

Copy Exchange

March, 1989

Sorry, folks! We're later than usual. Bob had a good idea: that the Copy Exchange should arrive before the weekend before the vigil. We're overbooked, we're not paid at all, and more often than not somebody has a cold. See inside for what you can do to help! And most importantly rightaway, PLEASE CALL ALL YOUR FRIENDS, TELL EVERYONE YOU KNOW, REMIND REGULARS AND NEWCOMERS ALIKE THAT THERE IS A GWEN VIGIL THIS SATURDAY!!! Two months ago it was listed as tentative, and last month it was announced as "for sure"...two War Resisters League activists, IGAL ROODENKO and GUY CLARK will be speaking at Doc and Jo's Cafe after the vigil. PLEASE JOIN US AT THE TOWER, AND HELP US WELCOME OUR GUEST SPEAKERS AT THE CAFE! At this writing they are already speaking in Cedar Rapids. See the calendar below.

And also, apologies to people new to this mailing. Last issue we neither mentioned who or what we are nor what the tower is. We need to remember to do that every time! USUALLY the information in italics below appears at the top of vigil publicity.

Once upon a time we found out that one stamp will buy you five pages. Why just announce a vigil when you could say more? Those of us making and mailing vigil posters merged with those of us who were sharing copied information. Hence, the current incarnation of the COPY EXCHANGE. We are John and Franklin and Steve and Rebecca and~ friends. The Copy Exchange is put together at Franklin's house; address additions and corrections, and donations for this mailing (and more to come) can be sent to 1133 Howell, Iowa City, Ia. 52240. If you want to help with some of our ad hoc pece projects, or organizing, contact Eastern Iowa Peace Alliance, P.O. Box 2906, Iowa City 52244. WE ALL NEED FINANCIAL HELP TO KEEP ON DOING WHAT WE DO. If you haven't been to a vigil lately or if you didn't have your checkbook with you, consider sending something to us in the mail. We do share resources. Articles for the Copy Exchange can be sent to either of the above addresses.

UPCOMING 3rd Saturday NOON GWEN VIGILS

- March 18th Vigil followed by 1:30 program at the cafe with IGAL ROODENKO and GUY CLARK of War Resisters League
- April 15th 3rd anniversary vigil with KITES & BALLOONS preceeded by 11 a.m. one mile FARMS NOT ARMS WALK (starting at the truck scales a mile east of Mechanicsville on highway 30) and followed by a 1:30 program with PHIL RIEMAN. A FEW MONTHS AGO THE RIEMANS HAD THEIR VAN SEIZED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. THE RIEMANS REFUSED TO PAY THE MILITARY PART OF THEIR INCOME TAXES. This program is appropriate to the tax season! Spread the word about the talk: VIGILLING FOR PEACE, PAYING FOR WAR
- MAY 20th Spring planting at the tower
- JUNE 17th ????

Some questions: how often should we put out the Copy Exchange? Is it effective/cost efficient to send reminder postcards? Would it be just as good to haave a phone tree some months? Will you help? Please check your calendar, note the dates of the third Saturday of the month ALL YEAR, mark the dates for yourself, and also give the dates to every church bulletin, community listing, and peace publication you can think of, however obscure! Thanks!

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 exchange. GWEN will allow the government to keep fighting World War Three after most of us are dead.

Do you think we should have programs all year long or only in the indoor season? What is the "indoor season"? Do you want to do a program? Have a friend who does? Contact the Copy Exchange, the Eastern Iowa Peace Alliance, or Bob Lam (RR 1, Springville Ia. 52336-- phone 319 854-7026)

SOME OTHER DATES

Mon.Mar.13th	Igal and Guy at Coe College in C.R.
Tues.Mar.14	Perspectives on Honduras: video and panel, 7:30 pm Minnesota Room, IMU, Iowa City
Tues. Mar.14	Iowa New Jewish Agenda meets, 7:30, IC, Hillel
Wed. Mar.15	Igal and Guy at Cornell in Mount Vernon, 7:30
Thurs.Mar.16	Igal and Guy at Kirkwood CC, 11:15
Wed. Mar 22	trial of Jim Johnson in Creston, 1 pm, Union Co. Courthouse(see article reprint inside) contact Jim Johnson at 515 283 1496
Sun.Mar 26	Easter
Tues Mar.28	10th anniversary of the nuclear power plant accident at Three Mile Island
Wed. Mar 29	trial of "Fargo 4" nuclear missile launch control protesters in N. Dakota. See our last issue -- call 218-233-5763
Sat. April 1	Horace and Mary Autenrieth, Quakers who were AFSC reps in the Middle East for 3 years, speak at Scattergood in the evening. After 3 years based in Amman these Iowans have just returned home.
Sun. Apr.2	The Autenrieths speak in Ia.City, 2pm, IC Public Library
Sun. Apr.2	Autenrieths in C.R., 7pm, People's Unitarian Church
April 6-8	Women Against Racism conf.in I.C. Call 335-1468
Sun. Apr. 9	March for Women's Equality and Women's Lives in DC
April 7-15	Demonstrations at the Nevada test site
Sun. Apr. 16	Passover Peace Coalition march and demonstration for peace in the middle east, in NYC
Mon. Apr.17	TAX DAY See inside for ideas to plan your actions
Wed. Apr 19	36th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising
April 20-23	Passover begins at sundown
April 20-23	Left Green conference in Ames, featuring music by Charlie King, and talk by Murray Bookchin. Contact: 802 295 1544
Apr. 29	2nd annual all Iowa peace day, Grinnell
May 8-9	keynote speaker: Brian Willson
May 8-9	" From Deterrence to Love", Catholic action at SAC headquarters near Omaha, with Bishop Gumbleton contact 402-451-1212

