



June-July 1981

Thousands jam Diablo hearings



photo by Jim Malone

Several thousand San Luis Obispos marched May 19 on the Nuclear Regulatory Commission board that will decide whether to allow low power testing at the Diablo Canyon nuclear plant. "The turnout was phenomenal," said Sandy Silver, who has been working with Mothers for Peace against the Diablo licensing for almost eight years. "There were teachers, high school students, businessmen, working people, senior citizens, born-again Christians, and three or four hundred professors and students from Cal Poly, a very conservative school."

The licensing proceedings, the NRC's first since Three Mile Island, were called "public hearings." But the NRC had announced in advance that it would allow no statements by the public. And when the thousands of marchers arrived at the hearing room they found it would hold only fifty people.

Attorneys for the legal intervenors requested that the hearings be moved across the street to San Luis Obispos's Veterans Hall. Pacific Gas and Electric objected on the grounds that the presence of the media fulfilled the NRC's obligation to the public, and the NRC board agreed. At that point Sandy Silver

grabbed the microphone from the attorneys' table.

"Eight years ago when we first heard of the Hosgri fault we asked you to stop construction and you didn't listen to us," she told the three NRC board members. "You said that money would never be a factor in these proceedings. But today all we hear is that the delays are costing the utility money."

"May I remind you that as taxpayers we're paying the salaries of

the NRC staff? As ratepayers we're paying the salaries of PG&E employees. And because we don't feel protected we're paying the salaries of lawyers to challenge what the NRC and PG&E are doing. We're paying for these whole goddamn proceedings and we're not even allowed to talk at them."

Silver's impassioned speech drew loud cheers from the crowd outside, who heard it broadcast on radio. The Board was forced to

agree to move the hearings to the larger auditorium.

Silver told *It's About Times* that she hadn't planned her speech and that in fact it was a little out of character for her. "My own mother called me and said, 'Honey, are you all right?' Because I'm generally mild mannered, and I never swear in public."

The evening before the hearings, a crowd of 1,000 had cheered, continued on page 9

Pronukes target local governments

The Fusion Energy Foundation, a group of right wing conspiracy buffs best known for their "more nukes, less kooks" tables at airports, is involved in a campaign to get California city councils and county boards of supervisors to pass resolutions calling for the prompt licensing of the Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant. The city of South San Francisco passed the resolution in April, but it has been defeated or postponed in Milbrae, San Leandro and San Bruno.

The Fusion Energy Foundation (FEF), which supports nuclear energy with an enthusiasm bordering on the religious, claims that the Abalone Alliance is funded by the World Bank as part of an international plot to derail nuclear power. (See centerfold story.) Dave Kilper of FEF told *It's About Times* that another group, Citizens for Adequate Energy, "worded the [pro-Diablo]

resolution." Kilper said that FEF is "helping to get the word out."

In September 1980, *It's About Times* reported that Citizens for Adequate Energy (CAE) is actually a public relations front for the Pacific Gas and Electric Company. Now we have learned that PG&E gave CAE almost \$400,000 in 1980. (See centerfold story.) A CAE staff member denied that the group had anything to do with the Fusion Energy Foundation, but admitted that it is circulating a pro-Diablo resolution of its own. El Dorado County has passed the CAE resolution, and wrote a letter supporting Diablo to the Public Utilities Commission.

PG&E public relations officer Dick Davin assured us that the utility has no connection with the Fusion Energy Foundation either, or with its pro-Diablo efforts at city

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Letters



- Susan Dembrowski

More on MUSE

Dear IAT staff,

The purpose of a news service is to provide information. You provided that information on MUSE. I can understand your hesitation about exposing the "bad-business manners" of MUSE but I (personally and not on behalf of WISE) think it was an important article to publish. You should be proud of your journalistic skills.

The next question is, how will WISE deal with the problems of MUSE? And the question that we must find answers for concerns distribution of funds in Europe for sales of the No Nukes album here. So... what's the answer?

Keep up the great work!

-- Leah

at WISE, Amsterdam

Friends,

I've just seen the story about "The Great Muse Escapade" and want to congratulate you for running it. I am not using the War Resisters League letterhead because this is a personal not an organizational letter.

Some of us were deeply troubled by MUSE from the beginning, both by the top-heavy nature of its board (e.g., Tom Hayden is not representative of any group except himself) and by the clear tendency to fund issues involving nuclear power but not nuclear weapons. There were politics involved, often very subtle, but clear to some of us, to sidetrack the weapons issue.

Along with someone else involved in the pacifist movement I visited Lorna Salzman some months ago to express our grave doubts about how MUSE was being handled and in particular the unique role of Pam Lippe of the MUSE staff, with whom we had also met. In fact, after the meeting with Pam Lippe the two of us thought very carefully about going public. We didn't, less out of fear of damage to the War Resisters League -- which is not that dependent on foundation grants -- than from our feeling that other things had priority for us. I do recall writing John Hall suggesting some of us meet and take up the issues.

In any event you have put the story before the public where it belongs. The notion of other people making our decisions was never sound. In New York, MUSE came in and simply told the local people there would be a rally in September (1979) because they needed it for the movie. The did not ask us, they did not find out what the calendars of local groups were -- and they suggested by clear implication that groups that didn't help build the rally would find themselves hard put to get grants. It was one of the most closed, elitist and undemocratic structures I've ever encountered. You did a real service by reporting the problems.

Fraternally,
David McReynolds

Dear People,

Congratulations on your fine investigative piece, "The Great MUSE Escapade" (March - April). It's about time this sham was exposed. Other liberal, new age, left secular publications have done nothing on the issue, an indication of just how out of touch they are with grassroots realities. Or perhaps it cuts too close to home.

MUSE is largely responsible for the present softening of the antinuclear movement. The self-appointed "representatives" stepped into a power vacuum, gave the media something to write a story around, gave those less aware of the movement and its higher aspirations something to call their own rather than finding it in their own communities.

The social theorist and libertarian ecologist Murray Bookchin wrote in *Comment* last year that MUSE, through association with the likes of Lovejoy, Wasserman and the Massachusetts "folks," "added the tint of grassroots activism to what is a jet-set organization. The drift toward mass constituencies, personal careerism, political power, party type structures, bureaucratic manipulation -- in short, towards 'effective' means for operating within the system with the excuse that the antinuke movement can use the system against itself -- is now unmistakable."

Bookchin goes on to state that, "Were the antinuclear establishment easily defined with a clear identity of its own, it could easily be resisted. . . [MUSE] conceals the fact that its methods are borrowed from the very social structures, indeed, the very advertising agencies that reduce people to "masses," media orchestrated spectators, "groupies" of the "stars" who seem larger than life because their appetite for power is often larger than their egos."

As a journalist and filmmaker my personal dealings with MUSE have been disappointing. My film *Harrisburg*, funded privately, documented the media aspect and fear and paranoia felt in NYC during the accident.

When the film was released, about eight weeks following the accident, I approached MUSE as they moved into their new Fifth Avenue office in downtown Manhattan. I showed the film to Chuck Light, part of the Green Mountain Post organization with links to MUSE and who I thought

RECYCLED RADIATION

Dear It's About Times,

Are you aware that the NRC has relaxed its rules for disposal of low-level radioactive wastes? Last summer the NRC asked for opinions about their plans to allow university and other research laboratories to dispose of radioactive animal carcasses and other research wastes into the environment. An unofficial vote ensued: 43 people in the United States opposed the plan while 249 said it wouldn't hurt. . .

Now the NRC would like to dispose of several thousand tons of radioactive metals by selling the materials into normal commercial channels. Figures are available for the radiation doses one would receive from belt buckles, surgical pins, and bracelets made from these materials.

I wonder how many people will be able to tear themselves from exciting projects and organizational politics to vote in the next national NRC "election." The industrial-military-university alliance marches on.

-- Garrett Connelly
Santa Barbara

Dear readers,

After two and a half years of publishing *IAT*, we are faced with a serious shortage of money. We need your help in order to continue.

IAT is an all volunteer effort, so every subscription dollar goes a long way. We manage to meet 70% of our expenses from subscription revenues already, but we need other sources of income to pay the difference and to get the paper out to more people.

We would like to thank everyone who has responded to our recent mailed plea for funds. Your prompt

and generous replies will allow us to put out the next few issues, and they make us feel that we're doing something useful and appreciated.

In order to keep us from facing another crisis in a few months, we need support from more of you. Subscribe (if you don't already) or give a gift subscription to your public library. Help us distribute the paper in your area so more potential subscribers will see it. Or just send us a few dollars every once in a while.

Thanks,
The *IAT* staff

represented, though unofficially, the antinuclear media clearing house. At that time the call had gone out to independent filmmakers for assistance with a planned production to be shown at Madison Square Garden. A meeting had been held and ideas discussed. It seemed that MUSE was going to involve a number of "outside" filmmakers in the process (outside MUSE, that is).

Chuck looked at my film, took a lot of notes, said he was not interested in either utilizing all or part of it in the concert presentation and further that Green Mountain Post would not be interested in distributing it. MUSE then went on to spend more than \$30,000 to produce their own mini feature which many felt was not effective anyway and which has had little exposure since. Incidentally, we would have been happy to provide our film at no cost.

Following the knockback, *Harrisburg* was not seen for many months since it was difficult to find a distributor for such a film. Finally Bullfrog Films took it and it has been used since by the movement, in the spirit in which it was con-

ceived. Further, it has shown commercially and successfully in Australian theaters, and is distributed in Britain and in Sweden -- no thanks to MUSE or to Green Mountain Post.

In the meantime the film *No Nukes!* has flopped. From an ideological point of view that is fortunate since its approach and its content were travesties to an intelligent, viable and growing alternative movement, which was grossly misrepresented in the film.

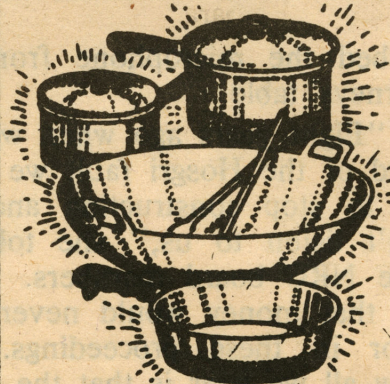
The record has done reasonably, but when asked if the Australian antinuclear movement, for instance, would receive any royalties from Australian record sales, the answer was "no way." In other words MUSE, like EXXON and McDonald's, is in the business of exploitation and manipulation; cultural and in this sad instance, antinuclear imperialism.

