

Copy Exchange

C A L E N D A R

NOV 21: MECHANICSVILLE

Noon GWEN tower vigil, two miles east of town on HWY 30. A program follows at Doc and Jo's featuring a discussion of Central American issues. (See poster inside.)

NOV 21: IOWA CITY

Latin American Peña Folklórica, a program of Latin American music, will begin in the IMU Ballroom at 8:30 PM.

NOV 27-28: NATIONWIDE WAR TOYS PROTEST

DEC 3: IOWA CITY

7 PM program, "Civil Disobedience and the Peace Movement," Ken Rippetoe will talk at Van Allen II.

DEC 11: IOWA CITY

8 PM program, music & slides from the American/Soviet Peace Walk, presented by Patty Ankrum & Bruce Bishop.

JAN 23: CEDAR RAPIDS

Meeting of Iowa Network on Central America Call Bill Douglas at (515) 243-2571.



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The Copy Exchange is a nonprofit Newsletter, devoted to issues of human understanding. Senior editor is Franklin Seiberling, 1133 Howell, Iowa City. Editorial and mailing assistance came from John Tinker and Steve Marsden. ==> WE NEED YOUR INPUT. PLEASE WRITE !!



IMPORTANT SOURCES OF INFORMATION ABOUT CENTRAL AMERICA

Letters to the Churches -- Published every 2 weeks by the Pastoral Center, Central American University, San Salvador. The edited English version is mailed from San Antonio, Texas. There is an effort to avoid polarizing political rhetoric while at the same time "opting for the poor" who are caught in the midst of war. This is a perspective which very much needs to be brought to the North American people. Subscription is \$15, or \$10 for low income. Letters to the Churches, Box 351, San Antonio TX 78291.

Notes from El Salvador -- Published monthly. Written by Margaret Viers, who is a volunteer worker with refugees in El Salvador. Herein you will find a vivid picture of life as seen from the perspective of those displaced by the war. Highly recommended. Send a donation to cover postage and printing costs to Notes from El Salvador, c/o John Stratton, 213 Samaritan Ave., Ashland OH 44805.

Through Our Eyes -- Published monthly by the Committee of U.S. Citizens living in Nicaragua (CUSLIN), and distributed by the Austin Peace and Justice Coalition. This 10 page newsletter describes life in Nicaragua as seen by North Americans who live there. It also tells about the problems involved in dealing with U.S. officials, the trade embargo, and other difficulties facing travelers from the land of the free, home of the brave. A one year subscription is \$10. Make check payable to: Through Our Eyes, P.O. Box 4403-159, Austin, TX 78765.

Mesoamerica -- Published monthly by the Institute for Central American Studies. This small newspaper does a country by country wrap-up of the past month's news. Good for getting an idea of the general situation throughout Central America. \$26 for 12 issues. Mesoamerica, Institute for C.A. Studies, Apdo. 300, 1002 San Jose, Costa Rica.

TELEPHONE HOTLINE NUMBERS -- Recorded Messages 24 hours/day

Nicaragua Network -- (202) 233-NICA -- News about Nicaragua.

Witness for Peace -- (202) 636-4474 -- News about Witness for Peace groups in Nicaragua.

Institute for a New Foreign Policy -- (202) 543-0664
Legislative matters pertaining to Central America.

*** SPECIAL OFFER ***

RECON, a modest award winning periodical, has offered a free sample copy to readers of the Copy Exchange. RECON is published quarterly for the purpose of keeping an eye on the Pentagon, especially anti-imperialist groups opposed to U.S. domination of the third world. For your free copy write to:

RECON, P.O. Box 14602
Philadelphia, PA 19134.

I. F. STONE

End of a profligate era



The United States, the world's number-one debtor nation, may be heading for history's biggest bankruptcy. If that occurs, it will drag the world down with it, whether capitalist or communist, developed or underdeveloped. Even a new bull market would not cure the basic disorder of the U.S. economy.

It is not just that something has to be done about the federal deficit. The whole country is in hock. One of the delusions of supply-side economics was that massive tax cuts would lead to a sharp rise in the volume of savings. But the savings rate — as a percentage of disposable income after taxes — has been cut by more than half during the Reagan years. It was 7.1 percent in 1980 and 4.3 percent in 1986. This year it has averaged 3 percent and is currently closer to 2 percent. That is a precipitous drop.

That is reflected in the biggest consumer binge of all time, based increasingly on credit. Since 1980 private debt, including installment credit, non-installment debt and home mortgages, has almost doubled. It was a shade above \$1.3 trillion in 1980. The latest 1987 estimate is almost \$2.5 trillion. Every American seems to have acquired not just one but several credit cards. With all that funny money, who needs counterfeiters anymore?

The public debt in the Reagan era rose even faster than the private did. It more than doubled. The federal debt went from \$742.8 billion in 1980 to \$1.87 trillion at the end of the second quarter of 1987. State and local debt rose from \$295.3 billion to \$533.1 billion. Total government debt is now almost \$2.5 trillion, only a shade behind the private. Together they add up to almost \$5 trillion. The Reagan administration, while preaching the old-fashioned virtues, has inspired an era of unprecedented profligacy.