This calendar is not meant to be complete! Sources of information we use, respect, admire, and recommend include:

Iowa Peace Infoserve, Box 2977, Iowa City 52244
 The Nonviolent Activist, the magazine of the War Resisters League \$15/yr from WRL, 339 Lafayette St, NYC 10012
 Northern Sun News. 1519 E. Franklin Ave, Mnpls. Mn. 55404 \$10/yr
 The Nuclear Resister, POB 43383, Tuscon, Az.85733 \$15/yr
 Faith & Resistance, 226 Liberty St., Erie, Pa 16507 \$20/yr

THERE WAS HOPE in certain circles that we would have time to list resources that we have available, but no time or strength now. Suffice it to say that Eastern Iowa Peace Alliance and Iowa New Jewish Agenda both own audio and video tapes which are available for loan in exchange for a donation. The tapes live together in a drawer in the same house as this computer on which I am writing. Stay tuned for details, or contact E.Ia. Peace Alliance, Box 2906, IC 52244 (319-337-5187)

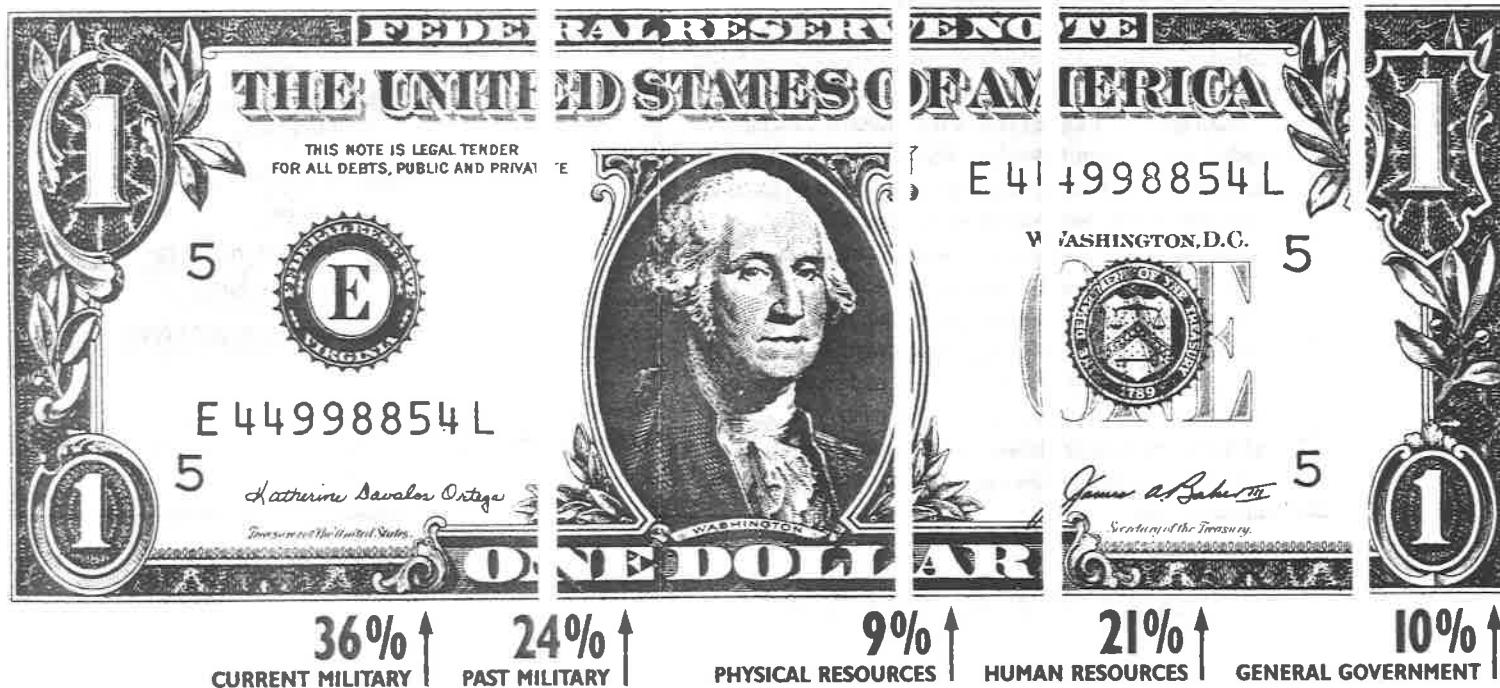
WE STILL HAVE FARMS NOT ARMS T SHIRTS (\$8) and BALLOONS (4/\$1)
 Get ready for spring!

AND WE NEED: someone to take responsibility for a helium tank next month (or did we decide it was an environmentally unsound thing to do?); an organization with a bulk mailing permit to cosponsor the vigils and let us run these mailings through them; an organization with tax exempt status to cosponsor the vigils and help us gather funds; basic office help keeping up with the mailing list and more; a wider circle of people to help with vigil publicity;...I'm sure there's something I'm overlooking.. oh yes your presence with us at the tower, your news, your good wishes, and some occasional money.....

