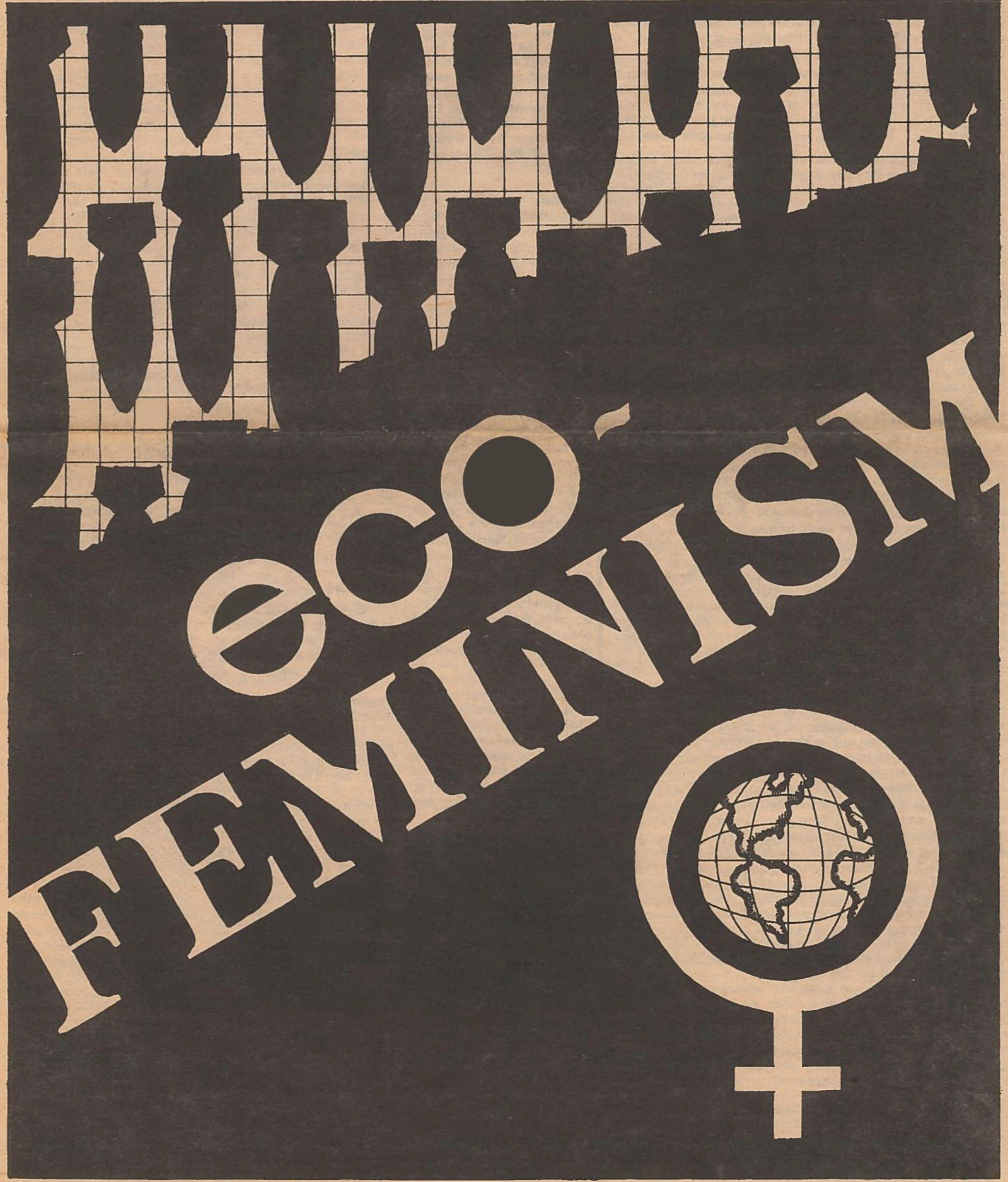


*the manitoba women's newspaper*

VOL. II NO. 5

JUNE 12, 1982





## Editorial

### "All the King's horses and all the King's men . . ."

The world appears to be preparing for a nuclear war, without our permission, and most of us are very angry. If a nuclear war were to erupt tomorrow, militarists, pacifists and apathetic fence-sitters would all be able to agree on one thing: no one really wanted the world to end. Although it may be convenient to argue the nuclear question as if it were an academic predicament, a nuclear holocaust would offer no hindsight.

It's all-too-easy to apply the same philosophy to preventing a Nuclear War, that is, that no *one* can really stop a nuclear holocaust from happening. It's true that no ONE person can stop it all, but a thousand "one persons" or ten thousand "one persons" or ten "one persons" who happen to make up a newspaper, certainly stand a better chance of effecting change and world peace than any single "one person" who decides that the rest of the millions of "one persons" in the world can't do anything about preventing nuclear war.

In spite of the horrendous actualities about the threat facing us, we are somehow optimistic. We're already putting our own nuclear energy to work; we're reading, we're thinking, we're talking, we're arguing, we're protesting and even though we're sometimes crying, we're still living. We're afraid, and not without good reason.

Three times in the last few years, the United States' nuclear arms were placed in the early stages of alert because of computer foul-ups that could have lead us into a nuclear war. Twice, because of malfunctioning computer chips in the North American Air Defence Command's warning system and once because someone put a tape depicting a nuclear war into the computer by mistake, the air defence system went on alert. The accidents were reported on the back pages of the New York Times.

The notion of a "limited" nuclear war is the convenient vogue for those who favor the build up of nuclear arms or who simply refuse to, or cannot conceive the possibility of total nuclear destruction.

Presumably any "limited" nuclear attack would not be made without the hope that it would achieve a military advantage for the aggressor. If an attack were made to cripple the offensive capabilities of one nation, in order to carry out the aggressors wishes — say to invade the Middle East oil reserves — then the "limited" attack that would be necessary would in fact be quite extensive. The United States has some 1,000 missile silos on American soil that are capable of attacking the Soviet Union, or any other nation it chooses to attack. Any attack launched by the Soviet Union (or any other nuclear-armed country) with the aim of crippling the United States retaliatory capabilities would be pointless if only two or three or even one hundred of those silos were destroyed. In order to cripple the Americans, every missile site would have to be destroyed.

Soviet-missiles stationed on submarines several hundred miles from U.S. shores can deliver warheads on coastal targets in about 10 minutes. Intercontinental ballistic missiles launched from the Soviet Union would take only twenty-five to thirty minutes to arrive. The theory of civil defence in the event of nuclear war becomes almost laughable, were it not so pitiful, that our government is making preparations for civilians to hide in basements and evacuate towns on the presumption that we would have a few days warning if the Soviet Union chose to launch a first strike attack against North America.

If a nuclear exchange occurred in the middle of the night, when everyone, including civil defence authorities, were sleeping, there would be little hope of warning anyone to take shelter in their basements or to evacuate to Flin Flon or Thompson.

Further, the well-intentioned plans of Emergency Planning Canada and the Manitoba Emergency Organization (EMO) might never be disseminated if an electromagnetic pulse (EMP), which occurs simultaneously with large multi-megaton air bursts, knocks out all electrical and communication networks in an area within thousands of square miles. Virtually all communication would be at a standstill, yet civil defence authorities and nuclear strategists continue to insist, if only reluctantly, that nuclear war is survivable.

Perhaps the hugest paradox in the civil defence theory of combatting nuclear war, is that the detailed shelter plans and evacuation scenarios are coupled on a map that has designated every transportation and communication centre in Canada as a likely target in the event of a full-scale nuclear attack on North America. The primary shelter spaces for the plan are located within the same areas that they predict may be blown off the map.