The trade deficit is another of its aspects. That deficit was \$31.4 billion in 1980. The latest estimate, on the basis of the first eight months of this year, is \$170.3 billion. It is growing although the dollar has lost 40 percent of its value in the past 22 months, a de facto devaluation that was supposed to make U.S. products competitive again. All this helps explain the hysteria on the stock market and why yields on long-term government bonds are in the double digits again.

The bill collector is at the door. But political leadership is reluctant to answer the bell. The early warning was sounded by George Bush in the 1980 Republican nominating campaign before his eyes were clouded by the vice presidency. He had said we couldn't have a stepped-up arms race, a tax cut and a balanced budget. We are suffering the consequences of this "voodoo economics." But he is now advocating what he once denounced, saying no, just like Reagan, to any tax increase or defense cut. His only concrete contri-

bution the economic debate is a proposal to cut capital-gains taxes, a supply-side snake oil that would add to the deficit in order to refuel speculation. This is like trying to stem drug addiction by cutting the price of narcotics.

The United States needs a dose of austerity as surely as do Argentina, Brazil and Mexico. But the International Monetary Fund does not dare scold us as it does them. Nor do we hear any clear voice from the Democratic candidates. They remember too well what happened to Mondale when he dared utter the dirty word "taxes" in 1984.

Already Treasury Secretary James Baker is suggesting that the stock market has started to crash because Democrats in Congress had proposed a few nickel-and-dime additions to corporate levies and a curb on takeovers. Reagan reverted to his old language as a sportscaster and offered as arguments against new taxes or defense cuts only the word "nuts!"

Only after a Black Monday or a Wild Tuesday was Reagan prevailed upon to hint at a possible compromise on the deficit. The vocabulary itself is enough to scare foreign investors. Any cuts must come out of civilian expenditures. But if you set aside interest on the debt, entitlements (like Social Security and Medicare) and the great untouchable of "defense" (which is really the cost of maintaining a worldwide empire), even shutting down the rest of the government entirely wouldn't erase this year's deficit.

The total bill for all departments other than defense as proposed in the Reagan budget for 1988 is almost \$118 billion. The 1988 deficit is now projected to be \$185 billion. So you could abolish civil government altogether and still be \$67 billion in the red.

Reagan has been hoping to stave off the deluge of debt until after he leaves office and then blame Congress and the Democrats — and by implication constitutional government itself — for the gigantic mess Reaganomics has created.

The Profligate Era is ending with a deliberately created gridlock. This could breed a new fascistic mentality.

Let us imagine for a moment what would happen if the two parties in Congress escaped from the blighting shadow of Reagan's veto power and reached agreement on a really radical cut in the deficit.

It could begin to restore confidence worldwide. True it would mean some bitter medicine at home, but that may be the one way to avoid a crash recalling 1929. But that improbable scenario may be already too late as stock markets gyrate frantically everywhere.

It is frightening that the economic crisis coincides with escalation in the Persian Gulf, where classic and immemorial fears of appearing weak drag the United States and Iran closer to the brink of another and more unsettling Vietnam.

We may be at a new chapter in human history when economic distress and war fears exacerbate every regional quarrel on the planet and darken the prospects for superpower accommodation.

The bill collector is at the door. But political leadership is reluctant to answer the bell.

Planning for World War IV

The nation is building a \$40 billion nuclear-war machine, largely funded by the Pentagon's secret "black budget." It is to be strong enough to win a long World War III — and ready to fight World War IV. Computers would run a nuclear war no human mind could control, and robots would roam radioactive battlefields.

By Tim Weiner
Inquirer Staff Writer

On Dec. 4, an Atlas-Centaur rocket blasted off from Cape Canaveral. It carried the first space test of Milstar, a multibillion-dollar satellite system funded by the Pentagon's secret "black budget."

Milstar is the centerpiece of a \$40 billion plan to prepare for World War IV.

Four?

Four. Since 1981, shortly after President Reagan took office, the fundamental U.S. defense strategy has been to be able to fight and win a six-month nuclear conflict — World War III — and remain strong enough afterward to strike again.