Rebecca



WHERE YOUR INCOME TAX MONEY REALLY GOES



HOW THESE FIGURES WERE DETERMINED

All these dollar figures are for fiscal year 1989, as reported in the *Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 1990*. The percentages are Federal Funds, calculated after removing Trust Funds (such as Social Security). The government practice of combining Trust Funds and Federal Funds (creating the so-called "Unified Budget"), began in the 1960's during the Vietnam War. The government presentation makes the human needs portion of the budget seem larger and the military portion smaller. We do not include Trust Funds in our calculations; they are raised separately and spent separately. What you pay for (or don't pay) on April 15 goes only to the Federal Funds portion of the budget (unless you are self-employed).

"Current military" spending adds together money allocated for the Department of Defense plus the "defense" portion from other parts of the budget. Spending on nuclear weapons (without their delivery systems) amounts to about 1% of the total budget.

Including delivery systems, the "nuclear" portion increases to about 10%.

"Past military" is represented by veterans' benefit plans plus 80% of the interest on the national debt. If there had been no military spending, most (if not all) of the national debt would have been eliminated. Analysts differ on how much of the debt is military created. Estimates range from 50% to 100%. We felt that 80% may even be conservative. The government figures bury the expenses of past military in many non-military areas of the budget.

We have used "outlays" rather than "budget authority" figures because we wanted to reflect what is to be spent for fiscal year 1989 alone.

Rather than use the President's proposed Fiscal Year 1990 Budget, which is modified before being approved by Congress, we have chosen to use the figures from the most recent budget which Congress has already approved.

36% CURRENT MILITARY
\$319 BILLION
Military Personnel \$78
Retired Pay \$10
Operation and Maintenance \$85
Procurement \$81
Research and Development \$37
Construction \$6
Nuclear Weapons (DoE) \$8
International Security Assistance \$2
Coast Guard \$3
NASA (estimated military portion 50%) \$5
Other (CIA, Selective Service, FEMA) \$4

24% PAST MILITARY
\$209 BILLION
Veterans Benefits \$28
Interest on National Debt (80% estimated to be created by military spending) \$181

9% PHYSICAL RESOURCES
\$76 BILLION
(Agriculture, Commerce, Energy, Housing and Urban Development, Interior Department, Transportation, Environmental Protection)

21% HUMAN RESOURCES
\$186 BILLION
(Education, Health and Human Services, Labor Department)

10% GENERAL GOVERNMENT
\$87 BILLION
(Government, Justice Department, International Affairs (Peace Corps and AID programs), 20% interest on national debt, civilian portion of NASA)

100% TOTAL FEDERAL FUNDS
\$877 BILLION

WAR RESISTERS LEAGUE

339 Lafayette Street • New York, NY 10012 • (212) 228-0450

ARMS RACE OR HUMAN RACE?

THE ARMS RACE

U.S. Rank Among
142 Countries

THE U.S. RANKS...

- 1st...Military expenditures
- 1st...Military technology
- 1st...Military bases worldwide
- 1st...Military training of foreign forces
- 1st...Military aid to foreign countries
- 1st...Naval fleet
- 1st...Combat aircraft
- 1st...Nuclear Reactors
- 1st...Nuclear warheads and bombs
- 1st...Nuclear tests

*From World Military and Social Expenditures: 1987-1988
by Ruth Leger Sivard.*

"Everytime I hit a pothole in the road I think of the waste of my tax dollars," a friend said. Those bumpy roads are a daily reminder that the highest percentage of our tax dollars serves the military. For those who live in cities, the sight of each homeless person should bring on a healthy rage that our society is not taking care of people. The lack of doctors in rural areas while missiles are polished and pampered is a crime.

People are our country's—and the world's—most precious resources. Children are the future. What they learn and how they are cared for will determine the future of the planet.

Our tax dollars are essential to the provision of basic human needs, but we cannot afford both high military spending and social programs. How can we justify continuing to prepare for war while people here and abroad go hungry?

We must demand that our government change its priorities. Talks with Soviet General Secretary Gorbachev and with the PLO, U.N. negotiations to end the Iran-Iraq, Afghanistan and Angola wars prove that we can move toward a safer world through peaceful, not military, means. Let us demand that our government support peace by cutting the military budget and increasing the funds to human need programs. Perhaps then we could also afford to give people some of the extras that add joy to life.

THE HUMAN RACE

U.S. Rank Among
142 Countries

THE U.S. RANKS...

- 5th...Literacy Rate of adult population
- 6th...GNP per capita
- 8th...Life expectancy
- 8th...Public health expenditures per capita
- 16th...Percent women in total university enrollment
- 18th...Economic aid as a percent of GNP
- 18th...Infant mortality rate per 1000 live births
- 18th...Population per physician

*From World Military and Social Expenditures: 1987-1988
by Ruth Leger Sivard.*

WHAT CAN YOU DO

- Write for more information to the address below.
- Enclose a letter of protest with your tax return. Send a letter to your Congressional representative or the President. Support the bill in Congress which seeks to create a conscientious objector status for taxpayers: the World Peace Tax Fund.
- Refuse to pay the 3% Federal excise tax on telephone service. This tax has been used symbolically as a war tax since World War I. Nonpayment does not result in a cut-off of telephone service. Though illegal, nonpayment of the tax is almost risk-free. The thousands of people now refusing this tiny tax have made it virtually uncollectible. Please contact us for more details.
- Refuse to pay a token amount of your tax, such as \$10.40, when you send in your form. As with the telephone tax, small amounts from a lot of people are hard to collect, but a clear protest is registered nonetheless. Since this is illegal, contact us for details.
- Refuse to pay the military percentage (see the other side of this flyer) or all of your income tax. Though illegal, thousands of Americans are openly

participating in this form of protest. You can take control of your paycheck and avoid contributing to the military. Contact us or a war tax resistance counselor for more information.

