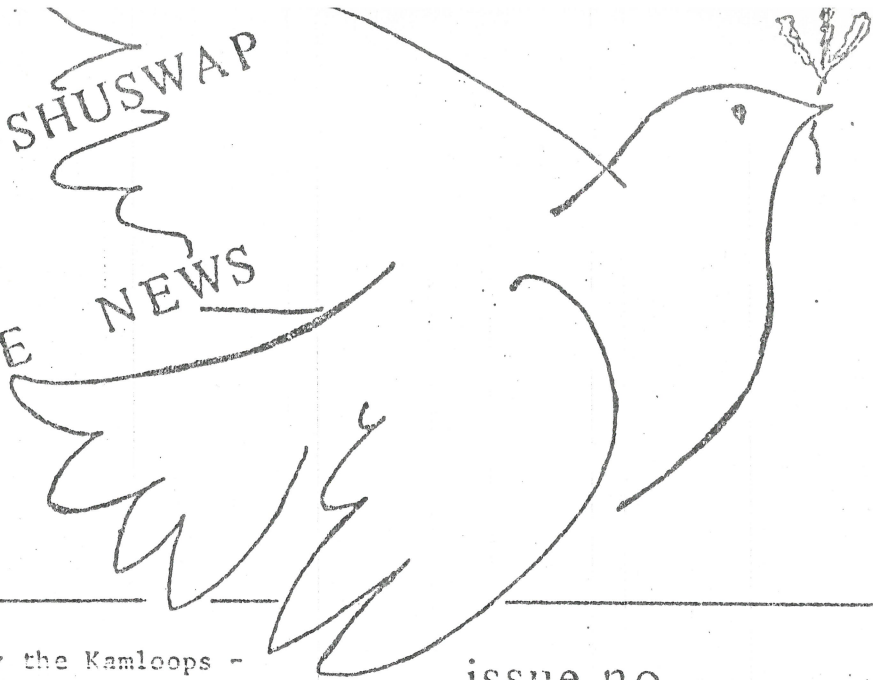


KAMLOOPS-SHUSWAP PEACE NEWS



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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.

STAR WARS CAMPAIGN - PROJECT OF THE MONTH

We have given top billing to our "Project of the Month" because this campaign is one of the most critical issues that we have ever asked you to respond to.

Strategic Defence Initiative, or Star Wars as it is commonly called, is not defensive. The plan is to encircle the globe with permanently orbiting battle stations. The idea is to shoot down incoming missiles or Nuclear war heads with laser or particle beams.

The Pentagon admits the technology does not exist as yet, but the U.S. Government has allocated 26 billion dollars over the next five years for the experiment.

The Pentagon says that Star Wars is only a research program, but as we all recall, the Manhattan Project was only research at first. That project ended in August 1945, with the total destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Critics argue that there may have to be upwards of 2,000 battle stations to combat the possible 10's of thousands of war heads in existence. At the price of one billion each, even the U.S. can't afford this project, even if the plan was sane, which it is not!

The agreement to upgrade NORAD's radar stations in Northern Canada is part of the Star Wars program, and implicates Canada in this dangerous game. It seriously damages Canada's ability to be seen as an objective opponent of the Arms Race.

Although the American Government gave the NATO countries two months to decide if they would join the Star Wars program last spring, the Mulroney Government has postponed the decision until September in order to get input from the Canadian public on this issue, according to Mike Duffy's report on CBC. Further to Duffy's report, he states that if Canada only became involved in 10% of the program - that 10% would require all of the research departments of every major university in Canada.

It is ironic that we have just accorded a hero's welcome to Steve Fonyo on his arrival in Victoria last month for running across Canada on one leg to raise money for cancer research in order to save thousands of Canadian lives; and on the other hand, we would even consider getting involved in financing a program, to the tune of billions, that can only result in the total destruction of humanity. It will be a great day when a one legged General has to run across Canada to fund the Arms Race!

STAR WARS (Con't)

Canadians must oppose Star Wars with every means available to them; that is why KSPC is joining with peace groups across Canada to tell Mulroney that we want no part of this insanity. We have enclosed a three part card that is self explanatory; we urge you mail it immediately.

INTERNATIONAL NEWSU.S.A.

The Union of Concerned Scientists took out full page ads in several U.S. publications re: their concerns about Star Wars. They claim that Star Wars will cost a trillion dollars and that there is no shred of scientific evidence that it will work.

SHADOW PROJECT

The Shadow Project was discussed at our last meeting. For those of you who are not familiar with this project; the Performers and Artists for Nuclear Disarmament (PAND) conceived the plan to make shadow paintings from whitewash, chalk, etc. on sidewalks, streets, and driveways on August 6th to commemorate the first victims of Atomic war and to visually remind us that this crime must never be repeated.

KSPC is considering the project in conjunction with our August 6th Candlelight service.

We have checked into the legal aspect and would like your input at our next meeting, July 8th. Please plan to attend.