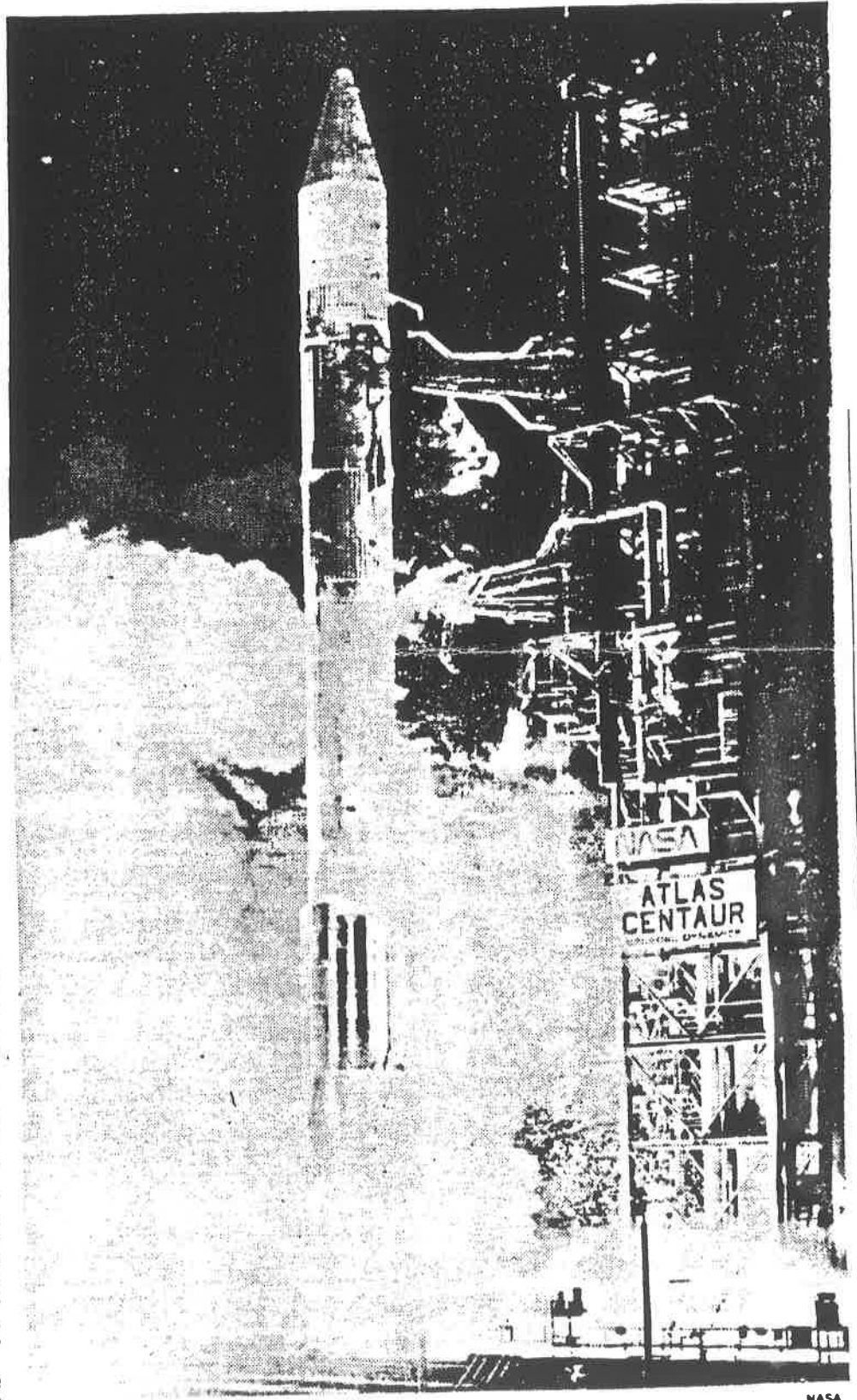
Long after the White House and Pentagon are reduced to rubble and much of civilization is destroyed, the strategy would call for computers to run a war no human mind could control, orchestrating space satellites and nuclear weapons over a global battlefield.

The strategy envisions generals huddled in underground bunkers, aloft in converted 747s and speeding down interstate highways in lead-lined tractor-trailers. These nuclear-war command posts would harbor computer terminals linked to space satellites that would help direct nuclear missiles from silos and submarines.

The key to this strategy, the Pentagon maintains, is to build a computerized communications network that can command and control the nation's nuclear forces during and after World War III.

The Pentagon calls this network "C3I" (pronounced see-cubed-eye), shorthand for command, control, communications and intelligence. Part of a \$222 billion plan to modernize the nation's nuclear forces, C3I would become America's central nervous system for nuclear war, the brain that controls the brawn of missiles, bombers and submarines.

Increasingly, major components of the nuclear C3I system, such as Milstar, have been hidden in the black budget, the Pen-



A rocket blasts off with the first test of the Milstar satellite network.

THE PENTAGON'S SECRET CACHE

tagon's secret funds for classified projects. Naturally, this has severely limited congressional oversight and public awareness of the new network.

And as billions and billions for C3I disappear into the black budget, less and less is known about the ultimate cost and structure of the nation's nuclear strategy.

New C3I systems hidden in the black budget include:

- The Milstar system of satellites, orbiting 70,000 miles above the earth, receiving and relaying commands to launch nuclear weapons.

- Satellite sensors designed to guide nuclear missiles in flight, track their progress and report back on the damage they inflict.

- Tractor-trailers hauling nuclear command posts, dodging Soviet attacks on the open road.

The ultimate cost of these three black programs alone may exceed \$30 billion.

C3I projects still in the unclassified Pentagon budget include:

- Robots that can gallop like horses and walk like men, carrying out computerized orders as they roam the radioactive battlefield.

- A nationwide network of 500 radio stations that could broadcast orders to nuclear-missile silos and underground bunkers.

- A search for ways to protect crucial computers from the effects of nuclear weapons.