- Contribute tax money to an organization working to help people (e.g., day care centers, health clinics, food banks) or to an alternative fund which pools tax money from resisters and gives grants to human needs and peace groups.
- Demonstrate and leaflet on April 15 at the IRS or a post office where returns are mailed at the last moment.
- Develop a community of support for those doing or contemplating war tax resistance. Resistance is strengthened if people can remove the sense of isolation and talk about their fears about resistance.
- Become a part of the National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee, P.O. Box 85810, Seattle, WA 98145. Affiliate as an organization and use their excellent literature. Subscribe to their newsletter **Network News** to keep up with tax resistance developments.

RESOURCES FROM THE WAR RESISTERS LEAGUE

- Additional copies of this flyer are available for .10 each in quantities of 100 or more, plus postage.
- "Our Tax Money, Our Choice: A Call to War Tax Resistance," basic brochure on how's and why's of war tax resistance. .10 each.
- "Your Telephone Taxes Pay for War," explanatory brochure. Single copies are free. Cards to enclose with phone bills, 10 for \$1.00.
- **Guide to War Tax Resistance**, a 122-page handbook on all aspects of war tax resistance, available for \$9 postpaid.

LOCAL ADDRESS:

Eastern Iowa
Peace Alliance
Box 2906
Iowa City, Iowa
52244

WAR RESISTERS LEAGUE

339 Lafayette Street • New York, NY 10012 • (212) 228-0450

Tax Day Action Ideas

Tax Day is an excellent time to plan activities that highlight US federal budget priorities, demonstrate how taxpayers' money is being used, and suggest alternative spending practices. Following are a number of ideas to help you plan local activities that will attract the attention of the public, and in many cases, the press:

Leafletting

Most tax day actions will include leafletting, either as a single action, or in conjunction with other activities. Leafletting has the most impact when done on Tax Day, outside a post office or IRS building, as people file their returns before the deadline. Creative leaflets can help grab people's attention -- consider stapling tea bags on your leaflets to make connections with the tax revolt of 200 years ago. You might also use a 1040 form or facsimile of a dollar bill as the background for your message. One group in California has distributed mock memos from the IRS, declaring that local IRS offices were being closed and that tax money should be sent directly to the Pentagon.

Prior to tax day, you can place leaflets alongside tax forms at the IRS office, or other places where the forms are available.

Vigiling

Use slogans or quotes on signs or banners as part of a vigil, or in addition to leafletting. Some ideas:

- "A nation that continues year after year to spend more money on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual death." - Martin Luther King, Jr.
- It will be a great day when our schools have all the money they need and the Air Force has to hold a bake sale to buy a bomber.
- Use several signs, each bearing the name of a Nicaraguan or Salvadorean, and the phrase "Murdered by US Tax Dollars."
- If we want peace, why pay for war?
- Our tax dollars at work
(pictures of bombs and military equipment)

- 60c of your tax dollar pays for war
- Tax money for human needs, not military spending.

Displaying Budget Graphs and Tax Dollar Pies

The use of model budget pies and graphs can provide strong visual impact for a tax day action. A graph or pie can be set up outside a post office, IRS building or other public place, to demonstrate federal budget priorities and how taxpayers' money is being spent.

Local organizers can easily make a budget graph by using rolls of colored crepe paper, cloth or plastic. At a scale of 1 inch = \$1 billion, the military bar would be 312 inches long, or 26 feet. The health bar would be 41 inches, and so on. See reverse side for 1988 budget figures.

Groups interested in using a "mega-graph" or "mega-pie" can contact the Vermont AFSC (802/257-4776). The military bar of the budget graph is 312 feet long; the pies are 8 or 20 feet in diameter.

This idea can also be used as a guerrilla sidewalk painting project.

Schools Not Bombs Bake Sale

Hold a bake sale outside of the post office in order to draw attention to the federal government's skewed spending priorities, as well as to raise money for your group. Use signs with the slogan "It will be a great day when our schools have all the money they need...." (posters available from WILPF, 1213 Race Street, Phila., PA 19107) or a "Schools not Bombs" banner. Have a table with baked goods (ask a local bakery for donations) and appropriate leaflets or other literature.

A variation on this theme would be to use a sign reading "Where do you want your tax dollars to go?" and two jars, one marked "Schools" and the other "Bombs". Ask people to place a donation in the jar they want their tax dollars to go to.

Hurricane Relief to Nicaragua

Witness for Peace (CEPAD)

Contributions to help relief work and reconstruction programs can be sent through WFP to CEPAD, the Protestant church organization in Nicaragua that is attempting to raise \$3.5 million for food, housing and agricultural supplies. Thus far, contributors from Witness for Peace have given over \$22,000 to this fund. Make your check out to "Nicaraguan Hurricane Relief" and send to: *Nicaraguan Hurricane Relief Fund, c/o WFP, PO Box 567, Durham, N.C. 27702.*

A Message from the Pledge of Resistance:

The People of Central America Can't Take Four More Years



And Neither Can We.

In 1989, We Are Strengthening Our Resistance to the U.S. War in Central America by:

- Calling for an End to the U.S. War in Central America
- Recommending to Resist this War
- Exposing the Human Costs of the War -- In Central America and Here at Home
- Broadening and Deepening the Pledge Network
- Preparing to Respond to Escalations or Other Emergencies
- Participating in Pledge Actions Protesting the Ongoing War

Central America Flashpoints

The next period could be an extremely critical phase in the U.S. war in Central America, largely because the crisis is deepening in El Salvador. As that country moves toward the March 19 presidential elections, greater polarization than ever is occurring. As the progressive movement increases its call for a just society, the death squads and armed forces will continue to escalate repression, disappearances, torture and killings -- part of a pattern which has increased dramatically in the last six months.

