

# KAMLOOPS-SHUSWAP PEACE NEWS

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PEACE NEWS is published by the Kamloops - Shuswap Peace Council, P.O. Box 973, Kamloops, B.C. **issue no. 42 NOV/DEC 1986**  
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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## TOOLS FOR PEACE

Tools for Peace is a project of the Coalition for Aid to Nicaragua (CAN). CAN is a volunteer, non-profit organization composed of over 60 coalitions across Canada. Every year since 1981, churches, unions, community groups, and thousands of volunteers have taken part in the campaign, collecting tools to build, tools to teach and tools to heal. Tools for Peace also lobbies our federal government to increase aid to Nicaragua and to take a more active role in the South American peace process (the Contadora Peace Proposal of Mexico, Columbia, Panama, and Venezuela is one example.)

Since gaining freedom from the U.S. backed Somoza dictatorship in 1979, Nicaragua has moved forward in food production, education, health care, and in civil and political rights. The education budget alone has increased five-fold; adult illiteracy has been reduced from 58% to 10%, land has been given to 40,000 families, and in 1984 the first free elections were held with seven parties competing from all over the political spectrum. This is the challenge fuelling Nicaraguans -- to continue to build a new and just society.

However, President Reagan refuses to let Nicaragua exist on its own terms and is supporting a counter-revolution as well as a U.S. imposed embargo. This fall the U.S. government gave \$100,000,000 to aid the contras, and recently a U.S. plane was destroyed in Nicaragua carrying weapons and ammunition. One American, Eugene Hasenfus, was captured and his wife admitted that he worked for the CIA. All of this interference by the U.S. government is designed to prevent Nicaragua from deciding its own destiny and from rebuilding its society on its own terms. Reagan has even spurned the Contadora Proposal and has rallied Nicaragua's neighbours against it. Central America, because of these U.S. policies is now becoming a battlefield.

The Canadian government and the Canadian people have indicated that they are opposed to these hostilities. The Canadian government is for peace, not war, in Central America and has increased its trade and aid with Nicaragua.

The Canadian people have increasingly expressed their support for Nicaragua through the Tools for Peace campaign. Nicaragua's efforts to rebuild a society after decades of dictatorship and poverty are an inspiration to all. Nicaragua holds out hope to the poor nations around the world. We must sustain this example! (Con't Page 2)

TOOLS FOR PEACE (Con't)

Material aid; tools, equipment, school supplies, medical supplies, etc., are greatly needed to help in the national reconstruction. Nicaraguans greatly appreciate the Tools for Peace project. This year they wish us to concentrate on the following items: new pencils and notebooks, new or near-new blankets, hammers, saws, rubber boots, long handled shovels, axes, sharpening files, medical supplies; such as gauze, adhesive tape, antiseptics, sanitary napkins, etc. Monetary donations are particularly useful because they can be accumulated and used to purchase new supplies at bulk and discount prices.

Send cheque donations to:  
Inter-Pares (Tools for Peace)  
58 Rue Arthur  
Ottawa, ONT  
K1R 7B9

with name and address of donor,  
if you want tax receipt.

For those who do not need tax receipt send to :  
Tools for Peace  
1672 East 10th Ave  
Vancouver, B.C.  
V5N 1X5

or to:  
Tools for Peace  
c/o KSPC  
Box 973  
Kamloops, B.C.  
V2C 6H1

For pick up of material donations phone:  
Donna - 554-2246

or drop off at:  
Biro's  
#9 - 621 Sidney  
Kamloops, B.C.  
(North Shore)

or

Ferguson's  
120 West St Paul  
(South Shore)

STUDENTS AGAINST GLOBAL EXTERMINATION

SAGE is a Montreal based disarmament group of young people from the age of thirteen to nineteen.

Four members of SAGE will be touring across Canada from September '86 to April of '87 in order to encourage other Canadian teens to take their responsibility regarding the arms race and to help them to set up their own peace groups.

Sage will be arriving in Kamloops on April the 15th from Prince George and leaving for Kelowna on the 22nd.

While in Kamloops, they will speak at local junior and senior high schools for four days. The final day they hope to organize a teen peace group from the interested students.

Expenses will be met from donations at the highschools, and they will be billeted locally.

KSPC will be hosting them in Kamloops.

SAGE has completed their tour of the Maritime provinces where they were widely received and have had excellent press coverage.

BOYCOTT WAR TOYS

When you shop for Christmas gifts for children, please boycott all war toys or any other toys of violence.

All toys teach. In the book, The Power of Play by Frank and Theresa Caplan, it says, "After all, children do not play in a mental vacuum; they use and test their ideas as they play. We daresay that play is the child's most dynamic way of learning."