-- Andrew Phillips

Ed note: The issue of *Comment* referred to is Volume 1, number 3, available for \$0.80 from P.O. Box 371, Hoboken, NJ 07030.

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Abalone Alliance Newspaper

It's About Times



It's About Times is the newspaper of the Abalone Alliance, a California anti-nuclear/safe energy organization consisting of over 60 member groups. (See page 11.) The opinions expressed in *IAT* are those of the authors and are not necessarily endorsed by the Abalone Alliance.

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Opposition delays UC labs contract renewal



photo by Steve Stallone

Demonstrators bring their own missile to a UC Berkeley demonstration against the proposed renewal of the university's management contract for the Livermore and Los Alamos weapons laboratories.

The University tried to pull a fast one last month on critics of its ties with the nuclear weapons laboratories at Livermore and Los Alamos, but a statewide mobilization stymied its efforts to steamroll a new five-year contract with the labs through the Board of Regents.

Every five years since 1952, the University has renewed its contract with the Department of Energy to manage the deadly work at the two weapons laboratories. This time, as the University well knows, the contract renewal will not be a routine matter. Several years of protest from UC students and faculty have generated a good deal of pressure for severance.

In a crude attempt to stifle public debate, the University announced at the beginning of May that it would move consideration of the contract from the October Regents

meeting to the May 15 meeting. With only two weeks notice, rallies were organized on the UC campuses at Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz and Berkeley. Twenty-five students arrested at a sit-in at UC Santa Barbara are planning a political trial to focus attention on the University's management of the labs.

The Regents decided to postpone the contract vote until their June 19 meeting. UC President David Saxon said after the meeting that this decision was made because of student and faculty concern about the issue. But behind-the-scenes machinations by some of California's ambitious liberal politicians may have influenced the decision.

State Assembly Speaker Willie Brown, who was unable to attend the May 15 Regents' meeting, sent a message the day before to a Regents'

committee suggesting that he would attempt to delay legislative action on the UC budget if the labs contract vote wasn't postponed until the June Regents' meeting.

Governor Jerry Brown has taken a stand opposing the university's management of the weapons labs. But his aide, Phil Greenberg, told members of the Labs Conversion Project that there was no point in Brown's pushing on the issue since, in his opinion, students on the campus weren't active anyway. Jerry Brown's alternative was to propose that the University establish a "peace research center" to "counterbalance" the work of the weapons labs.

Brown has also failed to fill three vacant seats on the Board of Regents. While three more votes wouldn't give the labs opponents a

majority, they would make the anti-labs position stronger and would make Brown's stance more credible.

Although the labs opponents had demanded that the contract vote be postponed until the Regents' October meeting, even their sympathizers on the board voted to delay it only until June 19, just after students have finished their finals and are leaving for the summer.

But labs opponents are still organizing. The UC Weapons Labs Conversion Project is trying to set up a public hearing with the Regents at UC Berkeley during the first week of June.

If you would like to get involved, and especially if you are interested in attending the demonstration at the June 19 Regents meeting, call (415) 982-5578.

-- Dave Raymond
Conversion Project

Protests target weapons sites

Five hundred and fifty people braved the rain on April 25 to protest the storage of nuclear weapons at the Concord Naval Weapons Station and call for a freeze of the nuclear arms race. An MX missile float and the "Trident Monster" escorted the marchers to a rally, which was followed by workshops.

The protest was one of nearly 60 "Freeze the Arms Race" actions held that day near nuclear weapons facilities in American and Canadian cities. There were 8000 protesters in Denver, 2000 each in Groton, Connecticut and Vancouver, and smaller vigils in Arkansas and Tennessee -- places where visible opposition to the arms race is extraordinary and significant.

All three national television net-

works, as well as national radio outlets and the Japanese press, covered the protests.

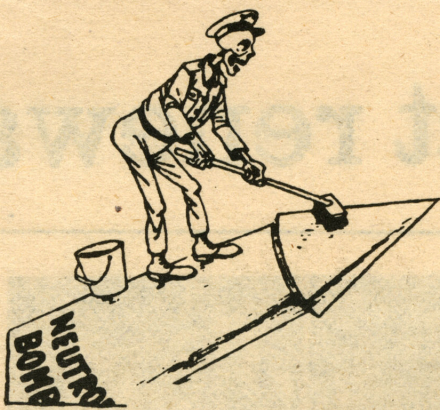
In northern California, organizing efforts around nuclear weapons facilities are targeting the Alameda Naval Air Station, Mare Island Naval Shipyard, (Vallejo), Mather Air Force Base (Sacramento), Lawrence Livermore Lab, Moffett Naval Air Station (Mountain View) and the Lockheed facilities near Santa Cruz. For more information about the nuclear weapons in your backyard, see "Where the Bombs Are" in the April issue of *New West* or contact the Mt. Diablo Peace Center, 65 Eckley Lane, Walnut Creek 94596, (415) 933-7850.

-- Gary McGehee-Dobson
Mt. Diablo Peace Center



photo by Ed Grant

Protest outside the Concord Naval Weapons Station on April 25.



Bombs Away!

Utahans investigate fallout effects

"If the Department of Energy tells me the sun rises in the east, I'll be looking for it in the west in the morning," said a man who lives downwind of the Nevada Test Site, where hundreds of aboveground nuclear explosions were detonated between 1951 and 1962. This man, who has lost two children and three relatives to leukemia, has learned to mistrust the federal agencies whose purpose is to protect the weapons testing program.

Thousands of Nevadans and Utahans were exposed to radioactive fallout from the tests, and many have developed cancers or leukemias

that they attribute to the testing. But the US government refuses to admit any liability for their illnesses. At a pre-trial hearing now underway in Salt Lake City, the government filed a four-inch thick motion to dismiss the cases of 1000 Utahans in an attempt to establish that it is not responsible for acts (like exploding a nuclear bomb) that result from high-level policy decisions. A second motion filed at the same time seeks to dismiss the case by invoking the statute of limitations.

Lawyers for the plaintiffs, including Stewart Udall, Secretary of the Interior under Johnson, believe that in spite of the two government motions, the judge will hear the case in full when it comes to trial in September.

Citizens' Call, a Utah-based organization formed to coordinate the efforts of the downwind residents, continues to document the government's negligence in the conduct of the weapons tests. They are aided in this effort by the recently released minutes of the Atomic Energy Commission, wherein Commissioners admit that certain towns in Utah, like St. George and Pioche, were "always plastered" with fallout. Another federal report shows that in southern Utah and Nevada the Atomic Energy Commission measured heavier concentrations of fallout than permitted under its own guidelines.

The members of Citizens' Call are learning to practice "barefoot epidemiology" as they work to recreate a street-by-street map of the

populations residing in the path of fallout during the fifties. By using old telephone directories and utility company records in combination with available fallout maps and health questionnaires, they hope to locate former residents, establish records of radiation exposure, and correlate exposure with cancer incidence.

Residents of the Great Basin have mounted a postcard campaign protesting the continued underground testing of nuclear weapons at the Nevada Test Site. Twelve hundred postcards were sent to the Department of Energy (DOE) after a belatedly announced test on February 25.

Since the DOE doesn't announce its tests in advance, Citizens' Call uses seismographic equipment to detect them. The group is worried about the continual accidental ventings from the underground tests and the potential for contamination of the water table. They also suspect the tests have had an influence on the increased seismic activity in California.

Citizens' Call recognizes the global as well as the local implications of the development and testing of ever more sophisticated weapons. Preston Truman, speaking on behalf of Citizens' Call at UC Berkeley on May 13, observed, "When it comes to the time when nuclear weapons are used, we will all be downwinders."

-- Wendy Tanowitz

UC Nuclear Weapons Labs
Conversion Project

"Arms control" at Livermore

The Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory hosted top Reagan administration policy makers at an "arms control" conference on May 26 and 27. UC professor of physics Charles Schwartz said the conference was put on by the laboratory "to give it visibility and prestige in Washington." LLNL associate director Michael May, who organized the conference, denied this, saying it was a useful exercise, and not merely a public relations effort.

The conference gave the weapons designers a chance to display their ideas on arms control, which not surprisingly sounded a lot like plans for further arms development. According to May, who organized the conference, "the development of survivable systems is not only an essential requirement for strategic stability, it is probably also a prerequisite to meaningful arms control."

UC President David Saxon's appearance as the keynote speaker underscored the university's involvement in this business. UC has also announced that it will host a conference on "Arms Control and International Security" next March. Three out of seven members of the planning committee for the conference are directors of the laboratories who have lobbied in the past against arms control, and two others are professors who are advisors to the Pentagon.

Hiroshima studies updated

Radiation hazards worse than feared

New studies of the Hiroshima atomic bombing indicate that nuclear radiation may be far more harmful than previously believed. According to the May 22 issue of *Science*, research at the Lawrence Livermore and Oak Ridge national laboratories shows that "some of the most important data on the effects of nuclear radiation on humans may be wrong. The new findings are far from welcome. . . and will worry the advocates of nuclear power."

These tentative conclusions by Livermore physicists William Loewe and Edgar Mendelsohn are based on recalculations of the radiation fields produced by the atomic bombs

dropped on Japan in 1945. Computer reconstructions of the Hiroshima explosion show that the neutron radiation it produced has been overestimated in previous health studies by as much as a factor of 10.

It has long been assumed that much of the cancer among Hiroshima victims was caused by neutron radiation. But if the neutron dose was so low, the article says, "one must conclude that the gamma rays were more toxic than had been thought."

These findings have profound implications for the nuclear industry.

Gamma radiation-emitting wastes are produced in large quantities by nuclear power plants and are released both routinely and in accidents. Gamma rays are also the major form of radiation received by nuclear plant workers. *Science* comments that if the research proves to be correct, "it will necessitate the rewriting of many basic documents on the hazards of radiation," including the 1980 report of the Biological Effects of Ionizing Radiation (BEIR) committee of the National Academy of Sciences. That report was marked by great controversy within the committee over the meaning of the Hiroshima cancer data.