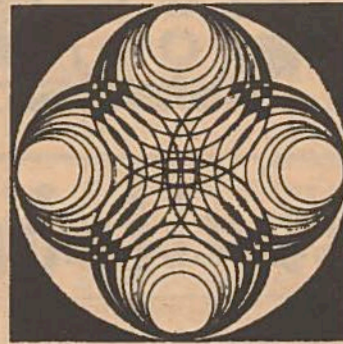
An honest response to those who advocate the buildup of nuclear arms is that the United States would become instantly vulnerable if they were to disarm their nuclear missiles, therefore encouraging an attack by the Soviet Union. In reality, disarmament would be a slow, painstaking process, by which both sides would gradually reduce their forces, until an agreed upon limit had been reached (hopefully total disarmament).

Secondly, the fact that the two world powers could conceivably (or inconceivably) destroy each other 42 times is an indication that each side could disarm itself a fraction equivalent to 41/42nd's without being vulnerable to attack.

cont'd pg. 8

# Community Calendar

**NETWORK** is a summer project jointly sponsored by the Manitoba Naturalists Society and the University of Winnipeg. NETWORK will provide a link between various environmental, native, community and women's organizations in Manitoba. We will publish a community events calendar through which groups may publicize meetings, speakers, workshops and other events. The deadlines for the next calendars must be submitted by July 15 and August 15 respectively. NETWORK will be compiling and cataloguing resource materials for use by schools and private groups. Contact Uniter Office, University of Winnipeg, 515 Portage Ave., Winnipeg, Man. R3B 2E9, Telephone No. 783-1787



NETWORK

Ten Days for World Development (Man.) and Chilean Information Centre Presents: *Retaguardia In Concert* at Augustine United Church, 444 River Avenue, on Wednesday, June 23rd, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets available at Home Made Music and Mary Scorer Books on Osborne St., and IDEA Centre on Wardlaw Ave. Childcare provided.

A SUMMER FIESTA sponsored by Logan NDP will be held on Saturday, June 26 at the Sargent Arena, 1111 Wall Street. A day of food, drink and entertainment celebrating Winnipeg's multi-cultural heritage, featuring six ethnic groups. Pancake breakfast 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.; multi-cultural entertainment 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.; summer social from 8 p.m. - 1 a.m. Also door prizes, free parking and games for the kids. Passes \$5 — available from Cyril Keeper's constituency office at 774-2511 or the NDP provincial office at 786-4857.

The Westman Conserver Society of 357-16th Street, Brandon, Manitoba presents a lecture/discussion on practical methods of making organic compost for gardens: "Principles of Organic Growing: Composting", Animator: Jack Gross. Date: June 21, 1982.

MASKA Project — "From Field to Forest" June 27 - July 3, a week long study and recreation session to be held at the MASKWA site: 70 miles north of Winnipeg. Workshops on Natural Food Preparation; Food Production Methods; Nutrition. Time for swimming, canoeing & other recreation. Register by June 17 — \$160 fee includes workshops, materials, food and accommodation. MASKWA Project, 444 River Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3L 0C7

Chilé Information Center on 205 Balmoral Avenue has a Chilean coffee house every Friday night starting at 9:30 p.m. There is good entertainment, and refreshments available.

### Weekend, June 25-29

**Spruce Woods Naturalists' Rendez-vous.** Joint outing with the MNS, Brandon and Intermountain Naturalists Societies at Spruce Woods Park. Hiking, ampitheatre programs by the park naturalist, birding, botany and fireside get-togethers. Plus: special tours to seldom seen areas of the park and surrounding areas led by park and local residents. Call Gordon McBean, 786-4905, for more information and to register.

### Manitoba Naturalists Society

Register now . . . or call the Manitoba Naturalists Society, Mail your application to: Mantario Summer Program Manitoba Naturalists Society Room 214-190 Rupert Ave. Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 0N2 \$100 fee

### June at the Living Prairie Museum by Cheryl Heming

Weekends during June the Living Prairie Museum is open from noon until 5:00 p.m. Naturalists and displays are available at no charge.

### Thursday, July 1 Silver Prairie Day

Have you seen the silver prairie? As spring blossoms into summer, the prairie takes on a silvery hue. The Silver Heights area of St. James was named for this herald of summer. The Living Prairie Museum celebrates summer on July 1 with Silver Prairie Day. The Reception Centre will be open daily from 10:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. from Silver Prairie Day through to Labor Day, September 6. Presented on July 1 will be a new summer slide show as well as hikes into the silver prairie to tell you about its colorful secrets. For information call 832-0167.

### Sunday, July 18

**Brandon Natural History Society** trip to Reston and Virden areas to see burrowing owls, red headed woodpeckers, wild flowers. Meet at picnic site on Pipestone Creek (2 miles north of Pipestone) at 11:00 a.m. Leaders Mr. and Mrs. Dave Braddall. For more information, Stan Gugin, 1-867-3948.

The African National Congress and the Anti-apartheid Movement of Manitoba are sponsoring "Ten Days of Solidarity with South Africa" from June 16 - 26. On June 16, Soweto Day, there will be a premier of "The Death of Neil Aggett" in Room 113, Lockhart Hall, University of Winnipeg at 7:30 p.m. (use Ellice Entrance). On June 26 an anti-apartheid social will feature "Ebony Blues Society", at 252 Manitoba Avenue, 8:00 p.m. — Admission \$4.00.

SUNDAY or Day of the Sun, is a day of celebration of the awesome power of the sun and the great potential of solar energy. On *Sun Day*, on Monday, June 21 a forum and displays on solar energy in Manitoba homes. Featured at the forum will be representatives from the housing industry, the energy research community and the Provincial Department of Energy. Location: auditorium of the Museum of Man & Nature at 8 p.m.

Solar Energy Society of Canada (Man. Chapter) will be putting on a solar energy display at the Eaton Place Mall starting June 21 - June 25. This is part of Eaton Place "Energation" on energy and conservation program.

The battle against the Garrison Diversin Plan is by no means over. The Reagan administration is planning to increase funding for this project, making it crucial that Manitobans unite to fight Garrison. The Action Committee Against Garrison will be holding its monthly meeting on June 28 in Winnipeg. If you are interested call or write Bill Aitken, Box 689, Arbour, Manitoba. R0C 0A0, phone number 1-376-2289.

Conservation Training Area & Museum, operated by Manitoba Forest Association, is open to the public throughout July & August from 2:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. Trained personnel are available to conduct tours. Location is 100 km east of Winnipeg on Trans-Canada Hwy, south of junction 1 & 11. Individuals and family groups are encouraged to visit the area this summer and enjoy a unique experience in Manitoba's outdoors. To organize group visits of 10 or more, confirm with M.F.A. office at 900 Corydon Ave., Winnipeg, Man. R3M 0Y4 or call 453-3182.

Harmony Community Fund will be considering several applications for funding non-profit organizations that provide worthwhile community endeavors in areas of co-ops, environment, alternative health care, nutrition etc. General Meeting on June 23, 7:30 p.m., St. Margarets Church, Ethelbert & Westminster.



# 1 MEGATON = 1,000,000 DEAD

by Penni Mitchell

Advocates of nuclear arms liken the Nuclear Bomb as a logical progression in defence, like the transition from bows and arrows to gunpower, or from tanks to chemical warfare.

In conventional warfare, numbers of bombers, tanks, soldiers and military strategy were all part of the game in determining who won the war. Now, with highly sophisticated (but not immune to breakdown) computer technology, the destruction of the world has been put at the fingertips of the superpowers and rests in the microscopic circuitry of computerchips.

Most conventional means of defence produce only one direct destructive effect, while nuclear weapons produce a barrage of destructive effects, on soldiers and civilians, and indiscriminantly. Once introduc-

nearly equal parts, forming new elements and releasing some of their mass in the form of energy. When a uranium nucleus is split, several neutrons are released at a high velocity. A chain reaction occurs, and the released neutrons split other nuclei, which in turn release other neutrons, splitting further nuclei and so on.

For a nuclear explosion to occur, the reaction has to go on long enough for explosive energies to build up before the expansion of the fissionable material brought about by the energy released stops the reaction. The rate of conversion of mass (uranium, plutonium) into energy for nuclear bombs is Einstein's famous equation:  $E = mc^2$ , or energy equals mass times the speed of light squared.