Take Milstar, just one component, although a crucial one, of C3I. For years, the Milstar project gathered dust in the Pentagon's files. It was considered impossibly expensive.

But the Reagan administration's military buildup has brought it from the drawing board to the launching pad.

Since 1984, the administration has spent at least \$1.5 billion to develop the space satellites and other communications equipment for Milstar. Military analysts estimate the ultimate cost of Milstar at between \$15 billion and \$20 billion.

The true cost will remain a secret. Last year, the Milstar satellites disappeared in the Pentagon's black budget, where they are less likely to face scrutiny from Congress and critics.

Milstar would work like this, if it works at all, in a nuclear war:

Imagine two networks, one in space, one on earth. The first is a constellation of eight satellites, strategically placed in orbits around the earth, 70,000 miles or more in space. The satellites connect with the second network, thousands of radios and computer terminals in underground bunkers, missile silos, submarines, tractor-trailers and airborne command posts.

Milstar would be the global nuclear-communications switchboard, connecting all the command stations during and after World War III, receiving and relaying the launch orders for nuclear weapons.

This concept — "connectivity" — is the buzzword for the 1980s at the Pentagon and the basis for the C3I network.

All commanders dream of ways to pierce the fog of war, to obtain intelligence fresh from the battlefield, to give orders that will be carried out instantly, to communicate with fellow officers. To command. As Gen. Thomas Power, the legendary head of the Strategic Air Command in the 1950s, put it: "Without communications, all I command is my desk."

Pentagon officials have told Congress that Milstar's satellites and terminals will provide "connectivity" for months after nuclear war erupts.

Milstar would connect the nation's military leaders with the commander-in-chief. If the president escapes from Washington in the "doomsday plane," a converted 747 intended to evacuate the president from Washington, he could use Milstar to order nuclear-submarine commanders thousands of miles away to hit Soviet targets in Moscow or Vladivostok.

If Washington is destroyed and the president, vice president and secretary of defense are killed, the new nuclear commander-in-chief will be an Air Force general already aloft in a modified 707. (Continuously, in peacetime or in conflict, a general and battle staff from the Strategic Air Command are in flight over the Midwest in one of several planes code-named Looking Glass.)

Messages sent through Milstar would tell the Looking Glass commander if Washington was gone. He would then use Milstar to coordinate the nation's nuclear missiles and bombers.

The Pentagon still has not solved one problem that might prevent the "doomsday" and Looking Glass planes from playing their crucial roles throughout a six-month nuclear war: The planes cannot remain aloft for more than 72 hours before their lubricants run out and their engines die.

If the airborne command posts fail, Milstar would transmit that information to generals in the Pentagon's alternative command center, deep underground in the Catocin Mountains near Raven Rock, Pa. Then these generals could take control, using the satellites to transmit orders telling troops to evacuate cities, or to fire MX warheads from silos in Wyoming.

When it is completed, Milstar will join two other nuclear-war-fighting systems in space.

Navstar, also known as the Global Positioning System, was canceled by the Carter administration but resurrected in 1982. It is expected to be completed by 1990 at an estimated final cost of \$8 billion to \$12 billion.

Navstar's 18 satellites will play a crucial role in a nuclear war. Their computer systems will help nuclear weapons hit bull's-eyes. According to congressional testimony, the satellites can guide nuclear missiles and fix them on their targets with accuracies of 50 feet or closer.

How will the U.S. military commanders know if the missiles have accomplished their missions? A set of sensors that will

As billions disappear into the black budget, less and less is known about the nation's nuclear strategy.

ride piggyback on Navstar satellites will tell them.

The sensors are called IONDS, for Integrated Operational Nuclear Detection System. Pentagon officials have told Congress that the sensors are designed to survey the global battlefield, pinpoint nuclear explosions, assess the damage and report the results back to commanders in airborne posts and underground bunkers.

Like Milstar satellites, the nuclear-detection technology for IONDS is being developed mostly under black-budget financing. Its ultimate cost is unknown.

While much about the C3I technology's role in nuclear policy remains classified, several aspects seem clear:

The new generation of C3I satellites is a step toward the militarization of space. The C3I network gives computers an ever-growing power over nuclear forces. The technology remains uncertain until tested in nuclear war. And the multi-billion-dollar projects hidden in the black budget still represent only a small down payment on a C3I system that can endure a long nuclear war.

"One reason the black budget is growing so fast is the Reagan administration believes it can win a nuclear war," said Gene LaRocque, the retired Navy admiral who directs the watchdog group Center for Defense Information in Washington. "We've moved away from a policy of deterrence, where you want your enemy to know what you've got. If you want to win a nuclear war, you've got to keep your capabilities a secret."

Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger has told Congress that the C3I network is "perhaps the most urgently needed element" in the Reagan administration's trillion-dollar military buildup. This urgency stems from a shift in the nation's nuclear-war-fighting strategy.

Shortly after President Reagan took office, in October 1981, he signed a secret "finding" called National Security Decision Directive 13. While the text of NSDD-13 remains a secret, its meaning is not. The strategy it proclaimed has been repeated in the testimony of Pentagon officials before Congress and in scores of published works by military analysts.