The new studies appear to vindicate the position of those scientists who thought the report understated radiation risks. One such scientist, BEIR committee chair Edward Rutherford, considers the 1980 report obsolete and expects it will be updated to show a quadrupled risk of getting cancer from radiation exposure.

The Hiroshima studies are regarded as especially significant because, according to *Science*, "the cancer mortality data from Hiroshima are among the most valuable in the world. Unlike the data from Nagasaki, they are abundant enough to show a clear relationship between doses of radiation received and ill effects. . . an increase in dose above the natural background radiation correlates with a proportional increase in ill effects. The pattern suggests that an increase in radiation, no matter how small, increases the risk of getting cancer."

The Defense Nuclear Agency's Office of Target and Damage Assessment is sponsoring the Oak Ridge study only "because nobody else was interested," according to a staffer quoted by *Science*. "This work is really of marginal interest to us and we really can't afford to spend much money studying civil effects. . . the electric power people really should be interested." But he acknowledges that it would be best if the sponsor were an independent group not associated with the weapons program or the nuclear industry.

The *Science* article was important enough to make the front page of many daily newspapers on May 15, and was generally accurately reported. But the account in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, written by its science editor David Perlman, appeared to get the story exactly backwards. It reported that the new studies might result in raising the permissible levels of radiation exposure.



New studies indicate that cancer among survivors was caused by lower radiation doses than previously believed.

Major power complex cancelled

New French president rethinks nukes

The new Socialist Party president of France, Francois Mitterand, says he will work against the "all nuclear" approach which until now has characterized French energy policy. Already Mitterand has canceled a strongly contested nuclear power plant in Plogoff, Brittany and has halted nuclear testing in the Pacific Islands, pending further study.

But Mitterand is not totally opposed to nuclear power, and the new government's policy will not become fully clear until after the upcoming parliamentary elections, the first round of which will be held on June 14. The French Communist Party, which supported Mitterand in the run-off election and may have some influence in his government, is firmly committed to the nuclear option.

During the presidential campaign, Mitterand stated that he would not go ahead with controversial plans to build nuclear power plants in Golfech, in southwest

France, and in Cattenom, near the Luxembourg-German border. The official Socialist Party program opposes the long-term fast breeder option, but it implies a readiness to complete the construction of the Malville Fast Breeder while postponing a decision on whether or not to operate it.

In response to questioning by the Ecology Party candidate Brice Lalonde, who got 3.9% of the vote, Mitterand came out in favor of the principle of using a referendum formula to consult the French population about nuclear policy decisions. But, Mitterand added, this will require a revision of the French constitution.

Like de Gaulle in the '60's, Mitterand is likely to steer a foreign policy course more independent of the US and NATO. But to accomplish this he will have to continue expanding France's strategic nuclear deterrent, especially its submarine force.

-- from WISE



Navy communication scheme opposed

Peace, environmental and religious groups in Wisconsin and Michigan staged a series of actions in April opposing completion of the Navy's Project ELF, an Extremely Low Frequency communications link to the fleet of Trident submarines now being built.

From underground antenna networks near Marquette, Michigan and Clam Lake, Wisconsin, ELF would generate electromagnetic fields capable of transmitting one-way messages to Trident submarines. Unlike conventional radio signals, ELF transmissions could be received deep underwater so the subs would not risk detection by

approaching the surface. The Navy terms ELF "absolutely essential" for communications with the Trident submarines.

Opponents of ELF charge that it is part of the newly-declared US policy of achieving first-strike capability. With ELF, Tridents could launch their super-accurate missiles in a surprise attack to knock out practically all Russian missiles before they could be launched in retaliation. Since the ELF system's antenna is buried only to a depth of six feet, it would be destroyed by a nuclear attack and would therefore be useful only for a first-strike, not for retaliation

against a Soviet strike. Robert Aldridge contends that ELF would also be used by military commanders in underground command posts during nuclear war to direct the launching of MX missiles, cruise missiles and inter-continental bombers.

ELF radiation is a potential immediate health hazard as well. The human brain and central nervous system function electromagnetically in the ELF frequency range. Animal tests have shown that ELF causes stress, bone tumors, changes in heart rate and blood pressure, altered growth and death.

ELF has been included in the Reagan defense budget, although Admiral Thomas B. Hayward and Navy Deputy Undersecretary Robert Murray recommended in March that Project ELF be dropped because "it would not be able to withstand a nuclear attack" and because of high cost. The Reagan administration will continue funding for the Clam Lake test facility which can be used by itself as an ELF system.

For more information contact Stop Project ELF, RR 2, Box 166Q, Ashland, WI 54806.

Pronukes target local governments

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councils. But Mary Griffin, former mayor of Milbrae, a town on the San Francisco peninsula, told *It's About Times* that a couple council members from nearby cities were taken on a special tour of Diablo in April, shortly after the votes on FEF's pro-Diablo resolutions. Returning from the trip, they echoed PG&E arguments about California's coming electrical shortage: Brownouts are imminent and nuclear is the only alternative to oil-fired plants.

Ed Simmon, a city council member in San Bruno, went along on the PG&E junket. Despite his pronuclear vote, he considers the resolution little more than a piece of paper going nowhere. "We pass several resolutions a month," he said. "What the hell do we know about nuclear power? But I honestly believe we're going to have nuclear power. I don't know if Diablo is safe. . . [but] somebody's got to make the decision. As long as it's safe, it should be used."

South San Francisco mayor Ronald Acosta, who also voted for the pro-Diablo resolution, wants the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to "get off the dime" and issue a

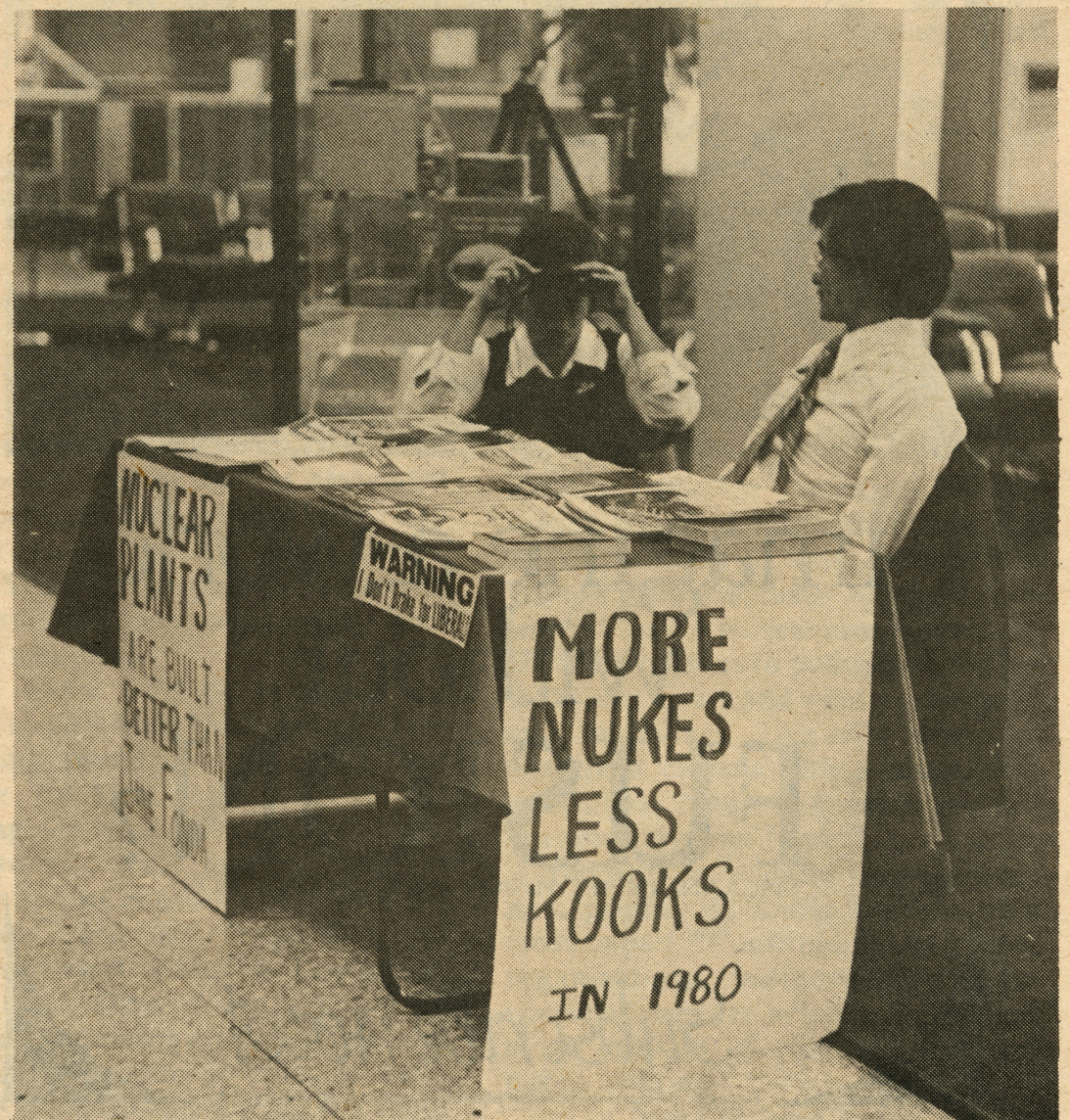
license at Diablo. But he admits that "the prospect of a meltdown does worry me. I'm a pessimist."

FEF's efforts aren't limited to lobbying for Diablo. It has launched a nationwide campaign to put Three Mile Island's undamaged Unit 1 back into operation. It is also pushing for the immediate licensing of all completed nuclear plants.

Pro-Diablo resolutions promoted by the Fusion Energy Foundation or Citizens for Adequate Energy are likely to continue to appear on city council agendas. The city clerk can tell you whether your city has received such a request and if so, when it will be placed on the agenda.