For example, the amount of mass expended in the



Hiroshima bomb.

A one-megaton nuclear bomb produces the energy equivalent of 1,000,000 tons of TNT and has, roughly, the capability of killing 1,000,000 people. Plutonium and uranium are used in making nuclear energy and bombs because their atoms are the heaviest and the least-tightly bound together. Because of the atoms' relative weakness, they are best for fissioning.

Energy can also be released by fusion, which is the case with the hydrogen bomb. In the case of hydrogen bombs, nuclei in hydrogen atoms are driven against one another so that the electrical repulsion on the protons is overcome and the strong force (the force that keeps atoms from falling apart) bind them together into new nuclei. For fusion, lightest nuclei are the best, so hydrogen is used.

The same principle of splitting uranium molecules is used in nuclear reactors, but instead

of exploding the resulting radiation into the air, it is stored under water in the reactors. The energy produced by the fissioning atoms is used to operate your electric can opener, etc.

While nuclear power has been hailed by many as the energy of the future — cheap, clean and safe — there are a few problems that haven't yet been ironed out by politicians and scientists. All nuclear power plants emit radon and tritium, two highly radioactive gases, on a daily basis into the surrounding environment, and while Atomic Energy Board of Canada is almost certain those levels emitted are "safe", it is not easy to prove them wrong, since the effects of radiation (except in the case of a bomb) are cumulative. Nor can the effects of human error be ruled out, although officials in the

with radiation leakage, the subject of disposal of nuclear reactors and their wastes, cannot simply be forgotten.

The already-used fuel in a nuclear reactor's holding pond does not decay as fast as the radiation in a nuclear blast. With respect to immediate radioactivity, the radiation released by a multi-megaton warhead is 5,000 times that in a nuclear reactor, according to F. James Cripwell, Co-Ordinator Evaluation & Analysis, Emergency Planning Canada.

If a power plant were targeted in a nuclear war, the long-lived radiation from the nuclear plant would make life impossible for decades in the surrounding area. For a year after such a blast in an area of 1,700 square miles downwind from a blasted nuclear reactor, doses of radiation two hundred and fifty

## The destruction of the world rests in the microscopic circuitry of computer chips.

ed into the environment, they contaminate every level of the food chain for decades, even centuries. In the case of nuclear arsenals, the bullet does not die with the soldier.

Albert Einstein said "the unleashed power of the atom has changed everything except our way of thinking."

It all started in 1938, when two Austrian physicists announced that if uranium atoms were bombarded with neutrons they would split, or fission, into

destruction of the Hiroshima bomb in 1946 was about one gram. (the remaining 4 tons were made up of machinery). According to Jonathan Schell, author of the forthcoming book "The Fate of the Earth", recently serialized in The New Yorker, the one gram of mass in the Hiroshima bomb is the equivalent of 12,500 tons of TNT. Today a world-scale nuclear war would net the explosive energy of about 1,600,000 times that of the

nuclear industry are understandably reluctant to discuss human error in nuclear power plants.

No one is quite sure what to do with a nuclear reactor after it has outlived its usefulness (atomic energy of Canada estimates less than 50 years). Since there is no possible safe way to dispose of the reactor and because it can't be stripped and dumped into rivers and landfills and since it threatens the surrounding environment

times the present allowable limit (.2 rems) would expose anyone living in the area to dangerous levels of radiation.

Spent uranium from nuclear reactors can be adapted for use in nuclear bombs as well. While the uranium and plutonium in nuclear power plants is not necessarily "bomb grade" uranium, all grades of plutonium can be used to make bombs, according to Cripwell.

## No one is quite sure what to do with a nuclear reactor after it has outlived its usefulness.

# THE YELLOWCAKE ROAD

by Brigitte Sutherland

Despite sounding as appetizing as a creation from the kitchens of Betty Crocker or as colorful a vision in the Land of Oz, yellowcake is a more sinister cargo that travels our Canadian highways and byways.

To make the general public aware, as well as to bring the yellowcake issue to those closely connected with its transportation, a group of people recently held an information picket at Reimer Express Lines Ltd. in Winnipeg.

Regina Bueno, from Energy for Life, explains that most of the yellowcake passing through Winnipeg in unmarked trucks is mined in various areas in Northern Saskatchewan. Extracted from uranium ore, of

which approximately one crushed ton produces 4 pounds of yellowcake, this fine yellow powder emits low level radiation and if breathed in, injected, or absorbed through the skin, is carcinogenic.

Inquiring on the danger from the transportation of yellowcake, a federal employee of the Environmental Protection Services said he: "would rather drive a truckload of yellowcake than gasoline." Regina Bueno feels the danger yellowcake are much more serious.

Uranium mining in Northern Saskatchewan endangers not only the miners, but also the other people who live there. Beside the low level radiation given off by the enormous

mounds of tailings, much of the waste in the extraction of yellowcake is liquid which is pumped into settling ponds. There is no known method of stopping contamination from uranium mine wastes.

The tailings remain radioactive for thousands of years and have been used in the construction of roads and highways as well as landfill under city streets, homes and schools. Since it was discovered that these tailings emit dangerous radon gas, schools and home basements have been installed with venting systems. In Uranium City in 1977, radiation levels in the school were 60 times higher than the limit set by the government.

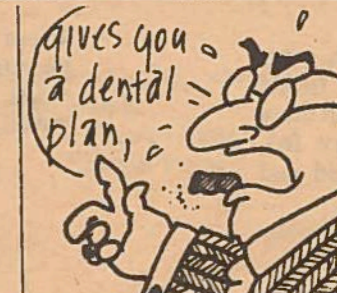
Bueno also points out that the liquid wastes have a great impact on the surrounding environment. Contaminants enter the river and lake systems and are carried great distances affecting drinking water as well as

entering the food chain. She relates the story of Gulf vice-president in charge of the Rabbit Lake mine who during a July 1981 meeting would not drink a water sample offered to him. This water had been taken 4 miles downstream from the mine and he recommended no one drink it. Other government water samples from Beaverlodge Lake (which drains into Lake Athabasca whose water eventually reaches the Arctic Ocean) show dangerous

levels of radium and uranium.

The more than 600 unmarked trucks per year carrying yellowcake to market from Saskatchewan alone, drive the pockmarked back roads and city streets. The inevitability of traffic accidents involving yellowcake is frighteningly brought to mind when a local Saskatchewan truck stop uses as its decor wallpapered photographs depicting the mangled hulks of semi-trailers.

Bueno's concern does not end with the transportation of yellowcake on Canadian highways. Once it is unloaded at Port Hope, Ontario for processing, she knows of its continued threat as fuel in nuclear reactors and as atomic weapons.





When we released energy from the atom, everything changed except our way of thinking. Because of that we drift towards unparalleled disaster.  
Albert Einstein

Trident is a submarine (nuclear) able to destroy 408 cities at one time, each blast 5 times more powerful than the Hiroshima bomb.  
Trident is 2,040 Hiroshima's. One Trident can destroy any country on earth.  
A fleet of Trident submarines (30 are planned) can end life on earth.  
Jim Douglass

If man has learned to be loyal to his nation as well to his family and his town, do we have to argue that no further extension of loyalty is possible — to the planet itself which carries our earthly life and all means of sustaining it?  
Barbara Ward

Nuclear war would be the ultimate human and environmental disaster. The immediate and long term destruction of human life and health would be on an unprecedented scale, threatening the very survival of civilisation. The threat of its occurrence is at a dangerous level and is steadily increasing. Invaluable and limited resources are being diverted unproductively to the nuclear arms race, leaving essential human, social, medical and economic needs unmet.  
The International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War

The money that would be needed to adequately provide food, water, education, health care and housing for the entire population of the world was calculated to be \$20.4 billion per year. It is an enormous amount of money. It is equivalent to about what the world spends on armaments every two weeks . . .

