

MEMORANDUM

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE, Incorporated, 1501 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19102

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12/14/77

Date: Dec. 14, 1977

To: Regional and Area Peace Education Staff
cc: Regional Executive Secretaries,

Lou Schneider, John Sullivan,
Barbara Moffett, Jeanne Newman, Steve Thiermann

From: Ron Young

Ron Young

Subject: AFSC Policy Guideline on Nuclear Power

GA
DES: Menil
Nuclear Power

Enclosed is a copy of the Report of the Board Subcommittee and Policy Guideline on Nuclear Power adopted by the Board at its meeting on November 11. A few additional comments on the purpose and use of the guideline are necessary based on the consideration of the subcommittee and the Board discussion.

1. The guideline is intended to advise program staff and committees in a variety of program activities, statements and work with other groups related to nuclear power issues. The guideline was not written and is not intended to be used as a public statement by itself.
2. The adoption of a guideline on nuclear power is not meant to imply that the AFSC will now develop major new programs related to nuclear power.
3. The Board emphasized that it saw AFSC's role in relationship to nuclear power primarily in terms of drawing the connections between nuclear power and our major emphasis on nuclear disarmament and the connections between nuclear power, alternative energy policies and our continuing major commitment to work for social justice. These points are addressed in the guideline, but the Board discussion reflected a need to place special emphasis on them.
4. It was agreed that the guideline is based on the present state of knowledge about nuclear power issues and is open to revision as additional knowledge is developed and new issues are raised.

It was agreed that it would be good to circulate several background resources with the guideline. I have selected a few resources from materials considered by the special Board subcommittee for enclosure with this mailing. In addition you will find a list of agencies and publications which are good references for further information related to nuclear power.

Encs.

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Nuclear Power

THE NUCLEAR THREAT TO WORLD PEACE*

Condensed from a talk by Everett Mendelsohn
at the AFSC Colorado Report Meeting
December 3, 1977

If nuclear energy is the answer, then what is the question?

Iran has just signed a contract with the United States and it will possibly involve West Germany in the building of a nuclear reactor. The sun shines in Iran 360 days in the year and it has one of the richest proven reserves of crude oil.

Brazil bought a nuclear reactor from Germany. It has a good deal of sunshine, vast untapped amounts of timber, and hydro-electric power unused.

Egypt has indicated for many years--certainly with great strength to President Nixon--that it wants a nuclear reactor. It is not yet using half the capacity of hydro-electric power generated by the dam at Aswan. It again is a country where the sun shines over 300 days in a year.

Israel, with a good deal of sunshine, but not the potential in hydro-electric energy, is also involved in building nuclear reactors.

What then is the question for which nuclear energy seems the answer? It seems clear to me that weapons are the question--how to produce them; how to maintain them; how to rebuild them and, perhaps, how to develop the people who know how to use them. Nuclear energy, historically was conceived in warfare. There is no doubt that weaponry was the first major thrust that humans headed for when nuclear energy was first developed. That first chain reaction noted by Otto Haun in his laboratory in Germany in 1938, and the secret of it carried out of Germany by Leatha Myner alerted people very quickly to the potential. And the potential they chose to use followed the path of a group of scientists calling on Albert Einstein and asking him if he wouldn't write a note to President Roosevelt urging the building of nuclear weapons. In 1941 that project got under way.

Nuclear weapons was the answer. Conceived in warfare, nuclear energy was borne in guilt. Robert Oppenheimer, the man who directed the American program for the devel-

* Printed version for distribution available from national office soon.

opment of nuclear weapons and a theoretical physicist, came in 1947 to deliver the Arthur B. Little memorial lecture at MIT. And remember that marvelous phrase of his: "Physicists have known sin." It was a knowledge that they would not soon forget. He and the others who had brought nuclear energy into being in a practical fashion had sensed the implications. The hope of the scientists as they attempted to take the next step was to somehow take this activity and put it to peaceful uses.