In this next period, we need to call for a politically-negotiated solution in El Salvador. At the same time, the U.S. Congress will vote on an extension of the current so-called "non-lethal" aid package to the contras.

Possible Crises to Watch for and Respond to:

- The Administration/Pentagon
- U.S. military response to the deepening crisis in El Salvador, including increased U.S. troop strength and requests for increases in aid
- Deployment of U.S. troops to Honduras, El Salvador or Nicaragua
- Dramatic rise in incidents of destabilization of Nicaragua
- Request for contra funding
- Renewal of the trade embargo
- National Guard deployments
- Permanent U.S. militarization in Honduras

Legislation

- Votes on contra funding
- Appropriation of money for El Salvador and/or Guatemala

In the Region

- A pattern and/or dramatic incidents of human rights violations and other forms of repression in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras
- Contra attacks
- An ARENA victory in the March 19 Salvador presidential elections
- Coup in Guatemala

For an organizers packet on the **Recommit to Resist Campaign** of the Pledge of Resistance, contact your local Pledge chapter or the National Resource Center at: *P.O. Box 53411, Washington D.C. 20009, (202) 328-4040*

Quest for Peace

Quest for Peace, the largest shipper of humanitarian aid from the United States to Nicaragua, is actively engaged in raising funds for relief work. In December, QFP shipped a water purification system, valued at \$150,000, to Bluefields, the Atlantic Coast city struck the hardest by Hurricane Joan.

Tax deductible contributions to QFP's multi-million dollar aid drive can be sent to: *Quest for Peace, Hurricane Relief Fund, PO Box 5206, Hyattsville, MD 20782. (301) 699-0042.*

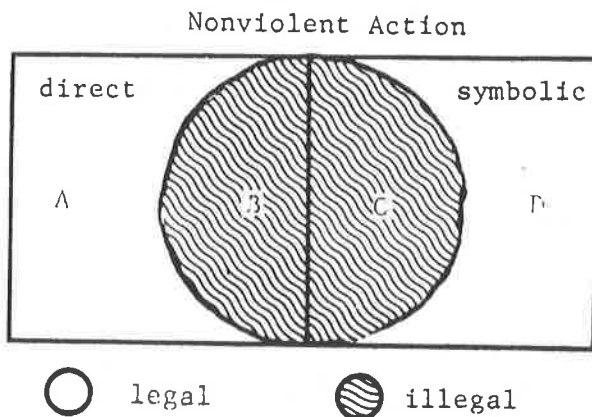


NONVIOLENT ACTION

Nonviolent action can be categorized as either direct or symbolic, and legal or illegal (civil disobedience). Direct action, often mistakenly equated with civil disobedience, means seeking to limit or stop an injustice or evil at the source, without appealing to an intermediary. Such action could be legal or illegal. Martin Luther King once wrote: "Nonviolent direct action seeks to create a crisis and foster such a tension that a community which has constantly refused to negotiate is forced to confront the issue. It seeks so to dramatize the issue that it can no longer be ignored."

The term civil disobedience was coined in 1848 by Henry David Thoreau in his essay "On the Duty of Civil Disobedience." Civil disobedience raises the stakes of the struggle by maximizing the psychological and physical obstruction.

These terms can be illustrated with the accompanying graph:



Example A: turning off a light to save electricity

Example B: blocking construction

Example C: trespass at a power plant without interfering with construction

Example D: a rally in Washington protesting power plant legislation

Civil disobedience is not always warranted or appropriate. What follows are four instances of when civil disobedience is appropriate: 1) in an escalating sequence of a campaign when other less drastic measures have been exhausted; 2) a personal "witness" to an injustice, such as Thoreau's tax resistance or Rosa Parks' violation of the bus segregation law; 3) confronting a sudden injustice or wrong, such as the 1970 invasion of Cambodia; 4) dramatizing a national or international issue (e.g., the escalating arms race) to arouse public concern. This definition excludes legislation, litigation, electoral politics, etc., which perhaps can be classed as "indirect action."

—from a 10 year old training manual for an action at Wall Street, NYC

Call the Witness for Peace Hotline

Updated news from Nicaragua
(202) 797-1531

or send \$15 to the WFP Washington D.C. office for a printed copy sent to you first class every two weeks.

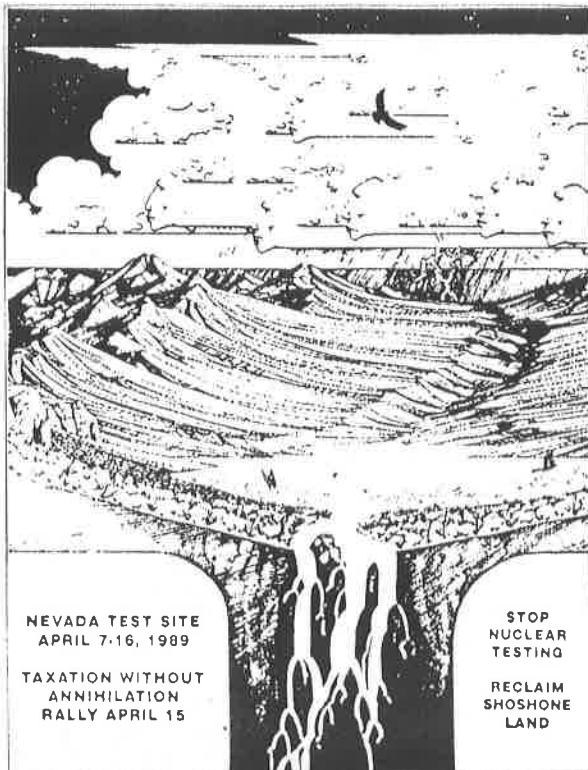


Make Central America Week 1989 a time to motivate and mobilize people of faith to new and renewed commitment to "Act Justly/Seek Peace."