# Forces of eco-feminism

Women At The Forefront of the Anti-Nuclear Movement.

## Nukewars: Eco-feminists strike back

Organizations such as Women Strike for Peace, Women's International League for Peace & Freedom, and Another Mother for Peace, were among the first to speak out for nuclear disarmament. Their contribution in the struggle against nuclear development is a study of persistence and vitality in the interests of a safe future for everyone.

Rosalie Bertell: is a sister of the Catholic Order of Grey Nuns and a renowned biostatistician. A light in the scientific world, she has been named to "Who's Who in American Scientists", "Who's Who in



American Women" and the "World's Who's Who." Her articles have been widely published in both scientific and religious journals. For 10 years she worked on a massive study of leukemia called the Tri-State Survey, covering a population base of 13 million people and data equivalent to 39 million person-years. It is internationally recognized as the best source of information on leukemia. Focusing on the effects of ordinary diagnostic x-rays, she has shown conclusively that these are a major environmental cause of leukemia. Her findings were presented in the 1977 "Journal of Surgical Oncology", and she went on to assert that the radiation levels causing leukemia are the same as those permitted to workers

and general public from nuclear power plants. In making her findings public knowledge, she was abruptly dismissed from the Roswell Park Memorial Cancer Institute in Buffalo, where her research was carried out, and she lost all funding from the National Cancer Institute.

Dr. Bertell is today the Director of the Ministry of Concern for Public Health in Buffalo, N.Y. Unable to continue her important research on health effects of radiation, she has become an expert witness in nuclear power license hearings before the N.R.C. and to the defense of anti-nuclear activists around the country. She continues to spread the word at energy fairs, health symposiums, and anti-nuke rallies. Her testimonies are not couched in scientific jargon, rather she speaks to the general public informing them in a clear and comprehensible manner on matters that affect their very lives. Dr. Bertell has stated unequivocally that nuclear development constitutes a colossal experiment on humankind, and it must stop if the planet and its occupants are to survive.



Grace Paley: is an author and activist that became involved in the fight against nuclear technology during the late

1950's. At that time she became concerned as a mother over the Strontium-90 being found in milk. She was co-founder of the "Greenwich Village Peace Center" in N.Y. She has received recognition from the "National Institute of Letters", and took the opportunity at the awards ceremony to state that people as well as institutions must take a position. Seeing little difference between her writing and political activism, she considers herself a person who cares about people, and about life on earth. She has been arrested and jailed for civil disobedience in her support for peace and disarmament. A grandmother, she continues to teach at Sarah Lawrence College, write, and travel the country giving readings and informing people of nuclear power and arms. Ms. Paley is a living refutation that art and politics don't mix, and an example of a woman speaking beyond the range of her own voice.

Winona la Duke: is a Chipewewa Indian, founder of WARN; (Women of All Red Nations) and anti-nuclear activist. It is her belief that the major focus of anti-nuclear efforts must address the issue of uranium mining and milling as the real source of the problem, the plants or weapons being the symptoms, the end products of uranium mining. After all, if there is no uranium, there are no reactors, no weapons. Ms. La Duke has shown that for 30 years, multinational corporations have riddled the Southwest of America, extracting uranium from Indian lands, and leaving an estimated 60 million tons of uranium mill tailings in the state of New Mexico alone. High unemployment has forced native people to take

hazardous jobs in uranium mining, resulting in cancers, death from radiation exposure and respiratory diseases.



This is how the 200 native women who founded W.A.R.N. in 1978 see the ingoing energy policy of exploitation; "we view ourselves as an integral part, a representation of the earth, the earth is our mother — a woman. As women are exploited, so is our mother, we must fight both battles simultaneously."

Karen Silkwood: died mysteriously on an Oklahoma highway in Nov. 1974. She is remembered as the first martyr in the anti-nuclear movement. Her death on November 13, is observed in vigils by activists around the world.

Ms. Silkwood grew up in Texas, in unremarkable circumstances. She was a brilliant science student and fought to study advanced chemistry when her parents became concerned about her being the sole girl in her class, until the teacher persuaded them she was the best in his course. She received a scholarship, but quit to marry and raise 3 children. Seven years later, she resumed her interest in chemistry and went to work for

Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies a theft from those that hunger and are not fed, from those who are cold and not clothed.  
President Eisenhower

4% of what is spent for military purposes would eradicate the worst consequences of mass poverty . . .

Inga Thorsson  
Swedish Under Secretary  
of State for  
Disarmament

It's women who have the babies, and we have an instinct to protect our children. Women can start to turn this madness around.

Dr. Helen Caldicott  
Physicians for  
Social Responsibility



the Kerr-McGee corporation. Kerr-McGee is the country's largest uranium producer with interests all over the world. There, she was a nuclear lab technician, responsible for testing plutonium fuel rods for the government's nuclear breeder reactor at Hanford, Wash. She received only 40 hours of on the job training, and along with the other workers at the plant, was never informed of the real extent of dangers from plutonium. At Kerr-McGee, Silkwood joined the Oil, Chemical, and Atomic



KAREN SILKWOOD

Worker Union (OCAW) and grew more and more aware of the lack of safety standards at the plant. She researched records and photos in the lab, took notes, and spoke with workers who were contaminated, or who noticed health and safety violations. She won a seat on the OCAW local steering committee and involved herself in union strategy, aware now that the corporation was purposefully concealing hazards and faulty equipment. She gathered evidence and documentation. Her activity was observed and reported on by another lab worker who went to the company, and a clandestine effort began to discourage her. Her workplace was contaminated, and then her apartment entered and laced with radioactivity. As a result of these acts, Silkwood underwent painful decontamination procedures, "scrubdowns." She was afraid that she was dying from radiation but determined to complete her assignment with the OCAW union and meet with a New York Times journalist who agreed to help the union confront Kerr-McGee publicly on its safety infractions. Enroute to that meeting, and carrying a thick folder of documentation, Silkwood's car was forced off the road. She died, and her material disappeared. Legal battles have ensued, charging conspiracy on behalf of Kerr-McGee, and charging a cover-up by the FBI in the initial investigation. A suit by Silkwood's parents was won in '79 and set a precedent

in holding a corporation responsible for off-site contamination. She left behind, with her untimely death a struggle that continues on many levels; worker safety, the right to organize for a union, corporate accountability for its products, and a change in the policies of the nuclear industry, to name a few.

Helen Caldicott: is a pediatrician and mother of three, born in Australia, she began studying genetics in medical school and how radiation affects genes, causes cancer, and damages future generations. At the time the French, Russians, and Americans were testing bombs on Bikini & Atoll in the Pacific, this alarmed her, but she felt too impotent as one individual to do much about it. In 1971, she was shocked to discover that although the Ban the Bomb movement had culminated in the Atmospheric Test Ban Treaty in 62, atmospheric tests continued in the Pacific since 66. She decided finally as a doctor to begin speaking out against radiation. She wrote letters to newspapers, and spoke on television. Everytime a bomb was tested, she went back on the air to discuss fallout, radiation sickness, and genetic damage. She revealed a classified government document on high levels of radioactivity in Australian drinking water. Soon 75% of the citizenry were opposed to the tests; they marched, boycotted, and went on strikes, in 73 the International Court of Justice demanded only underground testing to be allowed.



Dr. Helen Caldicott

Dr. Caldicott then discovered the government was accelerating the mining of uranium for weapons and nuclear power production abroad. The cumulative hazards of the industry exceeded those from bomb tests, and Caldicott, as she mounted another action of public information was puzzled by the media's disinterest, until she discovered their large shares in uranium mines. She spoke to the unions, to the workers

directly affected. This motivated the Australian Council of Trade Unions to cease handling uranium and 80,000 people to march in the capitol to protest the mining.

Now living in the U.S. Dr. Caldicott continues informing the public of her concerns as a doctor. She has written the informative chronicle of her activism "Nuclear Madness" in which she presents a clear and demystifying explanation of the medical implications of nuclear development.