THE PENTAGON'S SECRET CACHE

That strategy says the idea of a one-day nuclear war is outmoded. It says that 20 million or more Americans can die in World War III, and the United States will still survive as a nation. It says the United States should have the power to control the escalation of a long-drawn-out nuclear war and force a Soviet surrender. And it says the new C³I network must then control a reserve of nuclear forces large enough to allow the nation to fight again.

The strategy relies heavily on space-based C³I platforms such as Milstar and Navstar. International treaties forbid the military use of space. Congress has asked Pentagon officials whether their plans violate these agreements. The Pentagon has replied, in a statement with Orwellian overtones, that the United States interprets "the right to use space for peaceful purposes to include military uses of space to promote peace in the world." And Congress has funded the satellites.

Back on earth, the Pentagon's C³I plans depend on ways to keep commanders alive.

In an all-out nuclear war, Pentagon planners realize, few major command posts would avoid direct nuclear hits. The Soviet Union knows where to find crucial nerve centers such as the Pentagon and the Strategic Air Command headquarters in Nebraska.

Figuring that a moving target is harder to hit, the Pentagon has a \$3 billion investment in mobile command posts under way. The idea, the Pentagon has told Congress, is to have a large number of C³I centers that the Soviets cannot target. This is the thinking behind a project code-named Island Sun.

It is a plan to create convoys of tractor-trailers in which generals could operate computerized command posts after nuclear war begins, according to congressional testimony by Defense Secretary Weinberger. Just how the trucks would operate — for example, where they might refuel or change a flat tire — is unknown, because the project is classified. However, the Pentagon budget shows that Island Sun has absorbed \$165 million in research-and-development funds over the past four years.

Island Sun is one of many related C³I projects to create mobile ground terminals, linked through Milstar, that in effect would be tiny Pentagons coordinating the nation's nuclear forces as they dodge Soviet intercontinental ballistic missiles on the highways, on freight trains and aboard merchant ships at sea.

But Milstar and its ground terminals are not the only way to coordinate the nuclear arsenal. The Pentagon plans to spend nearly \$1 billion on creating an enduring conventional communications system, one so large and containing so many parts that the Soviet Union could never eliminate it.

The system is called GWEN, the Ground Wave Emergency Network. GWEN is

planned as a network of up to 500 unmanned radio towers. At least 50 are already in place near towns and cities including Aurora, Colo.; Manhattan, Kan.; Fayetteville, Ark., and Gettysburg, Pa. Each station has a range of several hundred miles and can relay messages to sister stations, creating a national network, Radio GWEN.

GWEN's programming would include orders to launch nuclear weapons. It would link early-warning radars, missile silos, air bases, submarines, underground bunkers, Strategic Air Command headquarters and the Pentagon.

The genius of GWEN, according to Pentagon planners, is that the Soviets cannot possibly destroy all 500 towers. There will be so many GWEN relay stations and switching routes that the system should endure during and after a nuclear attack. And if it falters, balloons carrying compatible radio antennas could be inflated and sent aloft.

Another question the Pentagon is grappling with as it tries to create a nuclear-war-fighting network is the human factor. Would soldiers carry out their roles in the heat of nuclear battle? The Pentagon is researching ways to educate soldiers to "understand the impact of enemy nuclear firepower" and to "prepare them to cope with operations on the nuclear battlefield," according to congressional testimony.

And where the human mind and body cannot cope with nuclear war, the Pentagon's planners tell Congress, computers will. They will play a very large role in the command and control of nuclear forces.

Thinking machines can supplant privates and generals alike in wartime, according to the Pentagon's Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), which notes in its 1987 budget that "computers can assist,

Skeptics call the Pentagon's vision of the ultimate nuclear-war machine an expensive illusion.

advise and/or relieve military personnel in complex decision-making tasks [which are] dangerous or rapidly changing."

"Computers are extremely important," the Pentagon's former director of ballistic missile defense, Jacob Gilstein, has told Congress. "No human being can enter the real-time decision-making loop and control the system. It has to be pre-programmed with logic so the computer can make the decision and run the game."

Just as computers will have to do the

thinking in nuclear war, computer-controlled robot soldiers may have to do the grunt work in the nuclear battlefield.

DARPA is working on a variety of robots — "hexapods" that move with a tank's agility and speed, "quadrupeds" that gallop and trot, "walking vehicles," and robot hands and fingers. It is using increasing amounts of money and manpower to develop robot intelligence, focusing on "flexible software systems that show unique promise for solving complex military problems." Commanders will communicate with robots through "a state-of-the-art man-machine interface called IRUS," according to DARPA's budget.

DARPA envisions a robot soldier of the future that takes orders "but does not generate discourse" — no back talk or balking. The new generation of robot soldiers eventually will give commanders the ability to have their commands carried out in "an enhanced nuclear environment" — the Pentagon's language for a lethally radioactive battlefield.

A multibillion-dollar effort is under way to protect everything from underground bunkers ... airborne command posts against the varied effects of nuclear explosions. But the most immediate danger to C³I is not the radiation of nuclear weapons, or the blast, or the firestorm. It is a much-discussed, little-understood phenomenon called the electromagnetic pulse, or EMP.