Inter-Religious Task Force
on Central America
475 Riverside Drive, Room 563
New York, NY 10115
Tel. (212) 870-3383

RECLAIM THE TEST SITE II

GRASSROOTS NONVIOLENT RESISTANCE



NEVADA TEST SITE
APRIL 7-16, 1989

TAXATION WITHOUT
ANNIHILATION
RALLY APRIL 15

STOP
NUCLEAR
TESTING

RECLAIM
SHOSHONE
LAND

APT Eastern Field Office
Box 10255 Calder Square
State College, PA 16805
(814) 355-8023

LOCAL CONTACT
EA la Peace Alliance
319-337-5187

American Peace Test
P.O. Box 26728
Las Vegas, NV 89126
(702) 731-9644

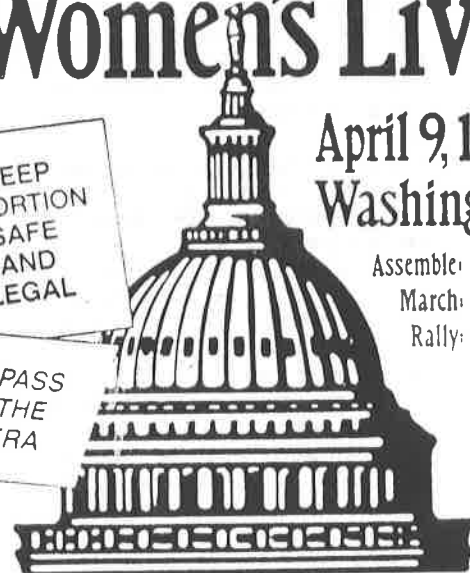
March for Women's Equality Women's Lives

April 9, 1989
Washington, DC

Assembly: 10 a.m. on the Mall
March: 12 noon Step Off
Rally: 1:30 Capitol West Side

KEEP
ABORTION
SAFE
AND
LEGAL

PASS
THE
ERA



Bishop Thomas Gumbleton, Auxiliary Bishop of Detroit and Chairperson of the National Pax Christi, will be in Omaha May 8-9. Bishop Gumbleton will give a talk on May 8 commemorating the 5th anniversary of the U.S. Catholic Bishops' Peace Pastoral. The talk is entitled "From Deterrence to Love." On May 9th Bishop Gumbleton will be the main celebrant at a Eucharist which will conclude with a line crossing at the SAC base, with the same theme of "From Deterrence to Love."

This event is sponsored by the national Pax Christi, the New Covenant Peace and Justice Center in Omaha and the Omaha Faith and Resistance Community. More details to follow ... interested persons should contact the New Covenant Peace and Justice Center, 3503 State St., Omaha, 68112 (402) 451-1212, or Fr. Frank Cordaro, St. Ann's Church, PO #142, Logan, IA 51546, contact person for the Omaha Faith and Resistance Community.



The amount of Federal excise tax, \$____, has been deducted from my payment of this bill because of my opposition to the military. The United States maintains military garrisons all over the world to protect American corporate interests, to be prepared to participate in future wars like the Indochina War, and for the ultimate insanity—nuclear war.

Half of the Federal Budget is devoted to military-related purposes, while many people both here and abroad lack adequate food, shelter, and health care. This telephone tax has been raised and lowered periodically since World War I depending on our country's military involvement.

I hope that you will join me and the many others who have decided that it is necessary to oppose our massive military spending by refusing to pay the tax that helps finance it.

Sincerely,

date_____

War Resisters League, 339 Lafayette Street, New York, NY 10012

C.R. Gaette 12-17-88

Nuke protester wants trial

DES MOINES (AP) — A protester arrested when he tried to block progress of a train carrying nuclear waste in Creston this week said Friday he will ask for a jury trial.

Police said Jim Johnson, 44, of Des Moines was charged with criminal trespass when he impeded progress of a train carrying radioactive plutonium shortly before dawn Wednesday. The train was changing crews at Creston when Johnson refused to get out of the way of the engine.

The charge is a simple misdemeanor, which rarely goes to trial, but Johnson said he wants a forum to make his point that government officials are not prepared to handle a radiation leak should there be an accident.

Johnson said he frequently talks to police and civil emergency personnel in the Iowa counties along the nuclear shipment route from Nebraska to Morris, Ill., where it is stored.

"I always ask them, have you had training, do you feel adequately trained to deal with this?" Johnson said. "Inevitably, there are a lot of shrugs and raised eyebrows, and that's it. They don't know what to do."

"And these people would be the first victims. They would go in and secure the perimeter and would wind up like the Chernobyl firemen."

He also said the Burlington Northern Railroad and the Nebraska Power District, which owns the nuclear plant near Brownville, are open to terrorist attack. He said he can find out the trains' supposedly secret schedule, which he said means others could easily do the same. He said the material on board could be used to make a nuclear bomb.