Conceived in warfare, borne in guilt, nuclear energy was nurtured in the belief in the technological fix. If society gets in trouble, the solution to each social problem is to turn to a technological answer. The concept was developed by another of the nuclear pioneers, Alvin Weinberg, director of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. He projected this notion of the technological fix. Somehow he felt maybe this vast array of scientific and technical talent which had been brought together to build the bomb could use its talents to provide a technological fix for social or political problems, to use his words exactly. The technological fix, the concept put forward in 1946 and 1947 by the scientists who built the bomb and now felt sin was that they would produce energy "too cheap to meter" to use their words of 1946. Somehow they would make their amends to the human race of which they were a part by providing it unending and non-costing sources of energy.

The one question that we've asked in one form or another ever since is: Can the warfare atom and the peaceful atom be separated? Can they be pulled apart? The answer was given not by the nuclear protestors in 1977. The answer was given in 1946 in a report offered to the President of the United States by Dean Acheson shortly to become the Secretary of State for President Truman and by David Lillenthal who had been brought from being director of the TVA to become the first director of the Atomic Energy Commission. "The development of atomic energy," they wrote, "for peaceful purposes and the development of atomic energy for bombs are in much of their cost interchangeable and interdependent." They turn out to be almost identical up until the final uses.

The initial policy of the United States government at a time when it held the monopoly, was indeed not to develop peaceful atomic energy on any large scale. We followed the Acheson-Lillenthal assessment that until international control for weapons was developed, to move ahead with peaceful development would indeed bring the threat of nuclear war and the use of nuclear weapons significantly higher.

In 19~~63~~ this doctrine was turned around. Dwight Eisenhower, you recall, in an effort, yes, an altruistic effort and in part also a deeply politically motivated effort announced his "atoms for peace" program in which he wanted to distribute the technology of the atom and the fissionable material itself around the world. The nuclear power program as it developed in the years from 1953 on has become in every place where it has been used a nursery for those who would build bombs. A commanding and overwhelming reality of nuclear energy is its use in warfare. And a commanding and overwhelming reality of nuclear energy in 1977 is the continued threat of the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

It's curious; not too many years ago, a decade and a little more, a group like this would have been very sensitive to the problem of nuclear weapons, to the problem of proliferation. We've become casual over the years in our acceptance of nuclear weapons. We've become casual over the years in our sense that yes, others would get it and yes, bombs probably will go off before the end of the century. In 19~~55~~, when the United States announced its possession of nuclear weapons by exploding one over the city of Hiroshima, the United States had a monopoly, and they used that monopoly for political ends apart from controlling their interactions with the Soviet Union. And, they used it also in an attempt to control the technology to limit in part its development by others or in part to maintain a kind of military and political strength.

Britain had been included as a junior partner in the American program and has remained so ever since. In 1950, the Soviet Union had exploded its bomb. A little over four years after the American bomb was exploded and almost a decade before the American technologists thought the Russians would be able to do it, they exploded their own

bomb. The monopoly was gone, and the arms race was on. From 1950 onward there has been a steady spiral in building of bombs. They have been built at a constant rate and, as you know, in the years from 1950 on, the testing of those bombs--first in the atmosphere and then underground, went on. The enlargement of those bombs from 20 kiloton or 20 thousand-ton range used over Hiroshima to the 5, the 10, the 15 and the 25 megaton range, or millions of tons of bombs that could obliterate whole areas of a country, not only of one district, were developed.

One of the things that atmospheric testing brought was indeed the discovery of the hazards of radiation. Scientists had known them. They discovered them fairly early. They knew them during the course of the war and took some precautions. They had known them certainly in the years immediately after the war. They took a few precautions. The testing of weapons in the atmosphere was done solely because the public was unaware of the danger being imposed. The public became aware, and you recall in the late 1950's testing in the atmosphere became a focal point for objection. And, by the early 1960s, the public had won. It had pushed for the United States and the Soviet Union to agree no longer to test nuclear weapons in the atmosphere. Underground testing has gone on for a decade and a half since then.