Californians for Nuclear Safeguards will provide assistance to anyone who wishes to speak against the licensing of Diablo at a city council meeting. They would appreciate being notified if you learn that your city is considering the pro-Diablo resolution. For more information contact Californians for Nuclear Safeguards, 944 Market Street, Room 309, San Francisco 94102, (415) 543-8072.

-- Mark Evanoff
IAT staff



Members of the ICLC at the Oakland airport

Of "kooks" and fronts: Fusion fantasies fuel fission fanatics

The Fusion Energy Foundation is the nonprofit arm of the International Caucus of Labor Committees (ICLC), a group whose bizarre ideological journey began in the sixties when it was part of Students for a Democratic Society. But over the years the ICLC gave up its vision of organizing workers for socialism. It now believes in a world based on high technology and economic growth, ruled by those persons with the "highest level of moral development."

Under the leadership of Lyndon H. LaRouche, their erstwhile candidate for the US presidency, the ICLC has come to promote nuclear energy passionately, advocate tough drug laws and maintain surveillance on groups that "conspire against" their goals. LaRouche divides people into three classes: his supporters, known as the humanists; those who conspire against him; and everyone else, known as sheep and non-humans.

Much of LaRouche's rhetoric has the flavor of apocalyptic paranoia. For example, he writes, "The citizen builds nuclear energy plants. Whenever some crazed anti-technology madman from the dark ages attempts to besiege the plant, the citizen becomes what he or she is trained to be, the citizen soldier, who picks up weapons and deploys as an organized force to eliminate the 'environmentalist' menace to organization."

Throughout the seventies the ICLC, under the names of the National Caucus of Labor Committees and the US Labor Party, propagated a dizzying array of con-

spiracy theories. All of them come complete with power fiends bent on destroying a civilization whose only hope of salvation is Lyndon LaRouche and the development of fusion energy.

The latest conspiracy revealed by ICLC is the Global 2000 genocide program, a plan supposedly being administered by the US State Department's Office of Population Affairs to "reduce the world's population by two billion people through war, famine, disease and any other means necessary," according to ICLC's newspaper, *New Solidarity*. The plan was allegedly established by Henry Kissinger in 1975, continued under the Carter administration and is now being administered by Alexander Haig behind Reagan's back. It is implemented by a process of de-industrialization and zero growth in the advanced countries and by denying high technology, especially nuclear power, to developing countries.

The identities of the fiends behind these dastardly schemes are always changing -- sometimes it's the British oligarchs, sometimes Soviet intelligence, sometimes Rockefeller and the Trilateral Commission. But, as in soap opera, if you miss an episode you can pick up the plot without too much trouble: there is a conspiracy afoot to plunge us into a new Dark Ages and stop LaRouche from realizing his global nuclear fusion fantasy.

Antinukes are always presented as drug-crazed, anti-civilization terrorists duped by some one or more of the evil forces. Last August's issue of ICLC's *Fusion* magazine

informs us that "the drug culture and its rock music were deliberately introduced into American Society to destroy the minds of youth and prevent the nation from continuing to lead the world in science and technology."

To combat what they see as an antinuclear predilection for terrorism, the ICLC has organized the New Solidarity International Press Service, with offices throughout Europe, South America and the US. This is part of ICLC's efforts to help law enforcement agencies, which it believes are hamstrung in their intelligence gathering efforts by legalities like civil rights. According to its publication, *Investigative Leads*, in order "to bust terrorists, you have to

In 1976 and 1980, Lyndon LaRouche ran for president of the United States. He bought a half-hour television spot on Super Bowl Sunday in 1980 and his campaign qualified for over \$327,000 in Federal matching funds. Other members of his party were encouraged to run for local offices to help draw attention to his presidential campaign.

The group is also active in local affairs. In Detroit, civic leaders endorsed an ICLC-sponsored anti-drug coalition. In nearby Flint, the associate editor of *Fusion*, Stepehn Bardwell, was the keynote speaker at an NAACP scholarship dinner and was presented with a key to the city by a representative of the mayor.

ICLC has propagated a dizzying array of conspiracy theories, all complete with power fiends bent on destroying civilization

reach into levels above suspicion."

The ICLC's "investigations" led it to inform the New Hampshire state police that the 1977 occupation of the Seabrook nuclear power plant was a terrorist project. Robin Read of the Clamshell Alliance explained that this "information" was leaked by the police to New Hampshire Governor Meldrim Thomson, who used it in an attempt to discredit the Clam.

Investigative Leads also kept a close eye on the May 1980 attempted occupation of Seabrook. It explained that the occupation failed not only because of the demonstrators' inability to break through police lines, but also because "the groups of European antinuclear activists, including avowed terrorists, who were scheduled to come to provide expert assistance, were refused entry to the US by alert Customs officials." In addition, says the magazine, "the massive use of drugs by demonstrators... impaired their ability to sustain even the level of activity seen at previous demonstrations against the Seabrook site."

The ICLC has repeatedly said that the Clamshell is a threat to national security and has called for a Congressional investigation. Even Amory Lovins and Friends of the Earth have come under attack; they are linked through FOE's Mexican branch to "British or even Soviet intelligence."

In the early seventies, ICLC launched a policy called "Operation Mop-up" -- physical assaults on leftist groups with whom they disagreed. Recently, ICLC has taken up verbal and written harassment of "terrorist" groups. At the MUSE concerts in 1979 it circulated a handbill claiming that the events were a "stage for terrorism."

Members of ICLC have attended an anti-terrorist training camp in Powder Springs, Georgia that is operated by Mitchell Werbell III, an international arms dealer and advisor to South American dictators. The group also has its own special camp in upstate New York to train members from around the world in guerilla warfare.

ICLC has made its presence felt by persistence. Through numerous phone calls the Fusion Energy Foundation has been granted meetings with top policy officials. The head of fusion research in the Department of Energy has cooperated with the group, and dozens of corporate executives, physicists and government planners serve as figureheads on its advisory board. Energy researchers report that FEF provides them with accurate information about developments in fusion research months before the government does.

Forty thousand subscribers get the monthly *Fusion* magazine. Ohio Congressman Clarence Brown recently wrote a guest column in it, though his office now claims Brown didn't realize what kind of group published the magazine.

All this work is accomplished by an estimated 800 members, all of them loyal to LaRouche. They give their personal possessions to the organization and put in long hours of required "volunteer" work.

The ICLC's twisted logic and intricately woven conspiracy theories have led even those who are attracted by its high technology pitch to question its credibility. At the same time, its persistence has given it a certain amount of legitimacy and its fanaticism makes it dangerous.



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without
FUSION?

MAGAZINE OF THE FUSION ENERGY FOUNDATION

Subscribe now!

Fill out the membership and subscription blank on this issue's insert card.

An ad for the ICLC's magazine, *Fusion*.



ICLC's view of American devolution

A pronuclear menagerie

\$388,000 last year

PG&E buys a "grassroots" group

Its name and its trappings imply a grassroots organization earnestly dedicated to its cause. It has local chapters, a monthly newsletter, and treats its members to social affairs like "energy luaus." But an only slightly closer inspection makes Citizens for Adequate Energy (CAE) look a lot like a public relations front for the Pacific Gas and Electric Company.

The utility helped CAE get started in late 1979. In 1980, PG&E gave the group contributions totaling \$388,645 -- \$170,000 of it in cash and the rest in "in-kind payments" to PG&E employees for doing CAE work.

PG&E's public relations officer Dick Davin told *IAT* that PG&E was an "early sponsor and supporter" of CAE, and continues to be "pleased with its educational program to keep people informed of their energy options." But Davin did not agree with our suggestion that the group is doing public relations work for the utility, although CAE's energy ideas are virtually indistinguishable from PG&E's. Davin explains that the distinction is that CAE "isn't selling PG&E."

As for those PG&E employees who work for CAE, Davin said they do "everything from liaison work to research." For example, he explained, in-kind contributions to CAE have paid for PG&E employees to drive people to CAE meetings, attend those meetings themselves, speak at CAE events like the pronuclear "coffee klatsches" on Nuclear Education Day in 1979, prepare to give the speeches, put together publicity materials for CAE, research topics like cogeneration for CAE, and have their secretaries type up CAE materials.

Davin said he had no idea how many PG&E employees were members of CAE, but confirmed that PG&E vice president Richard Clark serves on the group's steering committee. A Bechtel vice president, Robert Allen, is also on that committee.

The extent of PG&E's corporate generosity was discovered in Public Utilities Commission financial records by Dwight Cocke of Californians for Nuclear Safeguards. CAE executive director Marisa Samuels, apparently trying to minimize the donations, told *IAT* that the contributions were made over the years 1979, 1980 and 1981. Davin of PG&E said the donations covered 1979 and 1980. But Public Utilities

Commission staff confirm that the \$388,000 figure is for 1980 contributions only.

According to Samuels, 4000 individuals and 100 companies "with an interest in California's economy" belong to CAE. She wouldn't say which of these companies have given money to the group. But old CAE leaflets prominently displayed the names of the corporate contributors, including six stock brokerage firms, California's two largest banks, two oil companies and numerous nuclear construction companies.

Since it was founded a year and a half ago, CAE has organized local chapters throughout the state which give public presentations on the benefits of nuclear power and the necessity of licensing the Diablo Canyon nuclear plant. CAE claims to represent the majority that believes Diablo is the only way to assure a reliable supply of electricity. It pledges to help "get things moving again."

CAE also attacks critics of Diablo, though not by name. "Those who would block all energy projects seem to work around the clock," one of their leaflets reads. "They're flamboyant. Their claims are scary. They make the news. And... they have just about succeeded in bringing the regulatory and decision making process to a grinding halt."

Students for Adequate Energy, an unofficial CAE affiliate in San Luis Obispo, habitually shows up at anti- Diablo events. During the low-power testing hearings in May, members of the group placed them-



A photo in a CAE newspaper. The caption claims that Diablo Canyon could save this much oil every minute.

selves between the entrance to the hearings and the protesters. While the crowd was listening to Sandy Silver of the Mothers for Peace speak to the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, the president of Students for Adequate Energy clambered onto an imitation barrel that was supposed to represent the oil Diablo would save. He started giving his worn pro- Diablo harangue, but was pushed to the ground.