Nuclear experts disagree emphatically on the effects of EMP, and the possibility of defending against it. They only agree that it is a real phenomenon.

A nuclear blast high in the atmosphere creates an enormous electromagnetic charge, a wave of intense lightning bathing the land below in an electric storm. This pulse was experienced in Hawaii in 1962, when the U.S. exploded three high-altitude nuclear weapons over the Pacific. Although the test took place 800 miles away, street lights went off across Oahu and burglar alarms went haywire in Honolulu.

The implications for C³I are far more serious. The entire structure of C³I rests on computers. If the computers cannot function during nuclear war, almost nothing will. Those who consider EMP a grave threat say it could disrupt every computer chip in the system, overloading low-voltage circuits with a tremendous burst of high-voltage energy. In theory, the network could be undone by a single nuclear bomb.

Realizing that every minute counts in nuclear war, the Pentagon is seeking ways to prevent C³I from being temporarily disconnected by the electromagnetic pulse.

The cables that connect Minuteman missile silos to their launch centers are encased in six inches of lead. At Kirtland Air Force Base in New Mexico, Pentagon scientists shoot 10 million volts of electricity through a craft and electronic equipment, testing ways to protect them. The president's "doomsday plane" has \$100 million worth of EMP shielding. Every C³I satellite will have some form of EMP armor.

All the parts of C³I — the computers, the Milstar satellites, the mobile ground stations and the rest — appear technologically feasible to the Pentagon. The trick will be in weaving them all together into one durable war machine.

As of now, the Pentagon has told Congress it has "high confidence" that the C³I network will "endure through trans- and post-attack phases of a Soviet nuclear strike."

But nobody really knows if the C³I system will work. And no one will, until a full-scale nuclear war erupts.

Skeptics inside and outside the military say neither the tens of billions already spent nor the tens of billions needed to complete what has begun will buy the C³I network the Pentagon wants.

They say the Pentagon's vision of the ultimate nuclear-war machine is an illusion.

The goal of a durable C³I system — one that would last for weeks and months during a long nuclear war — "will cost tens of billions of dollars over and beyond what we are spending today ... and it is not clear how long such a system would endure," warned Charles A. Zraket, executive vice president of the Mitre Corp., the nation's premier C³I think tank.

The Pentagon is undaunted. "They've consistently sent the signal: They want an enduring system. They've told the weapons and systems designers to do it. And they've driven the designers crazy," said John Steinbruner, a C³I expert at the Brookings Institution in Washington.

"The designers can't know how to do it, even spending tens or hundreds of billions of dollars," Steinbruner said. "We do not know how to build a system that could endure a large-scale attack. But the money's being spent, no question about it."

Upon his retirement in 1982, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. David Jones, told Congress that the military was throwing money into "a bottomless pit" by planning for a nuclear war of controlled scale and duration.

"I don't see much chance of nuclear war being limited or protracted," he said.

Very little unclassified information exists about the Pentagon's post-World War III plans. But the question was addressed many years ago by the man who discovered the power of the atom. Albert Einstein once was asked what weapons would be used to fight a third world war. Einstein replied that he really didn't know, but he had an idea what weapons would be used in World War IV.

"Sticks and stones," Einstein said.

