningful indication of public opinion. According to Operation Dismantle the fact that as many as one quarter of all voters still do not see the need for disarmament means that there is still a significant amount of work to be done.

Most referendums were campaigned for by a wide variety of peace forces which came together under "Vote Yes Committees", and it is hoped that these committees will be able to continue their activities in the future around other common goals.

Finally, the KSPC wants to express a resounding thank you to all our members and supporters who helped make the disarmament referendum a reality in Kamloops and then worked to so hard to win the vote.

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### Flashes from the KSPC

In addition to other activities reported elsewhere in this issue, the KSPC will be involved in the following in the next few months:

Doctors For Peace, Kamloops Doctors have agreed to help the KSPC produce a cablevision report on the medical impact of a nuclear explosion in Kamloops for one of our future Cable productions. Watch for more details.

Clearwater Peace Fair; the KSPC will be one of a number of organizations invited to take part in a Peace Fair in Clearwater next January.

Many of us rather new to the Peace Movement are somewhat bewildered at the charges being levelled against us that we are 'dupes' of a foreign power, and that our efforts to secure global disarmament somehow relate to a world-wide Communist conspiracy to take over the world. In point of fact, such tactics have been used by the enemies of the peace movement since its inception.

The following article and cartoon, reprinted here from the November, 1982 issue of SANE WORLD, newsletter of the Washington, D.C. based peace organization SANE, points out just how divisive and harmful such attacks can be...and what the response to these ludicrous allegations should be.



"The pro-freeze movement is being manipulated!"