Dolly Weinhold: also known as "Earthquake Dolly" a mother with 4 children and part time sales clerk became concerned in 1972 when she heard of a proposed massive construction project between Seabrook and her hometown, Hampton, N.H. She was uninformed then on nuclear power, but against the destruction of marine life. She went to the library, learned about estuaries and nuclear power. Writing letters to the newspaper brought contact from the local anti-pollution league and she agreed to do more research for them. Ms. Weinhold then began a two-year program of self education.



Dolly Weinhold

During her research she found maps showing a major earthquake fault running through the proposed site of the plant, she pursued inquiry into geology and the engineering of nuclear plants. By 1974 she compiled enough data to gain intervenor status at the site evaluations hearings and present the committee members with slides and information on the cause and effect of earthquakes. She received only obstacles from the pro-nuclear appointees, but attracted two women members of a coalition against nuclear pollution. With their support she obtained more earthquake info from the federal government and continued in her intervenor status to attend hearings and conduct cross-examinations, and her efforts appear to have caused some changes. The NRC agreed to fund a seismic network system to document any movement in the earth's surface

bound to affect proposed reactor sites, and acknowledge that movement on the earth's surface is a crucial consideration in building and operating nuclear power plants. Tremors and quakes are not unusual phenomenon, and Dolly Weinhold's greatest achievement is the way she has lambasted the safety assumptions of the nuclear industry through a part-time effort of self education.



Holly Near

Holly Near: is a songwriter, singer and political activist. In 1977, she formed a women's cultural delegation to attend the International Conference against atomic and hydrogen bombs held every year in Hiroshima Japan. There, she witnessed men sitting around and talking about "relative" dangers of radiation and nuclear weapons. What seemed to concern them most was who 'controlled' nuclear weapons. Their understanding of peace had to do with control, not the quality of life, or food, or women or children. The women's delegation tried vainly to speak of the need for people to look at the globe as Mother Earth whose survival is dependant on a change in people's attitude.

Ms. Near has travelled to every major city in America, singing her songs, holding workshops along with her performances. In 1979 she embarked on "Tour for a Nuclear Free Future." Proceeds from all 35 performances went directly to grass roots organizations working against nuclear power and arms. In her workshops, Ms. Near describes the need to change the nuclear mentality; the most highly technological version of oppression. From one of her songs;

Ain't nowhere we can run no,  
no, no,  
Ain't nowhere we can run

You can move to Denver, or  
you can move to Spain  
But there ain't nowhere you can  
run,  
From nuclear rain.

1979 HEREFORD MUSIC

compiled by Marnie Pastuck

A nuclear device dropped on one currently operating nuclear power plant would evaporate the reactor core of the planet, creating long lived radioactivity that would take thousands of years to die down. The detonation of one small bomb on a power plant would devastate an area the size of West Germany. And all of our nuclear power plants (and theirs) are targeted.

Dr. Jack Hughes  
Medical Professionals for  
Social Responsibility

By the year 2020 there will be 30,000 tons of plutonium produced in this country along. Plutonium is the most toxic material formed in nuclear compounds. It did not exist before we produced it. And they don't know what to do with it. They can't store it safely for half a million years. But they say trust us, we're scientists, we'll find the answer.

Helen Caldicott  
Pediatrician

Could it be that just at the moment masculinity has brought us to the brink of nuclear destruction or ecological suicide, women are beginning to rise in response to the Mother's call to save her planet and create instead the next stage of evolution?

Jane Alpert

Opponents of fission energy point out a number of differences between the real world and the "technological paradise." Fission energy is safe only if a number of critical devices work as they should, if a number of people in key positions follow all their instructions, if there is no sabotage, no hijacking of the transports, if no reactor fuel processing plant or repository anywhere in the world is situated in a region of riots or guerilla activity, and no revolutions or war — even a conventional one — takes place in these regions. The enormous quantities of extremely dangerous material must not get into the hands of ignorant people or desperados. No acts of God can be permitted.

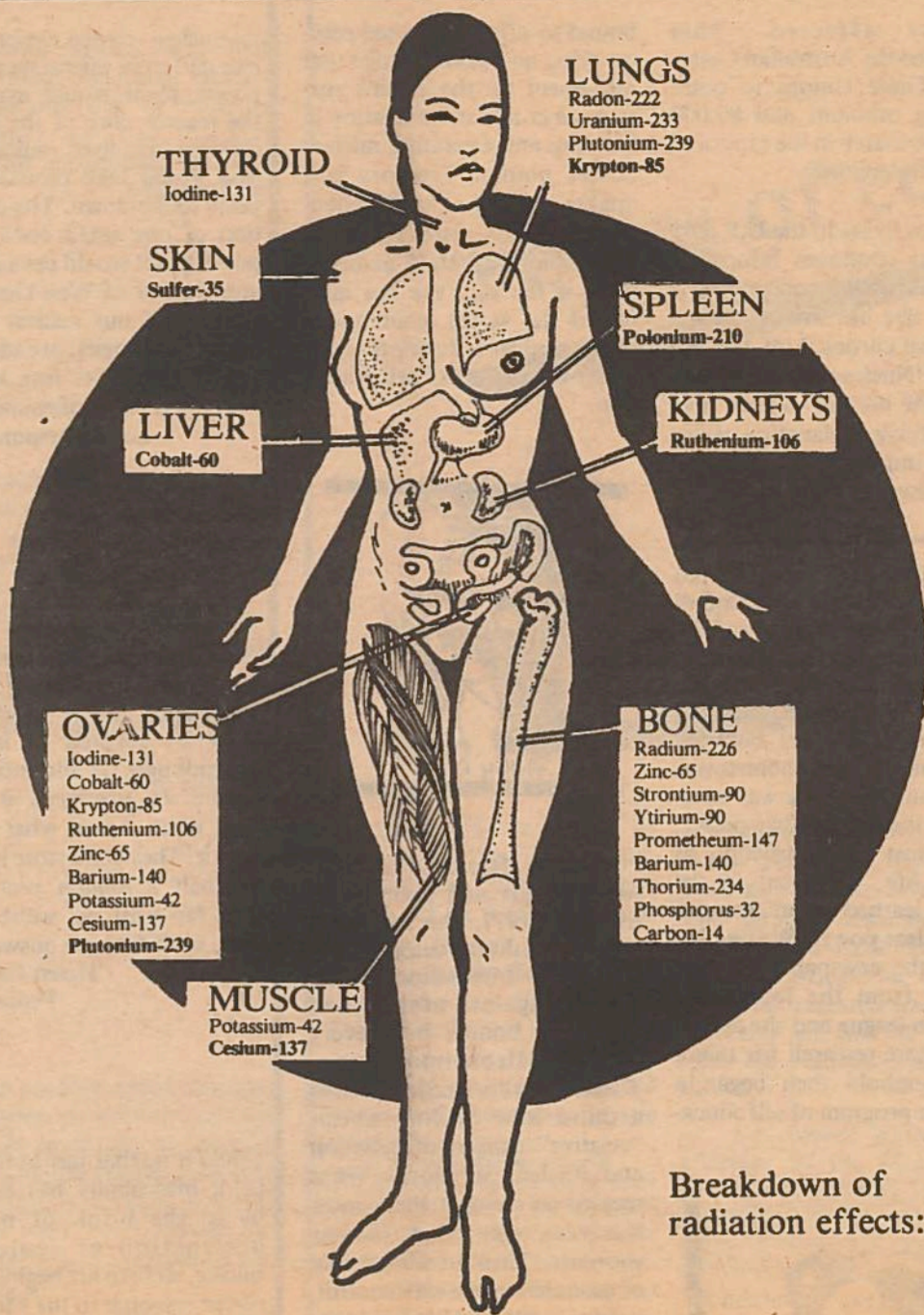
Nobel laureate  
Dr. Hannes Alfvén  
(former advocate of  
nuclear energy)

A nation is not conquered  
Until the hearts of its women  
Are on the ground.  
Then it is done, no matter  
How brave its warriors  
Nor how strong its weapons  
Cheyenne Song

People belong to the land, not  
the land to the people.  
Virginia Mott,  
Yavapai woman

"This earth is my sister; I  
love her daily grace, her  
silent daring, and how loved  
I am, how we admire  
this strength in each other,  
all that we have lost, all  
that we have suffered, all  
that we know: we are stunned  
by this beauty, and I  
do not forget: what she is  
to me, what I am to her"  
(Susan Griffin)





Breakdown of radiation effects:

## Physical Effects

by Penni Mitchell

Perhaps one of the cruelest realities about a nuclear war is that doctors would not be around to put us back together again. If Canada were subject to direct hits by nuclear warheads, it is likely that every hospital within any one target zone would be obliterated.