CAE chapters throughout the PG&E service area placed "Enough is Enough" ads in their local newspapers last January. Their efforts to get local governments to pass pro- Diablo resolutions have not been overwhelmingly successful; so far only the El Dorado County chapter

has been able to persuade its board of supervisors to go along with it. An unidentified CAE staff person said the resolution campaign has been an "ad hoc effort" that may "get better organized" soon.

Although none of the three CAE chapter chairpersons interviewed by *IAT* could clearly explain the organization's structure or decision making process, its goals remain clear: "We must streamline needlessly time-consuming licensing and permitting processes. We must get rid of inconsistent, unclear and conflicting local, state and federal energy environmental policies."

Sound familiar?

-- Mark Evanoff
IAT staff

Their masters' voice

Members of the local Community Energy Action Network (CEAN) first noticed Chris Worsham last fall when she and some cohorts showed up at a CEAN press conference in October. "They ran up to the television cameras and said they were concerned citizens who wanted to make a statement," recalls one CEAN member. CEAN was protesting the Southwest Interconnection Project, the San Diego Gas and Electric Company's proposed power line that would stretch from Arizona to San Diego. Worsham and her group, San Diego Voice of Energy, wanted to make it known that a grassroots organization — namely, themselves — was in favor of the project. The television cameras dutifully taped

Worsham's statement. To the CEAN members it sounded an awful lot like the voice of SDG&E. A few of them wondered if San Diego had become graced by what CEAN members see as a disturbing national trend: so-called citizens groups, actually fronts for the energy industry, speaking out vociferously in favor of industry proposals and programs, particularly nuclear power. CEAN's hunch was correct.

Last summer San Diego Gas and Electric Company contributed \$5000 to San Diego Voice of Energy, a sum which represents more than half of that group's budget for last year. Combustion Engineering, the firm that built the nuclear reactor and its associated electrical generating systems for the San Onofre nuclear power plant, contributed \$750 last summer to the group. The rest of its money came mainly from its 150 members.

"We knew we'd be criticized for taking money from the industry," says Worsham, president of the group, "but they're working for us, we're not working for them. They don't tell us what to say. They have to take the chance that we're going to say anything we want." For San Diego Gas and Electric, it wasn't a big risk. Last month at the San Diego County Board of Supervisors hearing on the high-voltage powerline the utility is trying to build from Arizona to San Diego, Worsham and other Voice of Energy members spoke in favor of it again as a "group of concerned citizens." They didn't an-

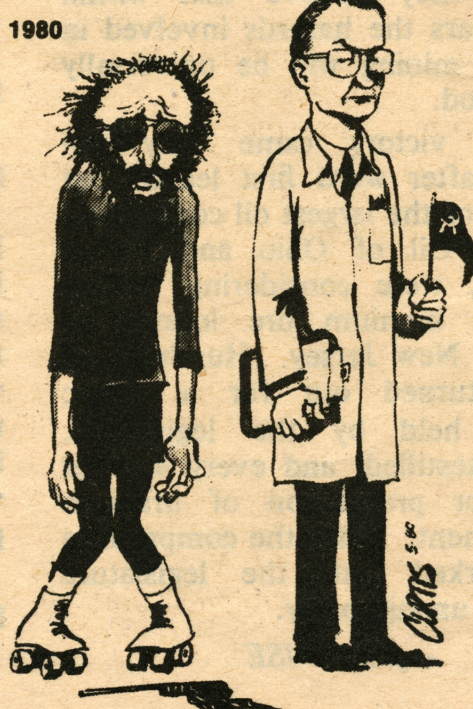
nounce that much of the money for their fancy brochures and information packets comes from the local utility. "We would have told them (the supervisors — who contributed money to us if they'd asked," says Worsham. "We have nothing to hide. The most logical place to get money is from the people who think like you do."

Voice of Energy representatives have spoken at Public Utilities Commission hearings on the powerline, and in April sent representatives to Department of Energy hearings in San Francisco which are open to public comment concerning low-level nuclear waste. Earlier this year the citizens group brought a guest speaker from the American Nuclear Society to talk to schoolchildren at San Diego Academy in National City. The group's members, many of whom have worked for the nuclear energy industry, are writing letters to politicians, "telling them who we are and what we support," says Worsham. "We're a group of concerned citizens with a cause," she continues. "But you can't run an operation without funds."

And without funds the group couldn't have printed up a nice brochure that reads in part, "Contributions from civic organizations, businesses, and concerned citizens are welcomed..." There is no mention of contributions from public utilities.

— Mike Boland

Reprinted from the *San Diego Reader*, April 16, 1981.



1970

1980

Short Circuits

SCHOOLS ORDERED TO HELP DRAFT

The California State Senate has voted 23 to 8 to require schools and colleges to give lists of students' names and addresses to military recruiters, unless the students or their parents individually object in writing.

Currently, schools in California can decide whether or not to hand over names and addresses of their students to Armed Forces recruiters. The new bill, which now goes to the State Assembly, provides that school districts must give military recruiters the information for a reasonable fee.

-- from Zodiac News Service

FRENCHMAN IRRADIATES BOSS

A former employee of the French reprocessing plant at La Hague, convicted in 1979 of using radiation to poison his boss, is now free after having paid a \$1000 fine and receiving a stay on a prison sentence.

Noel Lecomte, 28, served nine months in prison in 1979 and 1980 after admitting he had stolen three radioactive gas graphite fuel element "plugs" from a storage pool at the La Hague reprocessing plant and placed them under the car seat of his boss, Guy Busin. Lecomte said Busin had been harassing him.

The plugs went undiscovered for six months in 1978, during which time Busin was continually fatigued and fell asleep easily. The plugs were blamed for a car accident he had in November 1978. Their radiation level while in the car fell from 15 rads to 10 rads per hour. Doctors said the radiation Busin sustained clearly increased his chances of getting cancer or leukemia.

-- from Not Man Apart

MINI-MISSILES FOR AMERICA

According to Reuters News Service, a "Small Intercontinental Ballistic Missile Plan" that would involve scattering 3000 or more small missiles across the US has been proposed by the Pentagon. Because of their small size, the new missiles could be carried around and launched from trucks or helicopters. Administration sources say this would enhance their prospects for surviving an attack.

Some Pentagon thinkers are afraid the new plan could be used in an effort to scuttle the MX, but the Air Force believes that the MX won't be affected because the small missiles would take much longer to develop and would cost a lot more. The plan's advocates say that the new system could deter a strike even if the Soviets build enough warheads to destroy the MX.

-- from KPFA

GOODIES FOR THE PENTAGON

On May 14 the Senate approved a \$136 billion military budget by a 92 to 1 vote. Only Senator Mark Hatfield (R.-Ore.) voted against it.

The budget will buy \$2.4 billion worth of MX, no matter where it is deployed, and another \$2.4 billion worth of some new bomber to replace the B-52. The Senate budget allocates \$158 million to reactivate the battleship New Jersey and arm it with cruise missiles. And the Senate inserted a \$31 million research program on optical probes, which will be launched into space for early-warning purposes. Another \$50 million will go for research on laser anti-ballistic missile systems.

-- from S.F. Examiner

NEW JERSEY BANS URANIUM MINING

On May 4 the governor of New Jersey signed a bill making the state the second in the country to ban uranium exploration, mining and milling. A similar law was passed in Vermont a year ago.

The New Jersey ban, which became effectively immediately, expires in seven years. It represents a compromise between a bill to ban uranium mining permanently and one authorizing the state to regulate it. The New Jersey Coalition to Stop Uranium Mining, a network of local opposition groups, helped work out the compromise because they feared a permanent ban wouldn't get through the state legislature and because they believe that within seven years the hazards involved in uranium mining will be universally understood.

The victory came only ten months after word first leaked out that two of the largest oil companies, Standard Oil of Ohio and Exxon Minerals, were considering mining the rich uranium ore located in northern New Jersey. Hundreds of people turned out for a public hearing held by the legislature. Dozens testified, and every speaker called for prohibition of uranium development. After the compromise was worked out, the legislature passed it unanimously.

-- from WISE

THE WAR GAMES AT HOME

Robert Lucky, a researcher at Bell Laboratories, is working on a new video war game that will be played by tens of thousands of people simultaneously. Lucky says his invention, which he calls "Gamenet," will be ready in a few years. All you'll need to play will be a television set and a telephone.

The participants will be interconnected by a special worldwide telephone hook-up. Lucky says that the thousands of interfaced "warriors" will be able to team up or fight against each other, with all of the individual moves being monitored by a central computer.

-- from Zodiac News Service

OCCUPATIONAL HAZARDS

The San Diego Gas and Electric Company has removed its company insignia from the 500 cars in its fleet in an effort to curb threats of violence from customers angered over rising utility bills.

A company spokesperson says that utility employees have been abused, insulted and shoved around when they appear in company cars. They have been confronted when stopped at traffic lights and when pulling into filling stations.

Although there have been no reports of physical assaults, the utility decided to remove its initials from the cars shortly after electricity rates went up sharply. The utility's press officer, Dick Licciardi, says, "Unfortunately, we now have the second highest electricity rates in the nation."