War toys are not only offensive at any time, but particularly so during the Christmas season which is traditionally a time for peace and brotherhood.



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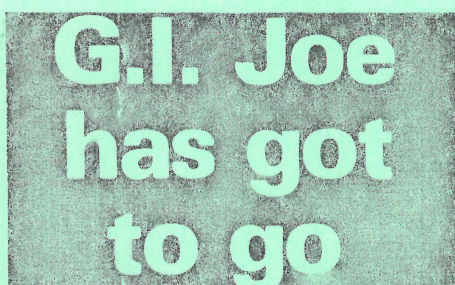
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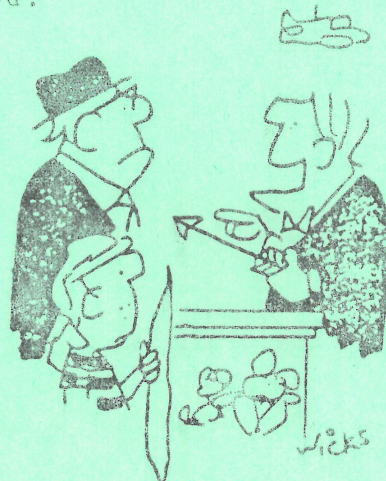
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"How about our new  
'nuclear warhead'  
model?"





### BOOK REVIEW

Brown and Robinson  
"Unsafe Harbours:  
Nuclear Weapons in  
Canadian Ports"

Published by Operation Dismantle,  
this book is a chilling account of  
Nuclear warships in Canadian ports.

In the introduction there is a descriptive article regarding a disaster which took place in Halifax harbour in December, 1917, when a French munitions ship, the Mont Blanc collided with another vessel.

"A spark from the collision ignited the tons of explosives packed aboard the Mont Blanc. The resulting explosion was heard as far away as Prince Edward Island. Much of Halifax was flattened by the blast, by the tidal wave which followed and by the fire which raged through the north end of the city. More than 1600 people were killed and another 9000 injured, out of the city's population of 50,000. Twelve thousand buildings were damaged and 1600 destroyed outright. The chance of a further explosion, as fire threatened ammunition stockpiles on shore, led to evacuation of the city.

The Halifax explosion is still the largest human-caused non-nuclear explosion ever known. It happened because the weapons of world war (i.e. the ammunition aboard the Mont Blanc) had entered the harbour of a large Canadian city.

In the 1980's the weapons of world war are again entering Canadian waters. But this time there is a danger of a disaster which would make the 1917 explosion seem petty in comparison."

The book goes on to tell us how many nuclear armed vessel visit us on a regular basis; that nuclear war is more likely to begin at sea, describes a potential contamination in B.C. and what we can do to prevent all of the above.

The book is available from the KSPC office for \$2.00 or directly from Operation Dismantle  
Box 3887 Station C  
Ottawa, Ont.  
K1Y 4M5

### CRUISE TESTS TO CONTINUE

In spite of two disastrous tests last winter the Canadian government is allowing cruise tests to continue this winter. We must continue to pressure for the cessation of these tests.

### 200,000 PROTEST FRG CRUISE BASES

Hasselbach, FRG - In numbers far exceeding expectations, 200,000 West Germans participated in a mass demonstration against the planned deployment of 96 U.S. cruise missiles.

Taking place on Oct. 11th, the day of the Iceland meeting between Gorbachev and Reagan, the demo' was a clear message to Washington and West Germany's right-wing government that the West German people want peace and a comprehensive arms control agreement.

They declared that "Our country must not participate in the research and development of space weapons. They protect no one and will not remove nuclear weapons from earth. Pershing-2 and cruise missiles must be removed; nuclear weapons tests must end."

### SCOTS LINK ARMS FOR PEACE

Scotland had its largest demonstration ever on October 5th, as 45,000 people linked arms to form a human chain between Glasgow on the east coast and Grangemouth on the River Forth on the west coast.

### ANNUAL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

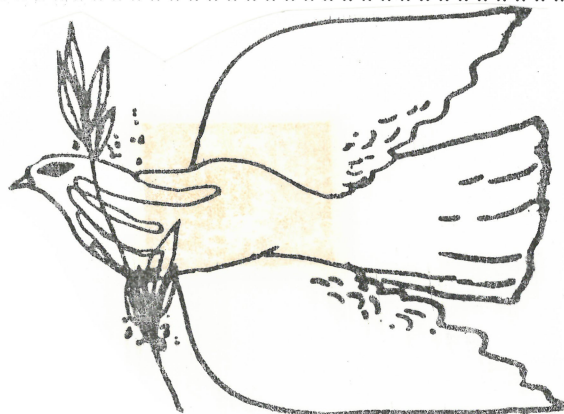
The Canadian Peace Congress is once again appealing to us for financial support for the coming year.