The few doctors who manage to survive would be of little help then, to treat the thousands of burn victims in the aftermath, since it takes the concentrated efforts of an entire hospital to tend to a single major burn victim.

The thermal pulse, a wave of blinding light and intense heat which occurs immediately following the explosion of a nuclear bomb, can cause second degree burns in exposed human beings in an area of more than two hundred and eighty square miles. According to "The Fate of the Earth" by Johnathan Schell, (recently serialized in The New Yorker), the thermal pulse of a twenty-megaton nuclear bomb (a relatively large weapon by modern standards) produces the same results in an area of 2,460 square miles, or 28 miles away from the explosion, in all directions.

An expanding fireball from a one-megaton nuclear explosion sends out a blast wave that will flatten or nearly destroy buildings in a 4½ mile radius from the site of the explosion. Correspondingly, Schell says the blast of a 20-megaton bomb would gut most buildings within a radius of 12 miles, or within 576 square miles of the blast.

Any hope of surviving a direct hit is further impaired by the accompanying mushroom cloud that threatens any potential survivors with massive doses of radiation from the fallout that will poison the environment for months to follow. From 40 to 70 per cent of the early fallout will descend to earth within a day of the explosion, contaminating life downwind from the site as well as in the direct vicinity of the blast.

An accompanying firestorm, which can generate mass fires within miles of the blast can kill more people than the original thermal pulses and blast waves.

There are also the global effects of a nuclear war to consider when calculating one's survival rate under a nuclear holocaust. In a full-scale nuclear war the ozone layer that surrounds the earth would be left impaired, allowing radiation from the sun to seep through to the earth, causing blindness among humans and animals who might be exposed to the sun. Schell also stipulates that the lofting from ground bursts of millions of tons of dust into the stratosphere is likely to produce a cooling of the earth's surface.

When the direct effects of the holocaust have taken their toll, the secondary effects come into play, discouraging survival even further among the survivors. Badly decomposing bodies, combined with overall unsanitary conditions would promote the spreading of disease in any given area. A shortage of food, drinking water and medical supplies would further impede the chances of survival beyond a few weeks. A lack of shelter may also lead to death from exposure or to murder among those who do survive, for shelter, for food and for water.

## Who would nuke Winnipeg?

by Penni Mitchell

Canadians have long thought of Uncle Sam as a distant relative — someone to whom we are related by blood, but not necessarily by choice. Because the distant uncle is also a rich uncle, he is someone we are reluctant to reproach, and while we maintain that we've kept an arms-length approach to the relationship, we are not too proud to snuggle up to the reverend uncle when we feel the slightest bit vulnerable.

As Canadians we are distinct from our American cousins, but if a global nuclear feud erupts, we can be certain that the 49th parallel will not shield us from the devastations of a nuclear holocaust.

There are two, equally valid and equally unoptimistic dogmas that emerge from discussions about the effects of nuclear war in Winnipeg. Those who shy away from the pronouncement that Winnipeg is targeted for extinction, believe that Winnipeg is no threat to world peace and would not be directly bombed.

It is difficult to predict which group are the eternal optimists and which are the hopeless defeatists, since even if Winnipeg were free from a direct hit, the suffering due to radioactive fallout, poisoning, famine and disease that would follow are probably even less palatable than dying in a nuclear explosion.

As a major communication and transportation centre in Canada, Winnipeg would

likely be included as a target in any widespread scheme to wipe North America off the map. Even the civil defence authorities admit that Winnipeg is a "potential target area."

Manitoba also sits quietly beneath what would be the battleground for offensive and defensive nuclear attacks from the Soviet Union and United States. Missiles travelling en route to and from the United States risk being intercepted or landing slightly off target, posing an unpredictable threat to the province. One stray missile on its way to a Grand Forks missile silo would be enough to put any arguments about Winnipeg's immunity from attack quietly to rest.

Even if Winnipeg were to come out of a nuclear war unbombed, the contagious battlewounds of surrounding areas would likely be enough to kill us, although we may enjoy a few pain-filled months of radioactive existence in the meantime. Because the 300 or so silos in North Dakota would be in the target zone in a nuclear attack, Winnipeg would be privy to massive radiation as the warm southern winds blow north across the border. Radiation sickness, a long and painful effect of exposure to the after-effects of a nuclear bomb, would stricken and kill most people who managed to survive an initial confrontation.

Those who remained would have to deal with chronic food shortages, contaminated

food and water, rampant disease (fed by decaying bodies, animals and refuse) and helping those who were suffering and dying. Because the ozone layer around the earth would be severely depleted from multi-megaton nuclear explosions, radiation from the sun would reach through to the earth and threaten to blind humans and animals exposed to it.

It is already known that every city in the United States with a population of over 200,000 is slated for extinction if the Soviet Union attacks the United States. There would be more than enough megatonnage of nuclear arsenals left over to destroy every major Canadian city.

Dr. Ian Carr, a member of the worldwide physicians disarmament organization, Physicians for Social Responsibility, maintains the Canada would be brought in to any attack made on the U.S. Carr says that the "east and west are equally to blame" for the \$600 billion arms race. The Winnipeg physician insists, though, that people cannot give up simply because the threat of nuclear war is real.

"Before we're dead from the missile upwind, we will be dead from the missiles in Winnipeg," he maintains.

Carr is also quick to point out that Soviet nuclear weaponry is more inaccurate than U.S. missiles and that it isn't known how accurate missile would be travelling thousands of miles over the curvature of the earth.

## Money To Burn

### The High Cost of Dying

- \$500,000.00 = one tank /or equipment for 520 classrooms.
- \$20,000,000.00 = one jet fighter /or 40,000 village pharmacies
- \$100,000,000.00 = one destroyer /or electricity for 13 cities with 9 million inhabitants each.

Every 12 days the world spends approximately 17 billion on military expenditures — enough to provide food, water, education, housing for everyone in the world.

poverty — 1 person in 5 is impoverished, malnourished, illiterate, surviving below the level of human decency.

education — 95% of poor countries are illiterate. 2 of 3 are female.

health — lives are 30 years shorter in Africa than Europe. 6 times as many infants die in developing countries.

jobs — 2 out of 5 who want to work are underemployed or have no job at all.

food — 1 billion people in the world suffer from malnutrition and hunger.

water — 2 billion people do not have access to dependable sanitary water. Water related diseases kill approximately 10,000,000 people every year.

housing — In cities of the third world, 250,000,000 people live in slums or squatter settlements.

### Alternatives —

The global social deficit is large and continually growing. Reduction of the world's massive military burden would: release public funds and reduce harmful effects of military spending. A diversion of a mere 10% of military outlays would represent \$50,000,000,000.00 a year! Spent on *people* rather than *arms* it would begin to transform antagonism and despair to hope and fellowship.

"The Soviet Union is 2-6 years behind the U.S. in "counter-force" technology. The people have been "bled dry" by the arms race, feel it's directly tied in to their material prosperity, and want to turn their attention to domestic matters."