-- from Zodiac News Service

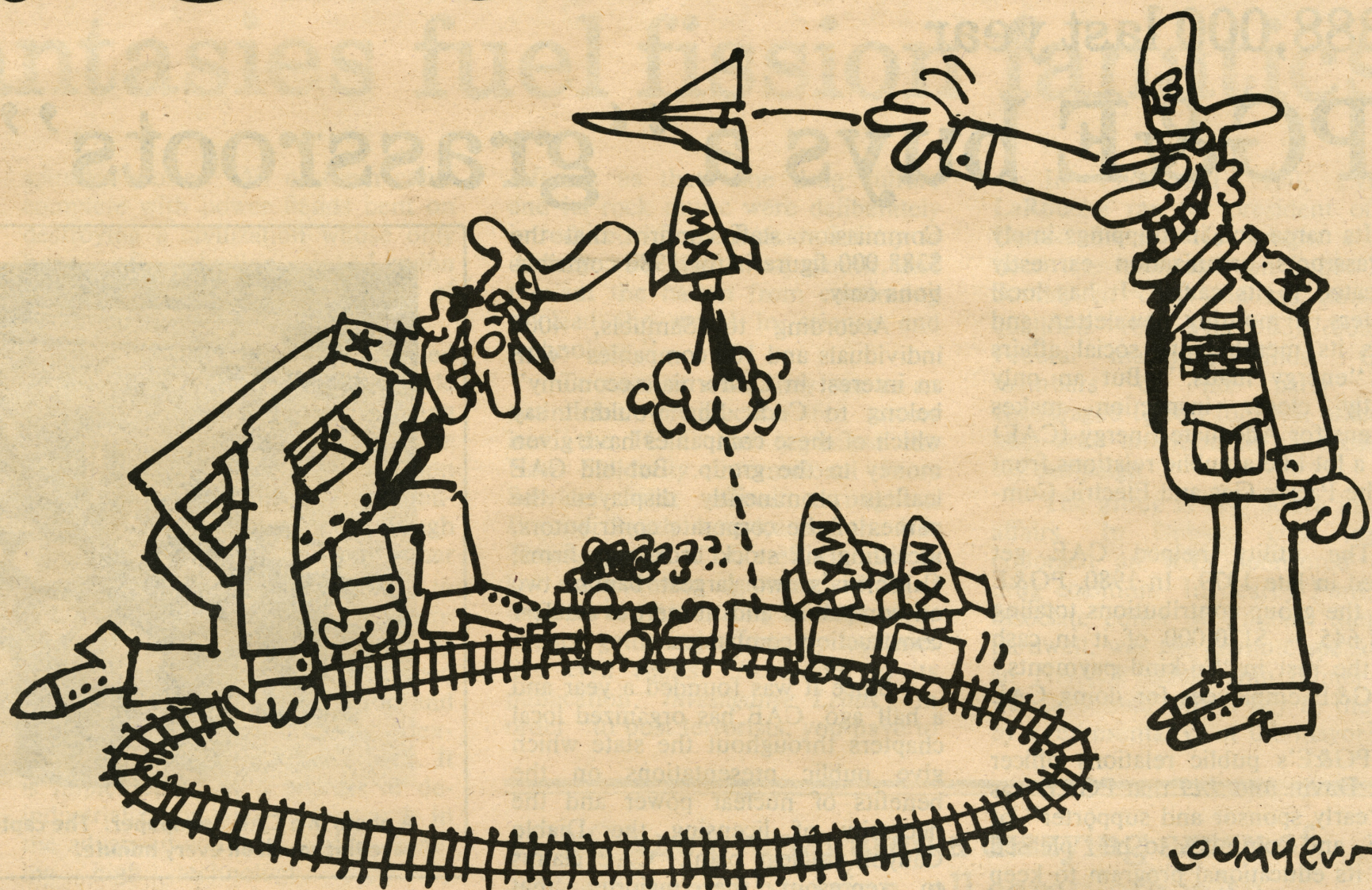
\$10 A GALLON?

Are you ready to pay \$10 for a gallon of gasoline?

Frank Zarb, who was Federal Energy Administrator under both Presidents Nixon and Ford, says that's how much gas will cost by the turn of the century. Zarb says that when he forecast in the mid-1970's that gasoline would cost \$1 a gallon by 1980, his prediction was greeted with skepticism. It has, of course, proved to be conservative.

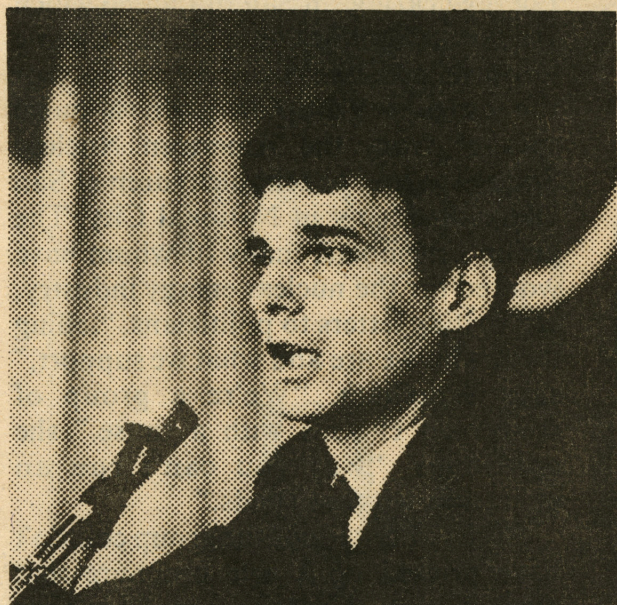
Zarb claims that the current oil glut is "just a blip on the screen."

-- from Zodiac News Service



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Thousands jam Diablo hearings

continued from page 1

sang and chanted in Mission Plaza, the town center. Local government officials, including former county Supervisor Richard Krejsa, Pismo Beach Councilwoman Marion Mello and San Luis Obispo councilwoman Glenna-Deane Dovey, gave speeches condemning the Diablo Canyon plant.

There has recently been a tremendous outpouring of opposition to Diablo Canyon in San Luis Obispo County. "No Diablo" ribbons, which were made for the hearings, were seen everywhere during the week the NRC commissioners were in town -- in the markets, the banks, the restaurants.

"The hearings were held during the week, which meant that most people couldn't attend," Silver explained. "But they went to work with their ribbons on and a lot of them rearranged their lunch hours so they could come to the hearings while they were in process."

"We've been doing a lot of work, pointing out that a low power test license is like a learner's permit for a driver -- you're still behind the wheel of the car," Silver said. "And Diablo Canyon at 5% power is equivalent to a plant like Humboldt at full power. So we say yes, we do need a full-scale evacuation plan."

Silver believes that San Luis Obispo is coming to realize that "this is it." She was very happy about the show of local support, but pessimistic about the future. "The week went great, but the decision is going to be a bummer. There's not much doubt about what the NRC is going to do," she said.



The three-member Atomic Safety and Licensing Board conducts the hearings in San Luis Obispo.

The Mothers for Peace plan to ask a federal court for a stay of low power operations while they appeal an unfavorable NRC decision. The appeal would be based on the NRC's elimination of all but two of the issues raised by intervenors, including over two dozen Three Mile Island-related safety issues.

The NRC board agreed to hear testimony only on the safety of a valve in the reactor and on emergency planning and evacuation. Ironically, no one disputes the fact

that neither PG&E nor San Luis Obispo County have an adequate evacuation plan. But the utility argues that it should be granted a waiver because the risks of low power testing are so small. If the NRC agrees, that will become the standard for all future nuclear plant licensings.

San Luis Obispo County is now drawing up an evacuation plan. It won't be ready until December, though the license may be granted as early as August. And even when it

is complete it will have little relationship to reality, since it won't include the impact of a simultaneous earthquake and radiation release at Diablo. A serious radiation accident, of course, would most likely be caused by an earthquake.

-- Nancy Culver
Mothers for Peace
and Marcy Darnovsky
IAT staff

Diablo license and blockade timeline

PG&E could be granted a low power testing license for the Diablo Canyon nuclear plant as early as August of this year, even though San Luis Obispo County won't have an operable nuclear emergency plan before December.

Hearings for Diablo's low power testing license, which began in San Luis Obispo on May 19 and lasted four days, addressed emergency planning and the adequacy of the valves in the plant's primary cooling system. Thousands of people attended the hearing and the rally the evening before, giving the NRC a sample of what's to come in the way of mass opposition if the plant is licensed.

NRC regulations require several things to happen before the low power license can be granted. Lawyers for all parties must submit written arguments by June 23. An NRC appeals board must issue a decision saying that the Diablo plant is earthquake safe and must rule on a proposal by David Fleischaker, lawyer for the intervenors, to conduct more hearings. A second appeals board must rule on the adequacy of Diablo's anti-sabotage plans. Then the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board can issue the low power license. Finally, under a new speed-up policy adopted last month (see "The instant nuclear license," *IAT*, May 1981) the NRC will review these decisions for ten days.

The Diablo Blockade

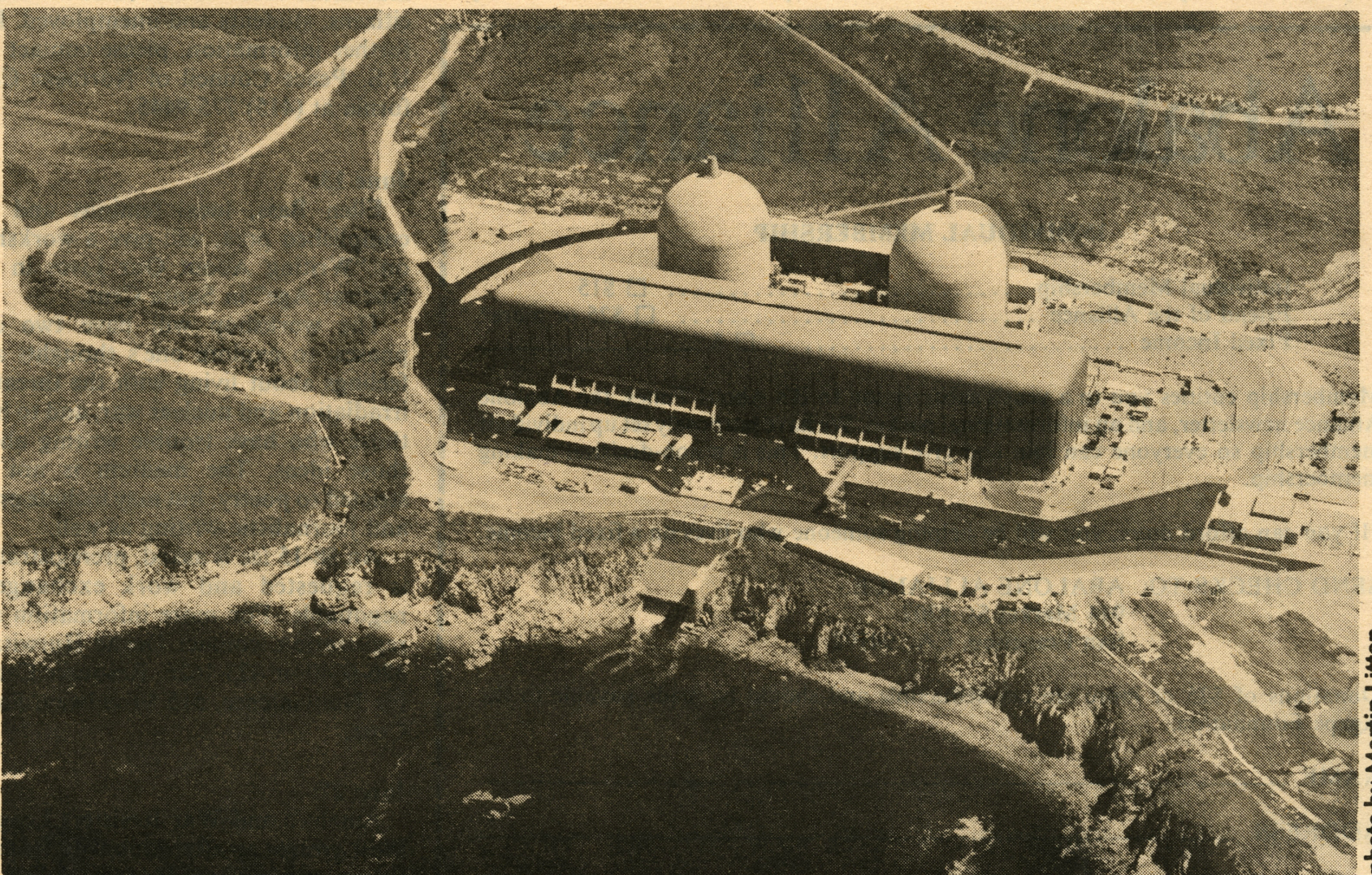
In March of 1979 the Abalone Alliance agreed to organize a blockade/encampment at the Diablo Canyon site when its operating license was granted. The time is close upon us and we need your help. If you or your organization want to work on the blockade please