Since, nuclear technologies have developed the peaceful atom which was distributed by Dwight Eisenhower. It became a bomb in the hands of France. The peaceful atom distributed and shared initially by the Soviet Union, became a bomb in the hands of China. The peaceful atom shipped from Canada using fissionable materials developed in the United States and technology purchased in the United States, became a bomb in the hands of India. We don't know whether Israel and South Africa really have bombs. They certainly have the material and the technical capability to have them if they don't. In fact something upward of 22 nations today have the capability to build and to use atomic weapons. It doesn't take a fancy bomber or sophisticated missile to carry it. A suitcase will do. A small boat offshore in the harbor of any city would be a good launching pad.

"Total annihilation beckoned" was Einstein's claim in 1950 when the question

became whether or not to go ahead with the super bomb--the hydrogen weapon. Total annihilation seemed to beckon and the question we ask today is, will we make the beckoning of total annihilation easier or harder? Will we raise or lower the probabilities that a nuclear war will occur or that nuclear weapons will be set off by an accident. Every weapon we build here and every weapon built any place else in the world and every pound of fissionable material distributed raises the probability of bombs going off either in warfare or in an accident.

The efforts to develop nuclear power, and indeed the successful development of nuclear power, have represented since 1946 the main driving force behind the proliferation of nuclear weapons. The altruistic vision we have of energy too cheap to meter, of bringing atomic energy to the deserts of northern Africa and to the jungles of Latin America, have gone awry. For each reactor developed we've created a fuel cycle and the re-cycling potential for weapons-grade fissionable material. We have consciously--counsiously, because we knew the answer, increased the pathways for proliferation of nuclear weapons by distributing their technology. And, we have greatly increased the scale of proliferation in the same way.

It's curious and I'm not quite sure why it may be, but we seem to have lost our focus on nuclear weapons. I am not sure where it go lost. Perhaps, it got lost in a much more dramatic, political problem of the Vietnamese war where those who had had their eye on the proliferation of weapons and their ultimate destructability got thoroughly embroiled in ending the much more proximate problem of the American holocaust being brought on in Vietnam. In part we've lost sight of nuclear weapons in responding to a perceived new set of demands for energy.

Let me for a moment separate two questions: one of them, domestic United States development of nuclear energy, and second, the export of nuclear reactors to other parts of the world.

In the export of nuclear reactors to other parts of the world the weapons potential is obvious. No longer hypothetical, India showed us very quickly how it could be

done. They did it in a little over a single year of getting their reactor and collecting the fuels for it. In a sense the Indian bomb is the bomb that Canadians exported and American technology built. Brazil; Iran; Egypt; South Africa; who else? All are on the list of those building or wanting to build nuclear reactors.

By creating a massive technological system of this sort we create enormous technological and industrial dependency. You cannot ship the high technology of nuclear reactors to other parts of the world where the technical power, and certainly the human knowledge and skill have not been trained in this without creating enormous technological dependency. Every spare part for the reactors now in existence in other parts of the world must be replaced from Germany, from Canada, from the United States, from France, from Great Britain or from the Soviet Union. The personnel, the fuel and the techniques all have to go with those reactors and their potential for arms.

Who were the builders of these reactors today? The major builders of the reactors today are the multinationals. Who are they? They are the major producers of other energy sources or the producers of high technology who become the builders of nuclear reactors in other parts of the world, further increasing their penetration of the economies and the ways of life for the societies in which these are built and further increasing the dependency that these societies have on them and have on Europe and the United States.