Johnson was released on his promise to appear Dec. 21 in magistrate's court.

"I feel much better for having done it," Johnson said. "My first worry was being shot, the second was being run over and the third was going to jail. They assured me if I came back and did it again, I'd probably get a shot at it (going to jail)."

JIM'S TRIAL IS MARCH 22

Registration is the first step that for many has resulted in killing or being killed in conflict that has in time been viewed as having been unnecessary and of little benefit to the participants--save for the munitions merchants. Bill Galvin realized this sometime before the 1970s; he was a misclassified CO during the Vietnam War. He has worked to share his conviction with thousands, first with the United Presbyterian Church's Emergency Ministry on Conscience and War and then for the Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors. He is currently CCCC's Field Representative.

Bill Galvin will visit in Iowa April 2 - April 9. In our area, he will share his conviction and information at the Mennonite School in Kalona on the morning of April 5 and at Scattergood Friends School that afternoon. He is available that evening for a third meeting if we can put one together.

Also, Bill will give a day-long workshop in Des Moines or Ames for those interested in draft counselling. He brings us information on the current move to enact a national service bill that would eliminate all current educational aid and reward military service more than "civilian" service. Mr. Galvin can answer our questions on the present Selective Service law, racism and sexism in the military and military recruitment. I plan to attend the training session on the 7th of April in Ames or Des Moines. Call me for details 643-5349 on any of this and especially if your group(s) would like to meet with Bill the evening of April 5.

In related news, James Feldman, Jr., writes in the current issue of The Objector that, "In February, 1989 the United Nations Commission on Human Rights took up the issue of conscientious objection. The Quaker United Nations Office in Geneva issued an Action Alert calling on people to urge their governments to promote the recognition of conscientious objection as an integral part of the right to freedom of conscience and to co-sponsor such a resolution on conscientious objection to military service."

In the same March, 1989 issue of The Objector, Feldman reminds us that at its International Council Meeting in February of 1987, Amnesty International modified its definition of conscientious objection to include individuals who refuse to register for military conscription, opening the way for Amnesty International to adopt imprisoned U S draft registration resisters in the event that the U S government begins once more to prosecute and jail resisters."

Will the masses have their way and find peace before misled leaders blinded by greed and the lust for power blow it?

What are we doing to save our beautiful world for the little ones?

If you haven't treated yourself to the current exhibition, CHRONICLE OF ACHIEVEMENT: AN EXHIBITION IN HONOR OF THE WORLD'S WOMEN, you are missing an intellectual feast. It is in the north lobby, U of Iowa main library through March. It was prepared in recognition of International Women's Day on March 8, 1989. In the number of names I did not recognize I realized how incomplete my education has been.

TAX- so who needs a four-letter word?

I have a recurring nightmare (or is it a message?) that Reagan, Bush, Benton, Somoza, Marcos, the Shah, the CEO of GE, Stalin, Hitler and various sundry other hawkish millionaire power brokers are having their annual meeting in some Mafia-sloanned enclave. The gist of the principal resolution of this year's meeting is a repeat of many others in the past: "It really doesn't matter what causes our peoples are to push so long as they keep busy and don't get educated on the matter of taxes. The usual warning is included: Do whatever the traffic will allow to keep your respective populations in line, including confiscation of property, death squads, poverty drafts for the military, propaganda and information control. If materialism works (Get both parents working and to hell with the kids,) use it; if mass famine is the medicine, shove it down their throats; if a little Vietnam here or there will do the trick, go for it.

And then they repeat in unison the pledge: "We will, on our honor, pledge to support one another--each of us with net value of at least \$10 million--and to so manage our peoples so that we may take for our own at least half of all taxes for 'defense' purposes against each other because the powerful shall inherit the earth. In the name of our freedom and their order. Amen."

And then I wake up. Thank heavens it is only a dream.

The wide-awake fact however is, according to the Friends Committee on National Legislation's February Washington Newsletter, that 54.8% of total 1988 tax went for U S military efforts, past and present. With all the overkill capacity and the great needs of our planet this may be seen as a problem too important to be left to persons who "think and speak as a child." It is up to us who believe in justice and love and common sense to treat those who would destroy us in their childlike dangerous "play" to do as we would with children playing with live grenades: Remove the grenades and reduce allowances until we can teach them in love the games of life that promote well-being. Can we reduce our contribution to the grenade fund? Of course we can, if we care enough.

1-Refuse to pay that 50+% that goes to the military.

2-Give enough to life sustaining organizations to eliminate tax.

3-Live so simply that that there is no taxable income.

4-Educate others to understand the risk to the world in paying military taxes. -- Harold Saunders

THE ARMS RACE STOPS IN CRESTON

By Jim Johnson

The blue train stopped in Creston early on the morning of December 14th for a crew change. As the secret and heavily guarded train was about to proceed I stepped onto the tracks with two lit red flares and flagged the train to block its passage and was subsequently arrested. I did so for the following reasons.

This train load of spent uranium nuclear reactor fuel is rich in plutonium, the essential ingredient for all thermonuclear weapons. The fuel is not waste on its way to disposal, as the plutonium it contains is more valuable than diamonds to those who would make these weapons.