With the escalation of the arms race it is more urgent than ever before that we support our parent body by sending as generous a contribution as we can.

Send donations to:

Canadian Peace Congress  
Room 301 - 671 Danforth Ave  
Toronto, Ont.  
M4J 1L3

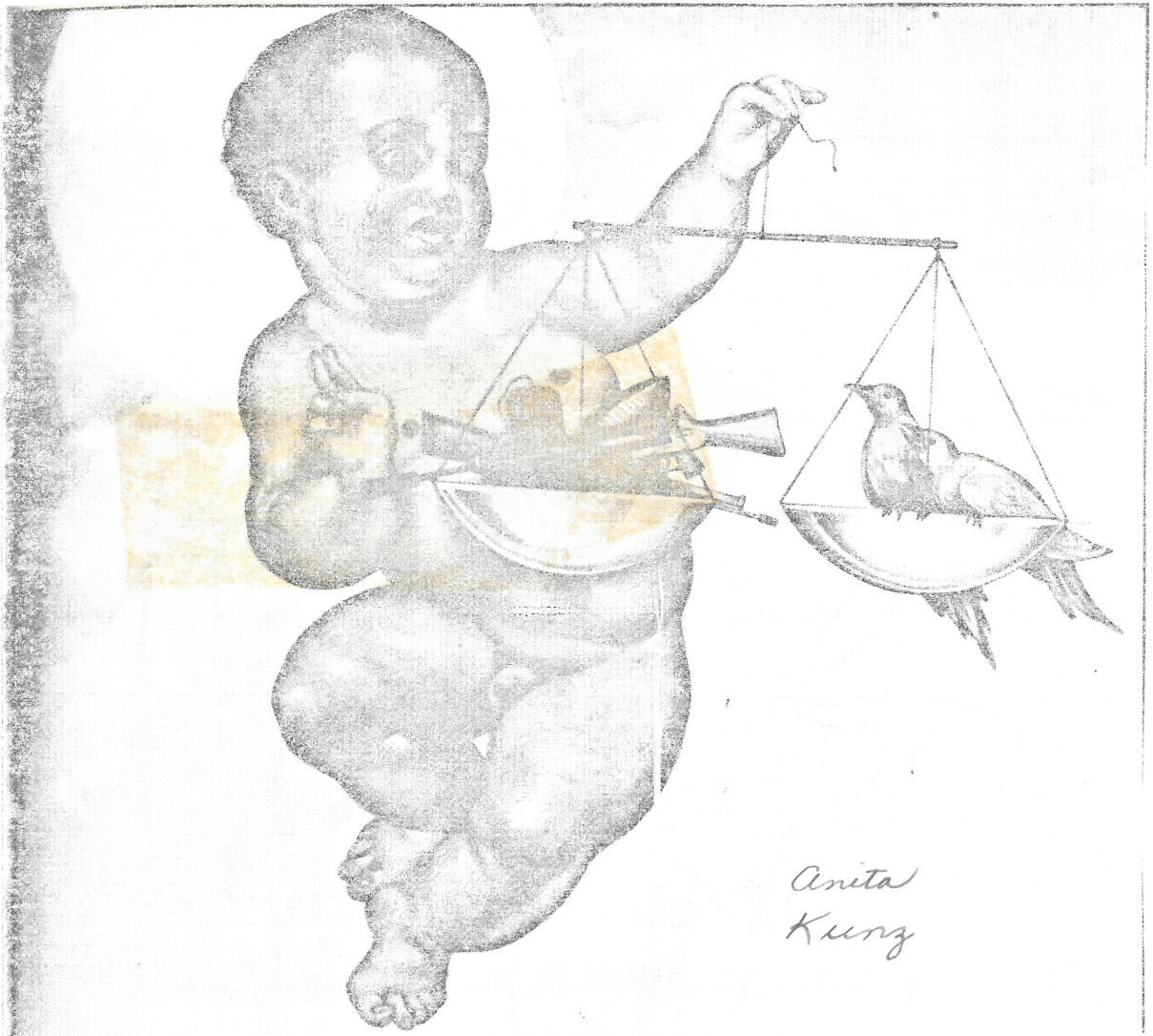
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MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY 1987

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DATES TO REMEMBER:

NOVEMBER 10 - KSPC meeting. N. Kamloops Library (rear door) 7:30 p.m.  
DECEMBER 8 - " "

KSPC PRESENTS:

Tuesday evenings at 10:30 hosted by Paul Van Zand. December interview with Karen Abrahamson, who has recently returned from Nicaragua, speaking about Tools for Peace.

PROJECT FOR THE MONTH:

Help us fill a ship for Nicaragua!

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Box 973  
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V2C 1G1

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