contact the Diablo Project Office at (805) 543-6615. It is our hope that every group in the Abalone will do outreach, nonviolence training and fundraising in its own area for the blockade.

A statewide blockade collective meets monthly and is open to all groups actively working on the

blockade. The action is being coordinated out of San Luis Obispo with various regions taking on specific tasks. Contact the Diablo Project Office for further information. Don't wait for the blockade -- we need your help now.

-- Raye Fleming
Diablo Project Office



The Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant.

photo by Martin Litton



photo by Carl Huffman

Dozens of tombstones appeared at PG&E's San Francisco headquarters on May 19, the first day of the Diablo low power testing hearings.

Blockade legal preparations continue

The Legal Collective for the Diablo Canyon Blockade is alive and doing well. Our next statewide meeting will be June 13 at 1 p.m. in San Luis Obispo.

A group in San Francisco is developing a pro-per packet for folks who would like to defend themselves in court if arrested during the blockade. It will include information on the politics of the courtroom, define the players and their roles, and explain the elements of the possible charges, the court process, jury selection, opening statements, and the DA's case. Our hope is to demystify the court process and empower people who want to represent themselves to do so.

Meanwhile, attorney Richard Frishman is preparing the defense of necessity case for those who want a lawyer. He is volunteering his time and estimates the court and paper costs to be \$10,000 to \$20,000 for the case. The Abalone Alliance has agreed to raise the first \$1000. The remainder will have to be raised by those who choose this defense.

We plan to hold workshops before the blockade to help people decide what legal route they'd like to take: defending themselves, going with Richard, or pleading "no contest."

We would appreciate hearing from any individuals or affinity groups that already know what they plan to do.

If you would like to work on any aspect of the legal collective please write or leave a message at the Abalone Alliance Office, 944 Market Street, Room 307, San Francisco, CA 94102, (415) 543-3910. Or contact one of the coordinators: Meg Simonds at (415) 868-1401 or Cynthia Sharpe at (805) 736-6582 or 736-6278.

San Onofre hearings set

In its haste to get more nuclear plants on line as soon as possible, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has moved the date of the licensing hearings for San Onofre Unit 2 ahead by two months. The hearings on seismic issues are now set for June 15.

The earthquake potentials of two separate fault zones are at issue. The NRC maintains that the Cristianitos Zone of Deformation, located directly offshore from the San Onofre reactors, does not present a significant earthquake hazard. The legal intervenors contend that these faults, which weren't discovered until August of 1980, are active.

Another fault zone, the Newport-Inglewood, is located about four miles offshore. The intervenors' belief that an earthquake of magnitude 7.5 to 8 could occur here was supported by a US Geological Survey report issued in January. The San Onofre plants were designed to withstand a maximum earthquake of magnitude 7.0.

Southern California Edison and San Diego Gas and Electric, the joint owner/operators of the reactors, have been vigorously opposing any further seismic investigation because they would be forced to make additional reinforcements if the NRC determined that Unit 2 would be vulnerable to an earthquake of mag-

nitude 7.5. The cost of the San Onofre reactors has already more than tripled, and any further modifications would run these costs up even higher.

Five-minute public statements will be allowed at the seismic hearings, which are expected to last all summer. If you are interested, you must notify the NRC of your intention to speak by June 1. Citizens Energy Action Network has postcards available that can be sent to the NRC. We will be trying to get hundreds of people to attend these hearings. This is it!

CEAN can be contacted at P.O. Box 33686, San Diego, CA 92103, (714) 459-4650.

-- Linda Newsum, CEAN

Calendar

June 12, 13, 14; 19, 20, 21:
PLUTONIUM PLAYERS present two weekends of sizzling satire and topical comedy theater.
8 p.m., Live Oak Theater, Shattuck & Berryman, Berkeley. \$3.50 donation.

June 13:
The Bethel AME Educational Center will host an all day conference titled, *In The Common Interest...Strategies for Peace*. The conference will address several topics with a focus on develop-

ing activities to resist war and to politicize the issue of peace.

There will be a registration fee of \$25 for official delegates with a limit of 3 delegates per organization, \$5.00 for individual observer and \$2.00 for senior citizens, students and unemployed. For further information, please contact the U.S. Peace Council of Northern California at (415) 775-9445.

featured will be Donna Warnock, WRL's new Feminism and Nonviolence Program staff member. Open bar reception following. Signing for the hearing impaired. Amelia's, 647 Valencia Street, San Francisco.

Tickets \$4.50 advance, \$5.50 at the door. For info and childcare reservations, call (415) 731-1220.

August 27-30:
"BUILDING COMMUNITY and a STRATEGY for ACTION in the 80's" is the theme of the 1981 War Resisters League National Conference, which will be held at McGucken Center, near Occidental, California.

Some of the questions we will address include: How can people who have (or want) children and/or "nine to five" jobs relate to the struggle for nonviolent alternatives? How do we balance our personal lives with our political activities to prevent burnout? How does the current political situation and shift to the right affect our work and strategies?

The conference is open to WRL members, friends and other interested individuals. The conference will afford us the opportunity to share our ideas, skills and concerns in a quiet setting amidst the Northern California redwoods.

For more information, write WRL/West, 85 Carl St., San Francisco, CA 94117. (415) 731-1220. A \$15 nonrefundable deposit is required. Reservations must be received by July 15, 1981.

Abalone Alliance

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

Individual Membership ☐ \$15
Friend of the Alliance ☐ \$25 or more*
Fixed Income ☐ \$ _____

Membership entitles you to a year's subscription to It's About Times, the Abalone Alliance newsletter, and an informational packet. We have purposely set up individual membership so everyone can join and give support. This is a non-decision making membership.

*If you can afford more, you will be helping someone who lives on a fixed income.

SEND CHECKS TO: ABALONE ALLIANCE
944 Market St. #307
San Francisco, CA., 94102

Donations of \$25 or more are tax-deductible and should be made payable to the Agape Foundation.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

June 13:

Ellen Bass, local feminist and accomplished poet, will give a workshop on "Writing About Our Lives in the Nuclear Age" in Santa Cruz.

The workshop will have two emphases: to explore one's thoughts and feelings about living with the threat of irradiation and nuclear war, and to help those who have trouble writing about those ideas. The medium is not restricted to poetry, but may include prose and journalistic writing as well.

An \$8-15 fee is asked, preregistration is requested and work exchange is negotiable. For more information and registration, contact Deena Hurwitz at 426-6640 or 423-1626, Resource Center for Nonviolence, 515 Broadway, Santa Cruz.

June 27:

Amelia's and War Resisters League-West present an afternoon with feminist singer/songwriter Margie Adam at 2 p.m. Margie will talk about herself, women, and feminist culture; also

Announcements

STAFF POSITION AVAILABLE

The Abalone Alliance is looking for one full time staff person, or two half time staff people for the statewide office. This is primarily an office maintenance and networking job.

QUALIFICATIONS: experience in social change work and basic office skills.

SALARY: \$600 month full time, \$300 month half time.

STARTING DATE: July 1, 1981.

Send resumes by June 15, 1981 to Abalone Alliance, 944 Market Street, Room 307, San Francisco, CA 94102. (415) 543-3910.

IAT BACK ISSUES

...are available. For \$5, we'll send you as complete a set as we have (at least 10 issues). Laugh at our early mistakes, cringe at our recent ones, get informed and entertained, and end up with fireplace kindling for those cold winter nights. Just send \$5 to IAT, 944 Market Street, #307, SF, CA 94102.

TYPESETTER WANTED

It's About Times is looking for a typesetter, with or without equipment, to put in several volunteer hours each month. Help save our right-justified columns. Leave us a message at (415) 543-3910.

PEACENIKS

War Resisters League-West is coordinating a contingent of Peaceniks, Resisters, Anti-Nukers, Anti-Militarists, and Gentle People for this year's *San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Pride Parade*, (Sunday, June 28.)

We will be meeting at 10:00 on the morning of the parade at Second and Mission Streets in S.F. (If you miss us, look for the white and black broken rifle banner in the parade.)