In exporting reactors hazards become multiplied. This became very clear in a series of reports that were given at the International Atomic Energy Association meeting in Geneva this past summer. Safety is significantly more difficult as you export these reactors to countries without a very high technological base. It turns out that the reactors which we're exporting are first-generation reactors--the ones which were designed and built a decade ago. These are the ones which are in position to be exported now. These are the ones whose safety capacities were lower. These are the ones being exported. And, a group meeting in Geneva pointed out very clearly, these are the probable ones for the big accidents should they occur. Secondly, there are not sufficient, intimately trained technicians on hand to respond in a very short response time

needed when the times of danger emerge. It's not that there aren't good, courageous, interested technicians and scientists in other corners of the world, but the intimate training that came from being involved in the building, the installation, the designing of reactors--these people don't have that. And when it takes a decision to be made perhaps within 30 minutes of whether to close down a reactor because something has gone wrong in one of its wiring systems or whether you can let it go (this is a daily occurrence at those reactors now installed) you again raise the probability of accidents. In part, at least, what we are doing is a test to the probabilities of safety and accidents in other, poorer parts of the world.

Domestic nuclear energy. In the United States and in Europe nuclear energy represents a technological fix. It represents an increased reliance on more highly sophisticated technologies. It brings us further into that notion that the way to meet the problems that we've generated is to build more expensive and bigger machines. Why a thrust to breeder reactors? Because it was a cheaper way of getting fuel even though their safety records are dubious and as a source of bomb-grade material, they are the perfect source; they are the way that nations building bombs get their material at this point. A domestic use of nuclear energy masks research for non-nuclear energy sources if indeed it turns out that we need to increase the amount of energy we are using. We've not used anything like the research capacity for looking for non-nuclear sources that we have devoted to nuclear sources. In fact we have not invested anything like one one-hundredth of the amount into non-nuclear sources. Nuclear reactors are large, they are costly and they are centralized. They centralize authority, they centralize access, they centralize decision-making. The alternatives by and large tend to be decentralized and less capitally intensive. Solar energy, wind energy, bio-mass conversion: these are local technologies, not massive, highly centralized and controlled technologies. Nuclear energy in its way represents a technological overkill. Why? Most of the energy for which nuclear generators are now being put in place is for things which need only low temperatures--home heating, cooking, refrigeration and a series of other end uses which need low temperatures. Yet the character-

istic of a nuclear reactor is that you get very high temperatures, in the thousands of degrees in the water temperatures and in the trillions of degrees in the interactive temperatures of the nuclear elements themselves.

Conservation. In a sense the potential access to nuclear energy has put off a serious examination of the problem of conservation. In 1977, years after it became apparent that oil was finite and that coal was technologically difficult, environmentally expensive and expensive in terms of safety, the United States has not yet developed a conservation program. The United States at this point remains the largest consumer of energy, and its rate of growth in the consumption of energy is second only to Japan. As a matter of fact, the United States at this point uses two times as much energy per capita as the next nearest energy user, West Germany, and West Germany can hardly be considered a backward nation in terms of resources.

Finally, I point out that nuclear energy is hazardous. You notice I put it way down on my list. Some of the hazards can probably be minimized. My own judgment is that even if it were not hazardous immediately, to the immediate communities in which it is in, the other questions that it has masked are commanding ones. The hazard may be the immediate thing which makes people sensitive to the others, but it's the lowest (ranked) in my own judgment. Accident is potential. There's great disagreement over how big the accidents will be and what their probability will be. The scientific community is broadly split. Both those with direct experience in the building and operating of the nuclear reactors and those outside have been in recent years sharp critics. In fact to me as an historian it comes as rather a fascinating fact that a good number of the original designers of nuclear energy both for bombs and for peaceful uses have now joined the voices of those who are opposing its further expansion.

Waste disposal remains thirty years after the first development of nuclear energy on a large level and the bomb was undertaken. Thirty years later the waste problem remains as unresolved as it was thirty years ago. Despite and rosiest optimistic claims, all of those who write off the problem can say is that our technological skill is probably great enough to solve it--an optimism unfounded at this point in reality.