CORRESPONDANCE

We received a letter from Bev and Kostyn Gidora, congratulating us on our newsletter and included a nice donation, which is always welcome.

Comments are always welcome from our readers, either pro or con. Please feel free to write to us.

We received a letter from Prime Minister David Lange of New Zealand, thanking us for our support of New Zealand's anti-nuclear policy.

Also, a note from Robin Denton, Vancouver Peace Council, who is currently in the Pacific Rim area, where he had the opportunity of joining a sailing yacht, the Pacific Peacemaker on a peace mission. They were attacked by the French Navy when they tried to stop French nuclear tests in the Pacific. I'm sure Robin will have many adventures to share on his return to Vancouver.



In Oakland, the City Council voted against allowing the nuclear armed warship, Missouri, being stationed in San Francisco Bay. Oakland is a large commercial port across the bay from San Francisco. In 1982, the population of over 2 million people voted for a nuclear freeze initiative by a 75% majority.

In San Francisco, a resolution was narrowly adopted by the City Council asking that the ship be based elsewhere. The Missouri has a potential to carry up to 32 Tomahawk nuclear missiles.

GREECE

The newly elected government of Greece intends to carry out it's campaign promise. They will be asking the U.S. Bases to leave Greece.

DENMARK

The Danish Folketing (Government) adopted a resolution calling for the Government to oppose any Star Wars development.

The Resolution read:

"The Folketing, noting that Denmark:
-opposes the siting of weapons in outer space, and will not take part in research and development of such weapons.
-Adheres to and complies with the ABM Treaty.
-Supports the conclusion of a new treaty between East and West, preventing the militarization of outer space.
-Urges the Government to play an active role in promoting these views.

NEW ZEALAND

The Australian Peace Council is urging people to buy New Zealand products in answer to the U.S. threat to flood world markets with dairy products, and to cut back trade with New Zealand in retaliation for her nuclear free stand.

KSPC also urges you to buy New Zealand products.

PEACE BEAR GOES TO MOSCOW! by Val Carey

A Kamloops-Shuswap Peace Bear sits today, along with many other gifts from around the world, at the headquarters of the Soviet Peace Committee in Moscow. The Bear accompanied me to a meeting with Viatcheslav Slouzhivov head of the Department of International Relations, and Oleg Kharkhardin, Vice President of SPC. We learned that the SPC, which was formed in 1949, is a grass roots organization and is funded by individual and group organizations. "Work Shifts for Peace" are a major source of funding. Workers in factories, collective farms, and other enterprises donate the money earned to the peace fund. Last year over 93 million Soviet citizens donated to the SPC, including the members of the Bolshoi Ballet Company, and composer, Dmitri Shostokovich.

The money thus raised is used to fund the many activities of the SPC. They produce anti-war films, brochures, posters, etc. for public education. Every September, Peace Days are organized in the schools and prominent public figures, actors, actresses, cosmonauts, sports figures and so on, visit schools to bring the message of peace, while the lessons are geared to the peace issue. Peace tours, peace trains and peace rallies throughout the USSR are organized by the SPC to involve the masses of people in the peace movement. Petitions sponsored by the SPC and the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War have collected millions of signatures. Funding is provided by the Cttee for Research into Peace and Disarmament. Massive demonstrations have been held under the sponsorship of the Soviet Peace Cttee recently in Moscow (800,000), Leningrad (400,000), and Minsk (100,000).

Legislative and constitutional changes have been submitted successfully to the government of the USSR. In 1951, for example, the government unanimously approved a constitutional ammendment outlawing war propaganda, and this was included in the new Soviet constitution in 1977. In 1983, the Government approved a change in the Hippocratic Oath, to include that Physicians work to prevent Nuclear war. There are many members of the SPC elected to the Chamber of Deputies.

Internationally, the SPC is a member of the World Peace Council, and also reports to the Sect. General of the United Nations. The SPC was one of the sponsors of the Stockholm-Moscow-Minsk Peace march, which was a landmark in cooperation between the Soviet peace movement and anti war movements in other countries. Other international peace actions sponsored by the SPC include the Moscow-Kiev-Vienna Peace March; the International Moscow/Washington Bike for Peace and many international Symposia and conferences.

Over tea and chocolate we heard their concern for the US Strategic Defence Initiative (Star Wars) and their desire for a freeze and reduction of nuclear weapons, starting in Europe, including the European part of the USSR. Concern was also expressed for the people around the world, trying to free themselves from repression, South Africa, Latin America, etc.