C³I: A vision of nuclear war

EMP

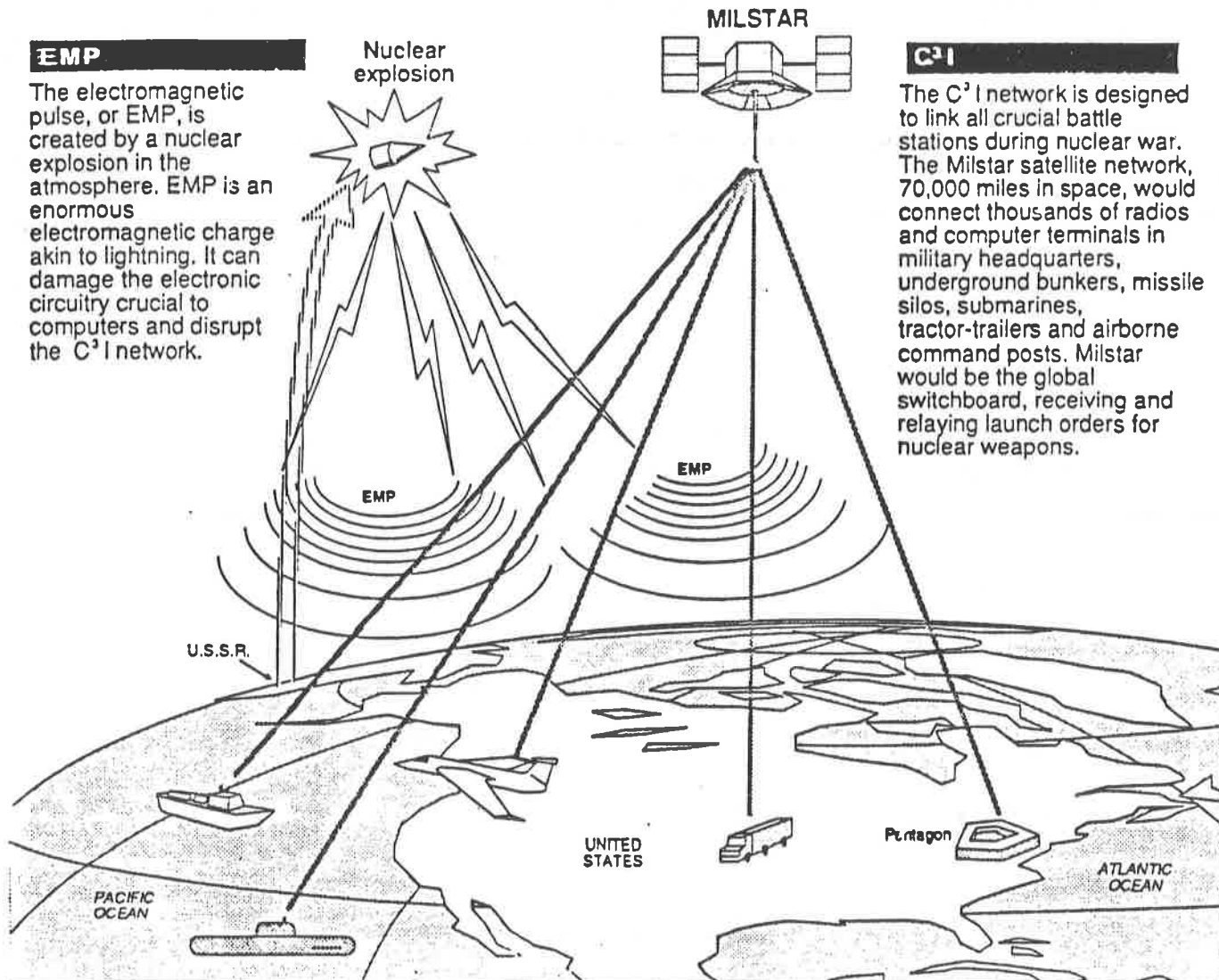
The electromagnetic pulse, or EMP, is created by a nuclear explosion in the atmosphere. EMP is an enormous electromagnetic charge akin to lightning. It can damage the electronic circuitry crucial to computers and disrupt the C³I network.

Nuclear explosion

MILSTAR

C³I

The C³I network is designed to link all crucial battle stations during nuclear war. The Milstar satellite network, 70,000 miles in space, would connect thousands of radios and computer terminals in military headquarters, underground bunkers, missile silos, submarines, tractor-trailers and airborne command posts. Milstar would be the global switchboard, receiving and relaying launch orders for nuclear weapons.



INTERNATIONAL DAYS OF PROTEST AGAINST WAR TOYS

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH & SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH, 1987

November 28 & 29 are the third annual International Days of Protest Against War Toys. Over 400 organizations in six countries took part in the first and second days. This year plans are already being made by groups across the country, including a bulldozing of war toys in Santa Monica, CA and protests at Coleco Industries in Connecticut and Hasbro in Rhode Island. Many groups are planning street theater and leafletting at toy stores and other creative protests. Please join us and let us know what you're planning.

RAMBO A FLOP

The Stop War Toys Campaign was provoked into action two years ago when we heard of plans by Coleco Industries to market a Rambo doll. We mobilized tremendous opposition to the Rambo line of toys, including protests at and meetings with Coleco, and started a letter writing campaign. At a recent stockholders meeting Coleco admitted their Rambo line did not do as well as expected and said they had no future plans to produce further Rambo toys. They admitted to receiving hundreds of letters of protest. We are watching Coleco carefully, especially with Rambo III on its way, but are heartened by the victory due to the hard work and concern of hundreds of people across the country.

GI JOE HAS GOT TO GO

Inspired by our victory against the Rambo doll, we've decided to take on the number one selling toy, GI Joe. Many toy companies emulate GI Joe because of its overwhelming financial success. The GI Joe line includes dozens of action figures and weapons- the cartoons average 84 acts of violence an hour. GI Joe comes in many forms: including, comics, lunchboxes, sheets, slippers, etc. permeating all aspects of kid's everyday life. Please read the enclosed flyer which tells about the problems with GI Joe and gives suggestions on what you can do. If your group would like to endorse the GI Joe campaign, send in the coupon below.

We will be launching our campaign at Hasbro Inc., on November 29, for the International Days of Protest. We ask that you too put a special focus on GI Joe this year and encourage people to write letters to Hasbro.

ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS WORLD PEACE

That's the title of a new 45 record to be released November 16 by the group Timbuk 3. The song is anti-war toy and royalties from the artists go to the Stop War Toys Campaign. Please look for it this winter, buy copies for yourself and your friends. Look for more information about it in the mail this fall.