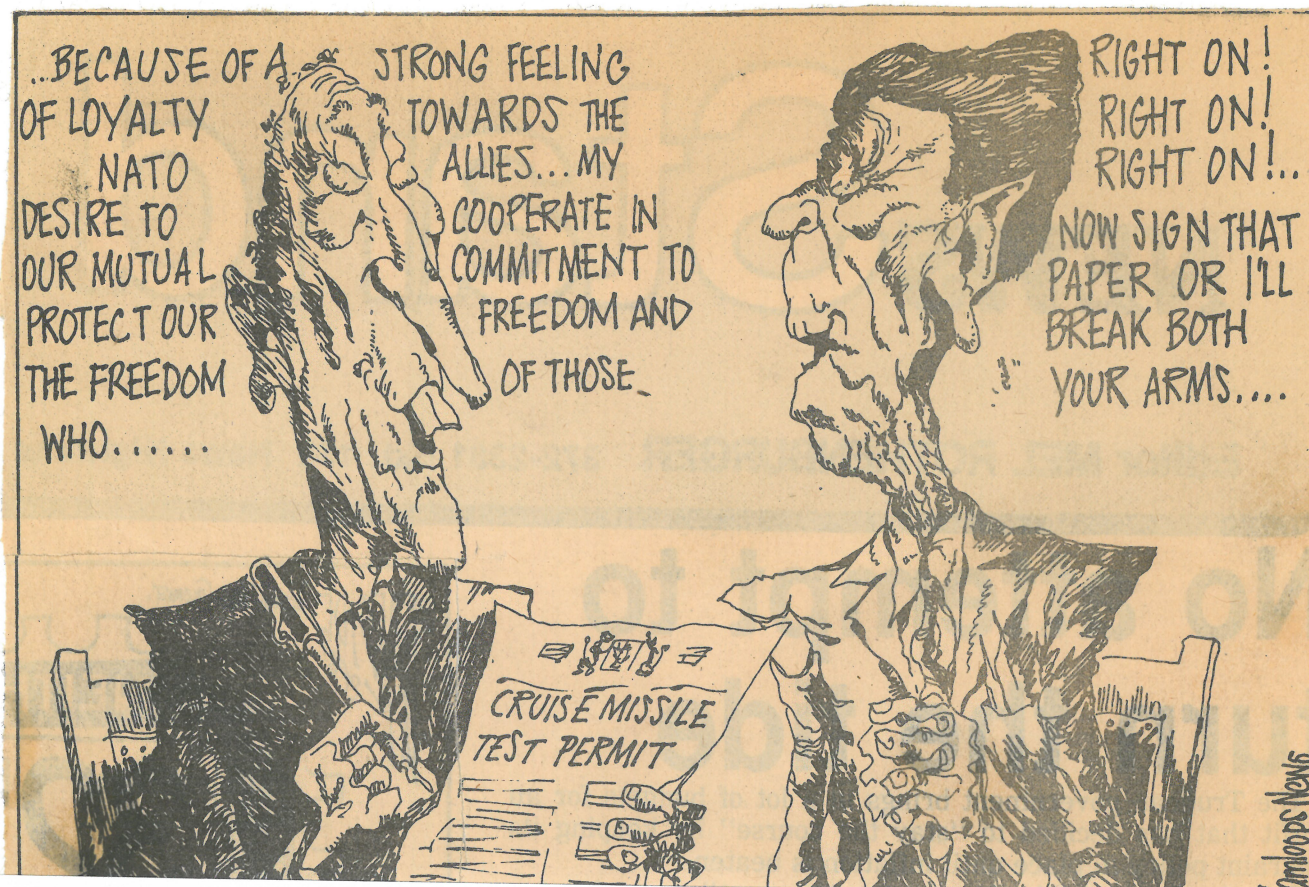
## **Red-Baiting is Back**

Rising opposition to the arms race is being attacked in time-honored fashion — by questioning the motives and loyalties of those who want peace. Last month, Senator Jeremiah Denton (R-AL) took to the Senate floor to accuse Peace Links, a new group formed by Betty Bumpers and other Senators' wives, of having communist connections. Two days later, America's premier anti-communist, Ronald Reagan, darkly hinted that pro-freeze demonstrators are manipulated "by some who want the weakening of America."

The most surprising attack came from a *Washington Post* editorial, which flatly stated that "the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom is a Soviet front and another, Women Strike for Peace, has connections to a second front." It was guilt by association logic — if you work with or even communicate with groups that have connections to the Soviet Union, you are automatically a Soviet front.

Peace groups, including SANE, responded swiftly with letters and calls to the *Post*. WILPF and WSP demanded and got an unprecedented editorial retraction. And a wide spectrum of peace and arms control groups, at a meeting organized by the Campaign for Political Rights, showed a strong spirit of unity. Our most effective response to efforts to divide the movement, all agreed, is to increase cooperation and redouble our work for nuclear sanity and peace.





### 1983 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

We won't break both of your arms...or even one of them. But we do want you to sign... your annual membership renewal that is. With the approach of 1983, it's not only the season to be jolly, but also the season to get on with renewing your membership in the Kamloops-Shuswap Peace Council; or join us for the first time. With the world teetering ever closer to the brink of nuclear holocaust, it is imperative that as many individuals and organizations as possible get together to try and reverse the deadly trend. We've been forced to increase our dues structure for the coming year to help cover increased costs in everything from paper to postal; paper clips to educational materials. But, don't dismay, if you just haven't got enough...don't let that stop you...you can still participate.

So remember, at \$15.00 for a regular membership, \$10.00 for pensioners, students and the unemployed, \$25.00 for a family and \$50.00 for organizations or sustaining memberships...the KSPC is still a good buy. Where else could you help save the world at that price?

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Yes, I wish to be part of the Kamloops-Shuswap Peace Council. Please enroll me as a member in the following category:

Individual:	\$15.00	_____	OAP/Unemployed/Student:	\$10.00	_____
Family:	\$25.00	_____	Sustaining/Organizational:	\$50.00	_____

Enclosed is a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to help you out in your activities.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

(Clip and mail to Kamloops-Shuswap Peace Council)  
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K A M L O O P S  
November 26, 1982

To the Members of the Kamloops and District Peace Council:

First of all, I would like to congratulate the Peace Council for the work they have done in raising the people's consciousness around the Disarmament issue and for the work done to see a successful Referendum occur in Kamloops. The people of Kamloops and Canada have now demonstrated through the Referendum process their overwhelming endorsement of Disarmament.

A tidal wave of opposition to the Suicidal Arms Race is Beginning to mount in our country. Politicians can no longer turn their backs on an issue that 76.7% of the constituents support. After all, it's the future of the world that is at stake.

I and other parliamentarians committed to Disarmament will be pushing the matter in Parliament in an effort to get the issue to the United Nations. For all of us, the months ahead are crucial and I urge the Peace Council to continue your excellent work. Can you remember when 76.7% of the voters ever supported anything before?

However, the work has just begun. We must not relax our efforts one bit. Now that we have the people's attention, including the politicians, it is imperative that the pressure be maintained. I will look forward to rallies, parades, letter writing campaigns, talk shows, letters to the editor, ads in the newspapers, etc.

In the words of those of who we opposed, "The first battle has now been won, on now to finish the War."

Sincerely,  
Nelson A. Riis, M.P.,  
Kamloops - Shuswap