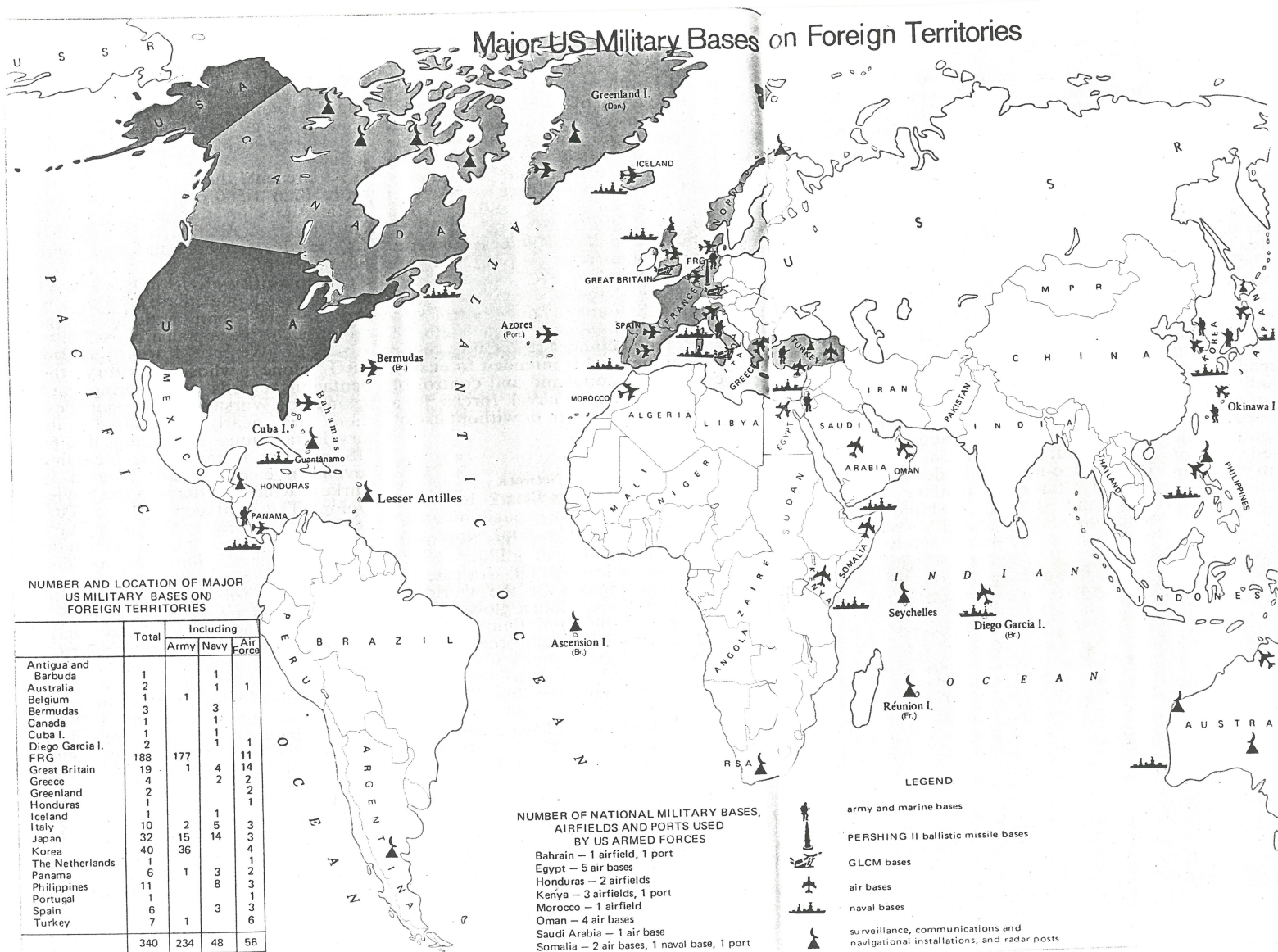
All through the discussion ran a strong thread of hope and optimism for the future. At no time was there any underestimation of the grave danger that Star Wars, in particular, presents to the world, but the presence of the world peace movement is the beacon of hope for both them and us.

At the end of the meeting, I presented the Peace Bear to Mr. Kharkhardin as a gesture of solidarity with the SPC, and the Peace Bear was received with smiles and best wishes to our organization.

On the way out, I met a WWII Veteran, wearing his medals, who was coming to the SPC to make his regular donation. With the film that had been given me for the KSPC, I walked down Prospekt Mira (Peace Street) feeling more positive and hopeful about disarmament than I have for a long time!

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The graph on page four illustrates American bases around the globe. It is important to remember that there are no foreign bases on American soil. It is against their constitution!



DATES TO REMEMBER

KSPC MEETINGS: July 8, August 12. Regular meeting held at North Kamloops Library, 7:30 P.M.. (Back door)

HIROSHIMA/NAGASAKI CANDLELIGHT VIGIL August 6th. Cenotaph, 2nd and Battle 8:00 P.M.

CHANNEL 10 There will be no show in July, but the August showing will be a film on Hiroshima and Nagasaki to be aired on Thursdays, watch for TV listings.

PROJECT OF THE MONTH Please mail in the enclosed post cards immediately!

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