Marta Daniels  
Connecticut Field Secretary of the American Friends Service Committee



# IRIE W I IRE W S

Nuclear Witnesses  
 Leslie J. Freeman  
 W.W. Norton & Co.  
 New York, 1982

## Nuclear witnesses tell it all

## Nuclear Madness

*"The stories in this book are evidence that even in the face of intimidation, people still believe their own experience matters and that other people matter. They are concerned about the lives of their children and the continuation of the species. These people know that when people hear the truth, they listen."*

by Kathy McCullough

With this Leslie Freeman begins "Nuclear Witnesses."

This book is based on interviews with sixteen people, who have worked with nuclear energy in the United States at a variety of occupations and levels. Though there is a diversity of people their stories have many similarities.

After a time of embracing nuclear energy and working within the system, they discovered in their own way, the nuclear lie. Nuclear energy was not a godsend or a salvation for the human race, but its damnation. Like so many people in the 1950's and 60's they believed that nuclear energy was a needed entity for the world. During the cold war it provided protection against the "commies" and with the development of detente the atom was split for peaceful and useful reasons.

From the medical researcher, nuclear physicist, and medical physicist the dangers of radiation to the environment and ultimately to ourselves are explained. From the pipefitter, carpenter, millwright, welder, and engineers it is learned how generally unsafe the buildings are, how, from the ground up, the regulations to insure the public safety are ignored. Lastly, from a uranium miner, three widows of miners and an atomic test veteran, the reader is confronted with the reality of the nuclear industry.

As they had believed so easily that nuclear energy was good, they so naively thought that once they exposed all its inherent dangers, it would be stopped, or at least changed.

After their acceptance and then questioning, came their real awakening. Each chapter

reveals again and again how the military, government and industry ignored the evidence and conspired together to discredit and quiet these people. Instead of more questions being asked or more research being done, the sixteen found themselves trying to move a brick wall. In the afterword, Dr. Helen Caldicott says it best,

"The military-industrial complex is, within the definition of clinical psychiatry, not mentally healthy."

"Nuclear Witnesses" is very insightful due to the amount of information it gives to its readers. Disturbing, depressing it may be, but it does leave the reader with some hope. There is hope because we know that the courage of these sixteen people, who, with the threat of death, have still testified against nuclear energy. Their courage is multiplied over and again by thousands of others around the world.

(Nuclear Witnesses is available at Liberation Books for \$7.95)

**Nuclear Madness — The Choice Is Yours. A Safe Future Or No Future At All. What You Can Do!**  
 Dr. Helen Caldicott  
 Harper & Row Publishers, Inc.  
 1979

by Marnie Pastuck

This is a concise and eloquent book which clearly describes the nuclear threat, told with authority, a mother's passion, and vision. Preceding the text is a chilling map (American) which pinpoints the myriad sites of nuclear weapons, the locations of underground experiments, university reactors, power plants; commercial and military, uranium mill tailings, transportation routes of radioactive materials, and waste burial grounds. We are swamped with poison, the east coast glutted especially and the mind reels to consider what one disaster would wreak. Caldicott's thesis is that the nuclear technology threatens life on earth with extinction. Present trends are rapidly bringing about a massive contamination of radioactive pollutants to the air we breathe, the food we eat, the water we drink, constituting a greater plague on humanity than has ever been experienced.

Caldicott first learned of the carcinogenic (cancer causing) and mutagenic (gene altering) effects of radiation during medical school, in the 1950's. There were atomic tests being carried out in the Pacific, and the long term medical consequences of radiation were just beginning to manifest among Japanese A-bomb survivors. Caldicott became concerned by the Strontium-90, (by-product) of atomic testing fallout being found in concentrations in cows' milk, and the deciduous teeth, and bones of children. Unfortunately while the Pentagon sustained and accelerated nuclear development in the 60's, the populace turned its attention to political assassination, Civil Rights & Vietnam. As a result, today we have a stockpile, of incalculable proportions. (Bear in mind that one pound of plutonium is enough to kill every person on earth, and the average reactor produces 400-500 lbs of it annually!)

Through efforts such as Caldicott's; who lectures, writes, broadcasts, seemingly increasingly, the public's ignorance as to the true nature of nuclear power is disappearing. However she shows how time and again the government's pro-nuclear policy steams ahead aided by the uninformed actions of officials and politicians, many of whom are visibly

shocked when presented with the medical facts on nuclear pollutants.

Caldicott stresses that the individual need not feel impotent, she chronicles her own beginnings as an activists; how a few letters to newspapers, a few broadcasts will snowball and mobilize thousands once they are aware of the urgency of the task of survival. Her experience in Australia during the 1970's showed that an aroused citizenry can exert electoral pressure, and put the democratic process in motion. Reminding us that we can not afford to entrust our lives and health of future generations to politicians, bureaucrats, or "experts"; too often compromised or uninformed, it is the individual who must take action.

This book is indispensable in clarifying the facts on nuclear power, that bombs are not the only threat, but radiation from "peaceful" utilization such as power generators, (pushed vociferously as clean, cheap energy) create unprecedented havoc on the surrounding environment even at optimum conditions. Radiation is silent, invisible pollution, insidious; as the latency period of cancer is 12 to 30 years. Caldicott traces the threat from mining and milling, to enrichment, fuel fabrication, to reactors and their sewage. This creates a chain of activity and export that encircles the globe and potentially affects everyone in the civilized world. She dedicates a chapter to plutonium, the most carcinogenic substance known, remaining poisonous for 1/2 million years. The worst of it is that there is no way of disposing of the substance. Pro-nuclear propaganda blathers inanely about storage deep within the vaults of the earth, yet what of natural calamities; earthquakes etc? The intense security necessary to protect these lethal substances from sabotage or terrorists could well usher in an era of military control. Turning society into an armed camp is another unpleasant spectre possible.

Caldicott explains M.A.D. (Mutually Assured Destruction) the ludicrous policy of world powers that renders limited nuclear war a total joke. With enough arsenal between the U.S. and Soviet Union alone to destroy every city on earth 7 times over, this suicidal strategy defies logic and common sense.

Dr. Caldicott calls upon all of us to take responsibility as curators of life on earth. Through education and as taxpayers, employees, and as the voting public, concern for human survival, the integrity of the earth must surpass all social, political and economic divisions.

## "If you love this planet"

by Gerri Thorsteinson

If you've seen one nuclear war you've seen them all.

That's the message of a new National Film Board (NFB) documentary "If You Love This Planet".

Speaking as a physician, an authority on nuclear radiation and, as a mother, Dr. Helen Caldicott was filmed during a 1981 lecture to American students.

Caldicott said that nuclear war means extermination "like what we do to cockroaches." It is not war in the traditional sense where combatants rebuild from the rubble.

She compares the major powers with two little boys playing in a sandbox, arguing over who has the biggest biceps.

Questioning the sanity of those who don't express their concern about nuclear war she likened the situation to that of parents whose child is diagnosed as being leukemic. "If I explain the prognosis and they show no emotional response, I get them a psychiatrist."

While the audience sat stunned by film footage of deafening mushroom-shaped explosions and burned victims of Hiroshima she quoted facts and statistics familiar to citizens of the atomic age:

— today's 20 megaton bomb is equivalent to 20 million tons of T.N.T. which, in turn, is equivalent to four times all the bombs dropped during World War II

— in 1975 American military leaders predicted a 50-50 chance of nuclear war by 1985, a statistic confirmed by Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

— the hands on the nuclear "doomsday clock" in the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists read four minutes to midnight in January, 1981 — and the editors think they didn't move it far enough.

Quoting from a 1962 New England Journal of Medicine Caldicott said that everyone within a six mile radius of the half mile wide crater created by a nuclear bomb would be "vaporized" or turned into gas. People within 20 miles of the blast would be killed or lethally injured with severe burns.

She pointed out that there are only 2,000 acute burn hospital beds in the U.S. However they would be destroyed along with the cities that surround them.

She argued the audience to become active about the issue. "If you love this planet you'll have to change the priorities of your life," she said.

The film was produced by Studio D, the NFB's so-called women's studio which made "Not A Love Story" on the subject of pornography.