**Return coupon to: New England War Resisters League, Box 1093, Norwich, CT 06360.
(203) 889-5337 or 455-9621**

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- ☐ Please send me ___ packets. \$___ is enclosed. (\$4 a packet plus \$2 postage, 50¢ postage for each additional packet.)
 - ☐ Our group would like to endorse the GI Joe campaign.
 - ☐ Please send ___ copies of the War Toys on the March flyer; ___ copies of the GI Joe flyer; ___ copies of the International Days flyer. Enclosed is \$____. (\$8/100, \$30/500).
 - ☐ We are participating in the International Days of Protest, we will be _____

☐ Enclosed is a contribution of \$___ for the work of the Stop War Toys Campaign.

Name _____ Organization _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____

A PETITION AGAINST WAR TOYS

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, ARE CONCERNED THAT THE PRODUCTION AND PROMOTION OF WAR TOYS ARE HARMING CHILDREN. THESE TOYS DESENSITIZE THEM TO THE REAL HORRORS OF VIOLENCE AND WARS.

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO MARKET TOYS THAT PROMOTE CREATIVITY AND COOPERATIVE PLAY.

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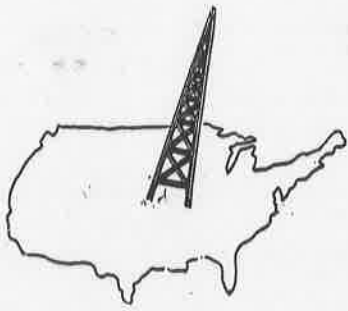
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PLEASE COMPLETE THIS PETITION BY FEBRUARY 10, 1988. THESE WILL BE PRESENTED AT THE INTERNATIONAL TOY CONVENTION IN N.Y.C. IN FEB. PHOTOCOPY THIS PETITION WHEN COMPLETED & SEND COPY TO **PEACE ALLIANCE** BOX 2906, IOWA CITY, IA 52244. YOU PRESENT ORIGINAL PETITIONS TO YOUR LOCAL TOY STORE MANAGER, OR A WAR TOY MANUFACTURER.

LABOR DONATED



In the fall of 1985 the US Air Force built a 300-foot radio tower on 15.5 acres of prime Iowa farm land. A component of the Ground Wave Emergency Network (GWEN) this tower is meant to be used after electromagnetic pulse and radioactivity black out conventional communications in the first minutes of a nuclear attack. GWEN will allow the government to keep fighting World War Three after most of us are dead.

NOON VIGIL at the
GWEN TOWER on Highway 30
2 miles east of Mechanicsville

SATURDAY
NOVEMBER
21st

Nicaragua

SLIDES
and
Sharing



slides from the
witness for peace jewish delegation
and a panel discussion of local folks
who have visited nicaragua
"the coffee's on us"



1:30pm in the meeting room of
Doc and Jo's Cafe - Mechanicsville

A colleague mourned in Nicaragua

As people in the United States celebrated the July 4 weekend, Nicaraguans mourned the death of another development worker.

Tomas Zavaleta, a Franciscan brother, was killed July 3 when a landmine exploded beneath the pickup truck he was riding in near the town of Matiguas. The blast injured three other passengers, including the parish priest.

Brother Zavaleta, a Salvadoran, had administered an agricultural production program in San Jose de Matiguas parish benefiting 1,300 peasant families. Staffed by the Franciscan friars, the project provides seeds, tools, and technical training to Nicaraguan farmers in a poor and remote area where supply and marketing routes are vulnerable to attack by contra forces. The project has been funded since its inception by Catholic Relief Services and Oxfam America.

The death of Brother Zavaleta adds to the long list of rural development workers who have been killed in

Nicaragua—among them, Benjamin Linder, the U.S. engineer shot to death by contra forces April 28 as he worked on a small hydroelectric project.

The July 3 attack followed the recent kidnapping by contra forces of another key participant in the San Jose de Matiguas program. Tomas Aguinaga, a lay church worker, was abducted May 11 with his son and held for two weeks.

Farther east of Matiguas, two rural communities that have received support from Oxfam America were attacked in May. The Wilikon co-op, where two people were killed by the contras, suffered its second attack in eight months. At the San Andres settlement, the contras killed three people and set fire to the lumber stored for the building of houses. And in July, attacks on two other cooperatives in the same area left nine people dead.

Following Brother Zavaleta's death, a joint statement was issued by Oxfam America, Catholic Relief Services, and

the Franciscan OFM Friars. It read in part:

"In confronting a war that consistently targets and endangers development work and workers, we reaffirm the will of our organizations to continue our humanitarian aid efforts among the civilian population most in need as an international right and a moral imperative.

"Brother Tomas had come from his country of El Salvador to serve the people of Nicaragua. His fellow Franciscans and people of the community mourn this man who had, in the words of the Franciscan regional superior, 'great love for the Nicaraguan peasants, with a great conviction about social justice, about life.' It is with the same conviction that we call for a nonmilitary and peaceful end to the war currently killing the poor of Nicaragua."

Paula Worby

Central America and Caribbean Program

Fall 1987

Upcoming Nicaragua Harvest Brigades

#1 Dec 20 - Jan 9

#2 Jan 3 - Jan 17

#3 Jan 9 - Jan 30

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