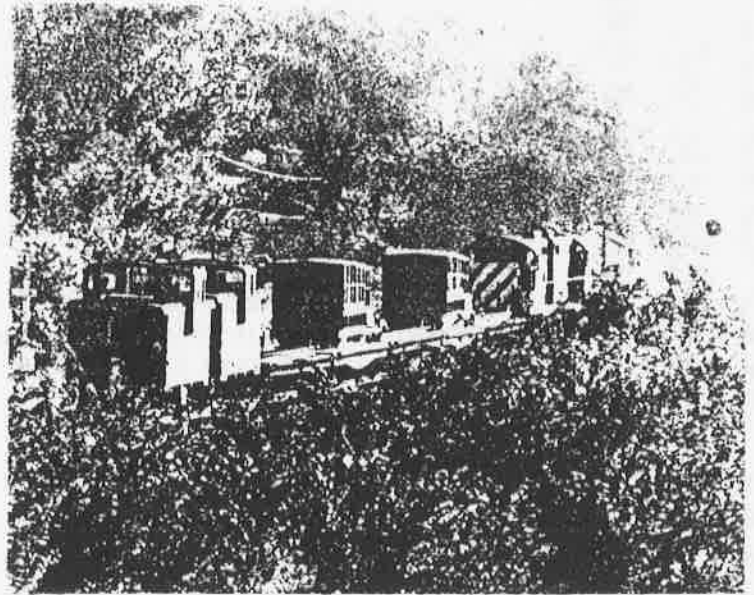
Plutonium, for its intensely radioactive longevity and its capacity to fission, easily qualifies as both the most valuable and most evil substance on earth.

General Electric, owner of the fuel and a primary nuclear weapons manufacturer, Nebraska Public Power District, operator of the Cooper Nuclear Power Station at Brownville, Nebraska from which the fuel came, and Burlington Northern are, at a terrifying risk to the public, shipping this raw material for the nuclear arms race through Iowa to General Electric's reprocessing and storage facility at Morris, Illinois.

These shipments are an unacceptable danger to the public. This train is hopelessly vulnerable to any vandal, terrorist or madman waiting along the track. It has already been the target of one derailment outside Minneapolis while moving fuel from Northern State Power's Monticello reactor to Morris.

These fuel container casks have now been used over fifty times leaving them weakened by neutron corrosion and embrittlement. These casks have never been crash tested while loaded with spent fuel, leaving unanswered profound questions of fuel breakage, compaction and criticality. This fuel is, after all, the same stuff that blew up at Chernobyl.

This train passes over Burlington Northern track ranging in quality from the derailment-plagued Amtrak route through Iowa to the abysmal, laid at the turn of the century track north of Peru, Nebraska. Burlington Northern pulls this train past unsuspecting trackside residents and Amtrak passengers under cover of darkness as if to further disguise the silent, stealthy burst of radiation they will receive from its passage.



Nebraska Public Power District's Cooper Station is a boiling water reactor which continuously emits radioactive isotopes while in operation blanketing the neighborhood, including Iowa, with a hot, deadly plume. This fallout is producing inevitably higher rates of latent cancers, leukemias and genetic defects. Cooper has been operating for over a decade.

General Electric is, in violation of laws supporting international nuclear nonproliferation treaties banning the use of commercial nuclear materials for weapons, moving the fuel to Morris for

Hiroshima's bomb was made from uranium, Nagasaki's was plutonium.

These three companies are getting away with murder, safely insulated from the evidence lying as yet undiscovered or only dimly perceived as a subtle bulge in some cancer statistics. They are sowing a legacy of death from these evil metals, uranium and plutonium, whether from their metallic breath exhaled at Cooper, the hazards of their transit through Iowa or their resurrection as nuclear weapons.

Help stop this criminal process before it destroys our future, demand that these shipments cease, stop this train, don't let it pass.

The Arms Race Stops Here.

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Des Moines Catholic Worker Community
Send them a donation; help cook dinner; subscribe
P.O. Box 4551, Des Moines, Iowa 50306

IGAL ROODENKO

and Guy Clark of
War Resisters League

A native of New York and a Cornell graduate, Igal was given conscientious objector status in World War II, but after some months, withdrew cooperation from the warmaking government and served twenty months in a federal prison.

In 1947, on the first Freedom Ride into the South—the "Journey of Reconciliation"—he was sentenced to thirty days on a North Carolina road gang. While earning his livelihood as printer in his own shop from 1953 to 1970, he continued his anti-war and civil rights activities, undergoing many arrests and serving brief jail terms. This included time in jail for demonstrating at the Soviet Mission to the U.N. in support of jailed Russian dissident writers. His last arrest, in 1986, was for sitting in at a Cornell dean's office in protest against the University's ongoing investment in firms active in South Africa.

He has been abroad five times, first in 1950 to a World Pacifist Meeting in India, and to Israel and Western Europe; in 1966 when he spent six months in twenty European countries, including most of Eastern Europe, establishing closer contacts with peace workers and pacifists; in 1972 (England), 1983 (Italy), and 1986 (India) to triennial conferences of the War Resisters International. Following the last triennial he spent three more months in Western Europe visiting with anti-war and other social change people and groups.

Since 1971 he has toured extensively for the League, visiting nearly 200 colleges, high schools, churches, and movement groups in some 40 states and Canada. He has been on the League's executive committee 1947-77, a vice-chairman for ten years until 1968, and then chairman until 1972. He is a past president of the A.J. Muste Memorial Institute and was on the executive committee of the Consortium for Peace Research, Education and Development (COPRED).

THE COPY EXCHANGE
1133 Howell, Iowa City, IA 52240

Mar 1989

noon
vigil
at The Gwen Tower
this SATURDAY
March 18th!
please come
and join us at a
1:30 program
with guests from WRL

Join us at a 4:30 program
at Doc & Jo's
after the vigil!