"If You Love This Planet" is proving effective. The six copies of the film are booked until the end of June.

NFB distribution representative Ralph Friesen hopes the film will reach a wider audience on television. So far, CBC-TV has refused to run the documentary saying that "it is not in their tradition of objective journalism."

Winnipeg is targeted for two megaton bombs because of its importance as a communication and transportation center, according to Zeilig. Situated between 300 inter-continental ballistic missiles in North Dakota and Russia to the north Winnipeg is in the middle of a "nuclear Maginot line", Zeilig said.

On a more positive note, Caldicott suggested ways of lobbying to prevent such a disaster. "All politicians are patients, including President Reagan" said the outspoken nuclear critic who is head of the 10,000 member organization, Physicians for Social Responsibility.

She has also mobilized women's instinct to save their babies into the Women's Party for Survival. "When the (U.S.) senate is debating the arms race we will release hundreds of naked toddlers into the senate chamber" she said.

In regard to the arms race Caldicott pointed out that the U.S. Senate refuses to sign the SALT II agreement limiting nuclear arms because America wishes to maintain its superiority.



# FEMINISM: OUR FUTURE

The detractors of feminism would have us believe that women's concerns are a 'single issue', somehow unconnected with politics, ecology, history, religion, culture. We know that the way women have been treated over the ages is inseparable from the political/social/religious/cultural history of civilization as we know it. As Gloria Steinem says, "there is no subject that feminism doesn't transform".

**"there is no subject that feminism doesn't transform"**

Feminists, in particular over the last decade, have delved deeply into the sexism inherent in the male-oriented view of the world which informs the so-called "objective" disciplines such as anthropology, sociology, history.

More recently, feminists all over the world have begun to make the connections between environmental issues and the essentially masculine "man as master" attitude to the world that we call the patriarchal mentality. The increased focus in the eighties on the nuclear menace begs for an analysis: from where comes this insanity of the increase of dangerous nuclear power plants and weapons to the point where there is enough destructive potential on this planet today to

put an end to life as we know it many times over.

What emerges is that nuclear power is no more a "single issue" than feminism is. Nuclear power is the latest and most serious manifestation of the patriarchal mentality. The same mentality which has supported a "power-over" ownership and rapist attitude to women over the ages, now allows the rape of Mother Earth with uranium mining, the dumping and unsafe storage of nuclear and chemical wastes, nuclear weapons testing, nuclear power plants which leak low-level radiation, chemicals in our water supply, pollution in our atmosphere, pesticides in our food and numerous other ecological atrocities.

**Nuclear power is the latest and most serious manifestation of the patriarchal mentality.**

Patriarchal thinking supports a dualistic view of the world: spirit/matter, mind/body, good/evil, reason/intuition, self/other, man/environment. Somewhere in our history this breaking down of reality into polarities provided a model for the male/female polarity. As the qualities associated with maleness (mind, matter, reason,

self) become more valued, so did the qualities equated with woman (body, intuition, other) become debased and thought of as inferior, if not actually evil.

Out of this duality paradigm evolved the rationale for sex-role stereotyping, based on the notion of the natural superiority of men and the right of men to control and dominate women. Since women are associated with the earth, and it is obvious from anthropology and the creation myths of many cultures that men did equate women with the earth from early times, then possession of and

domination over the earth is an extension of the power over women that men claim a right to. As this expression of power over women has become increasingly more violent with the development of "civilization", so has the violence to the planet increased until today we are faced with the horror of a technology which could destroy us all.

It is not that all men in all times have incorporated this attitude of domination over nature into their way of living; native people on this continent did live in close harmony with the environment before the white men came (and ironically are the ones who today must deal with uranium mining on their land

and the direct health costs of the dumping of uranium mining wastes on their land to their population). They have a saying: "as the earth is treated, so is the woman". It is no accident that, with patriarchal thinking being the dominant culture in the world today, women, original peoples, the environment, are all considered expendable in the pursuit of power, profit, and technological "progress" to support a system which values production and consumption of commodities over the quality of human life.

**They have a saying: "as the earth is treated, so is the woman".**

That the health and welfare of the earth, and women, and native peoples, and anyone and anything that can be used as fuel for the patriarchal machine is increasingly threatened by the many expressions of this mentality — sexism racism, nationalism, and the inhumane uses of technology, none of which are in the best interests of a happy, healthy life for all of us — is really one issue. The issue is the quality of life, not mere survival in a violent world in which one in four women in Canada will

be sexually assaulted in her lifetime, where the life expectancy of native people which is now lower than white people will be even less because of uranium mining and the dumping of uranium wastes on their land, where there is a continual increase in cancer and birth defects from low-level radiation and environmental pollution.

We do not have to leave our other feminist work in order to be anti-nuke activists; we can take anti-nuke consciousness and information into whatever group we work with and to whatever women we reach through our work and lives, as mothers, as workers, as teachers, as union members. If we do not act now to save the planet, we may have no planet in which to create and develop our vision of a non-sexist, non-oppressive society which celebrates life.

"At last, when the man has all but destroyed our species, our sister earth, our children that we made in our own holy bodies, at last we are beginning to be shrill as banshees, and to act"

(Robin Morgan)

This is excerpted from a paper written by Women Against Nuclear Technology, Vancouver, B.C.

What can they do to you? Whatever they want. They can set you up, they can bust you, they can break your fingers, they can burn your brain with electricity, blur you with drugs till you can't walk, can't remember, they can take your child, wall up your lover. They can do anything you can't stop them from doing. How can you stop them? Alone, you can fight, you can refuse, you can take what revenge you can but they roll over you. But two people fighting back to back can cut through a mob, a snake-dancing file can break a cordon, an army can meet an army. Two people can keep each other sane, can give support, conviction, love, massage, hope, sex. Three people are a delegation, a committee, a wedge. With four you can play bridge and start an organization. With six you can rent a whole house, eat pie for dinner with no seconds, and hold a fund raising party. A dozen make a demonstration. A hundred fill a hall. A thousand have solidarity and your own newsletter; ten thousand, power and your own paper; a hundred thousand, your own media; ten million, your own country.

*The Low Road*

It goes on one at a time, it starts when you care to act, it starts when you do it again after they said no, it starts when you say We and you know who you mean, and each day you mean one more.

Marge Piercy

cont'd from pg. 2

The Same "you have more tanks than I do" philosophy is being used right now in defence of the arms build up and unless the childish egoism is restrained, one pouting supremacist is likely to throw a tantrum of insurmountable rage against the other. If that were to happen, we would all lose, unwilling participants in a war no one wanted.

The nuclear arms race is no longer something we can continue to avoid. It's not something "just happening in Europe" or something to be worried about "only if you live in the States." The extent of the nuclear build up and the threat of the extinction of the human race is no longer something the press can remain "unbiased" about because it's not an issue that there are two, equally valid arguments for, because we can't sacrifice our entire planet in order to find out who was right. That's why doctors, and university professors and mothers, and politicians are breaking rank to come together to tell the leaders in the arms race that they have not got the right to decide whether the rest of the world wants to sacrifice itself to further the dimmed gains of a dimmed few.

**HERizons**  
The Manitoba Women's Newspaper  
Box 551  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R3C 2J3

(1 yr.) 10 issues at \$5.00  
\$12.00 — institutions

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The aim of this newspaper is to provide an alternative means of communications with a feminist perspective in order to stimulate, to inform, to effect change and to unify women's strengths. It also serves as a public forum of discussion for the women of Manitoba.

The Manitoba Women's Newspaper is currently operating out of Box 551, Winnipeg, Manitoba, for further information call Debbie Holmberg at 772-8170. Views expressed in this publication are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect The Manitoba Women's Newspaper policy. Submissions are welcome. Editing rights are reserved and submission does not guarantee publication. A self-addressed stamped envelope will ensure that submissions will be returned to the writer. We have applied for a 2nd class mailing permit. Published ten times a year. Price: \$5.00 per year, 60 cents per issue. For institution or business: \$12.00



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