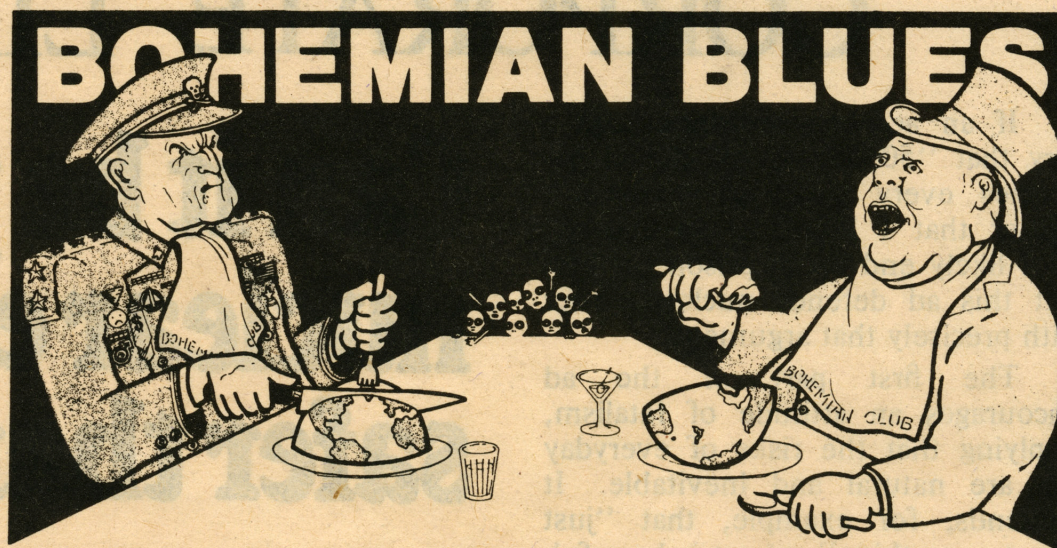
Bring your organization's banner, signs, costumes, and anything else you can whip up!

For more info please call WRL-West (415) 731-1220 or call Trebor at 652-7241.

HELP DISTRIBUTE IAT

It's About Times needs distribution help. We'd like to hear from affinity groups or individuals throughout the state who can take the paper to bookstores, coffee shops, laundromats. Or answer our wildest dreams -- take charge of coordinating a statewide distribution network. There'd be a chunk of work initially in finding local contacts; then it would just be maintaining communications with them. Leave a message for us at (415) 543-3910.

SoNoMore Atomics presents



TEACH-IN SUNDAY JULY 13

11 - 5

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PEOPLE'S YELLOW PAGES

The 1981 edition of the *People's Yellow Pages* has been published. This 200 page book is a directory listing free and inexpensive health and dental clinics, legal services, child care centers, services for the disabled, cultural and educational activities, food and clothing, senior citizen lunch programs, animal spay clinics, job counseling and training, environmental education programs and much more.

The book is sold in most bookstores and is available in the reference section of most libraries. Copies may also be ordered by sending \$5.95 (includes tax

and postage) to: People's Yellow Pages directory, P.O. Box 31291, San Francisco 94131. For further information, the *People's Yellow Pages* project can be reached at (415) 641-4011.

NUCLEAR AMERICA MAP

The War Resisters League has issued an updated edition of the Nuclear America poster. This poster, a map of the united States, pinpoints over 500 nuclear facilities. The map measures 22" x 17" and is printed in 3 colors. Send \$1.00 to War Resisters League, 339 Lafayette Street, New York, NY 10012. Bulk rates are available.

AA Safe Energy Groups

*Denotes that several community/neighborhood and affinity groups are working in the vicinity.

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CORPORATE LIES DEPARTMENT

If an accused murderer told a jury that "50,000 people die in car crashes every year, so it doesn't matter that I killed a few more," he'd likely end up in prison for life. But this ad defends nuclear power with precisely that argument.

The first part of the ad encourages an attitude of fatalism, implying that the risks of everyday life are natural and inevitable. It contends, for example, that "just about everything" we eat is harmful. But cancer-causing pesticides and additives have been put in our food for corporate profits and convenience, not because of some law of nature. Similarly, there are often no safer alternatives to driving because the influence of the automobile and oil industries has prevented the development of decent mass transportation. Car crashes kill people needlessly because industry lobbying has prevented the installation of effective safety features. The power of the tobacco industry -- and its \$500 million annual advertising budget -- lets it keep selling its harmful habit to new generations.

In effect, the managers of the chemical, auto, and cigarette industries get away with killing a certain number of people every year in pursuit of their corporate objectives. The ad implies that the nuclear industry, too, should be entitled to its fair share of corpses.

PSE&G hastens to reassure the reader that there's really no danger anyway and that nuclear plants "have killed no one. Or injured no one." It takes a huge dose of radiation to kill someone immediately, and the nuclear industry has so far managed to avoid such an accident. But much smaller radiation doses can cause cancer years or even decades later, a fact confirmed by numerous studies of A-bomb victims, nuclear workers, and veterans of atomic testing.

Nuclear victims cannot *prove* that radiation caused their cancers, because cancerous cells don't sprout little flags saying, "I was caused by radiation." The nuclear industry exploits this fact and claims that radiation does no harm. This deception is similar to that of the tobacco lobby, which contends that nobody ever *proved* that any particular lung cancer victim was killed by smoking cigarettes.

Dr. Walter Jordan, retired Assistant Director of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, has estimated that the radioactive wastes which result from mining a year's worth of uranium fuel for a *single* nuclear plant will kill *several hundred* people in this and future generations. A single repair at a nuclear plant can expose a large workforce to enough radiation to condemn several workers to premature deaths. Hundreds

Can it be possible that nuclear energy is safer than eating?

Every year about 300 people choke to death on their food. Thousands of others eat their way into an early grave. Just about everything we put in our mouths or on our bodies has been linked "scientifically" to some disease or ailment -- from hot dogs to hair dye. Now even coffee is suspect.

In almost 25 years, nuclear plants with over 500 reactor-years of operating experience have killed no one. Or injured no one.

Nuclear energy is safer than countless daily activities we willingly undertake regardless of their hazards. We get behind the wheel of a car knowing that 50,000 people are killed in auto accidents each year. We go on smoking fully aware that cigarettes will result in 50,000 lung cancers annually.

Nothing is Risk-Free

Nothing we do in this world is without risk. A trip on a plane or train takes its toll. Skiing, bicycling, hunting, and swimming result in tragic deaths. Climbing a ladder, taking a shower, and even mowing a lawn are part of the grim statistics.

Generating electricity with nuclear fuel has its risks, too. But compared with practical alternatives, it is by far the safest method. For example, over 100,000 coal miners have lost their lives in accidents in this century alone. And the U.S. now pays out \$1 billion a year in black lung benefits to coal miners.

TMI Proves Nuclear Safe

The Three Mile Island accident in 1979, while alerting the industry to additional safety measures, also served to show how safe nuclear energy really is by proving that the backup systems do work.

Even if the core did melt, the most likely probability, according to the President's TMI Commission study, is that the reactor building would have survived and the radiation material released by the fuel would have been retained within the building, not released to the environment.

Nuclear Benefits Versus Risks

We go through our entire lives making trade-offs... weighing risks against benefits. When making your own nuclear risk-benefit analysis, consider these facts. Nuclear plants do not emit air pollutants. They save oil and offer us a way to free ourselves from any new squeeze by foreign oil producers. Nuclear fuel costs are one-fifteenth that of oil. And the chances of anyone being killed by a catastrophic nuclear accident are about the same as being hit by a meteor.

In less than 20 years, our nation's electrical needs will double. Nuclear power is essential to help meet those needs. State government officials have declared that New Jersey's energy demands could surpass supply in the late 1980's unless nuclear plants now under construction are completed on schedule.

Nuclear energy is not an option. It is vital to our way of life.



PSE&G Public Service Electric and Gas Company

of uranium miners are dead or dying of lung cancer from breathing radioactive gas -- but only *coal* miners seem to receive any sympathy from the ad's authors.

Bad as all this is, the public's major worry about nuclear power centers on the possibility of a catastrophic reactor accident. This fear has a solid basis. Even the federal government has come up with several studies predicting that a nuclear plant meltdown could cause 45,000 deaths and over \$17 billion in property damage.

In a triumph of twisted logic, the ad presents the Three Mile Island accident as proof of "how safe nuclear energy really is." But the lesson of TMI is that the backup systems *didn't* work. Defective equipment, coupled with operator error, turned a minor malfunction into a major (and nearly disastrous) accident.

Since Three Mile Island, that shopworn line about being hit by a

meteor hasn't been heard much, but here it is again. If PSE&G is so confident about nuclear safety, you'd think that the financial risk of being sued for an accident wouldn't worry it much. After all, the risk of being bankrupted by nuclear victims' lawsuits would also be about the same as being hit by a meteor.

But that's a risk PSE&G won't take. It hides behind a federal law called the Price-Anderson Act, which protects it from lawsuits in the event of a nuclear catastrophe. Price-Anderson would allow a utility to avoid paying for all but a tiny fraction of the damages it caused. It is hard to believe the nuclear industry's glib assurances of safety when it won't take the same risks it is so willing to impose on the public.

The ad closes by asking us to make a "risk-benefit analysis" of nuclear power based on a list of misleading "facts." The air pollutants that nuclear plants emit may be invisible, but that doesn't make

them harmless. Even if all planned nuclear plants were finished, they would have an insignificant effect on US oil consumption. Nuclear *fuel* costs may indeed be low, but nuclear plant construction costs are staggering and waste disposal, accidents, and decommissioning expenses all add to the bill. And the claim that US electrical needs will double is contradicted by the leveling off of electricity use in recent years. Last year, for example, California consumed about 1% *less* electricity than it did in 1979.

PSE&G may be up to its neck in nuclear power and frantic enough to claim that it is vital. But we don't have to buy the nuclear industry version of "risk-benefit analysis," where the public takes the risk and corporations reap the benefits.

Eating is more dangerous than nuclear power only if you swallow the industry's propaganda whole.

--Bob Van Scoy
IAT staff



THE STAR-LEDGER, Tuesday, May 5, 1981

(Thanks to the Sea Alliance for sending us this ad.)

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