The risks are assessed in different ways. The question that's the hard one for us to put our fingers on is by whom are the risks being assessed and in whose interest are they being assessed. There's the short-term problem and there's the long-term problem. Can we in the United States tolerate a thousand nuclear reactors which have been predicted as being available by the year 1990? And can we tolerate their waste? We don't really have a good answer to that question yet. There's certainly nothing convincing that suggests we can absorb it.

One of the most interesting fallouts of the nuclear energy question is the mode in which decisions are made. One of the characteristics of high technologies is that decisions about them have traditionally been made by those innermost in knowledge and innermost in authority. You and I were never asked, from 1947 to 1977, whether a large-scale nuclear reactor policy should be developed. It's come in bits and pieces, incrementally here and incrementally there. The major government agency responsible for policing the safety of the problem of hazards and the problem of proliferation, the Atomic Energy Commission was also a major proponent of the building of these reactors. If ever conflict of interest existed, it was in that agency, and indeed in every major case you know who won.

Decision-making then. Curiously, the United States is not the place where the most interesting questions about how to answer whether or not society should develop nuclear energy capacity have been asked. It's been done with much greater imagination in Austria and Sweden and Holland where they set about conscious policies of involving large segments of the public in significant discussion and, in some cases, in actual decision making. Yes, it has stalled the nuclear energy programs in Austria, Sweden and Holland. In Sweden, indeed, the government which had refused to put a halt on building was forced out of power by a party which had called for such a halt. They set up one of the most interesting sets of participatory decision-making processes focused on high technologies. It turns out that one of the things we've learned in the years since the second world war, in the years of opposition to wars, it turns out that the public wants a much greater say about the risk it's put to and about things

being done in its name--even, it turns out, the technological things. Not only highways, but now nuclear energy itself.

We can learn a lot in the United States about ways of bringing the public in. So far, the major way that the public has been involved has been through the courts and through regulatory bodies' adversary procedures--not a particularly enlightening way and certainly not a way which brings in the broadest group of the public. If there were one major political drive that I would make in talking about nuclear energy decisions, it's bringing the public into those decisions. As long as the public doesn't assent, then the question is whether in a democracy those things should be built.

Nineteen seventy-seven-nineteen seventy-eight will probably represent one of those turning points. The nuclear decision is not only being made in the United States--Carter has taken some first steps and indeed they were good ones, to cut back on the breeder. Local interest wanted to force it through. Why? Just to get jobs and money into different parts of the country. The Carter government has been much less forthcoming on the question of nuclear generators as a whole. Albeit they have made the point that I've made here that we have got to turn to alternate sources.

The question is being asked in Europe, in part at American instigation. We made Germany put a hold on some of its sales. We've coerced France into making an independent decision, as they call it, not to sell some reactors. Everyone is waiting to see what comes next. What will the United States do and indeed how the decisions will ultimately be made. It is a turning point. The focal issue, the issue what has indeed galvanized those in and around the government, those in the scientific community, the focal issue has been the threat of proliferating nuclear weapons, this remains the overwhelming and commanding reality of nuclear energy. Now it turns out there's a necessity for vision and for choice, and it turns out that even in local communities what we do does matter.

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Nuclear Power

American Friends Service Committee
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AFSC Policy Guideline on Nuclear Power

Our prime considerations in reaching a recommended position are the following:

1. Nuclear power and nuclear weapons development and production are inextricably linked: development of nuclear power is a step toward nuclear weapons production, both in terms of know how and essential materials;
2. The spread of nuclear power plants spreads the threat of nuclear weapons;
3. Several classes of risk exist with nuclear materials, particularly with their large scale use that are not solved at present, nor is it certain that they can be solved. The risks are a mixture of technical and social/political risks. Two examples of such risks are problems related to a) wastes storage, handling and transport; and b) security of materials and the consequent need for regulations;
4. A high concentration of technical, economic, and political power is inevitably associated with development and production of nuclear energy;
5. The development of nuclear energy represents an "irreversible choice," in the sense the consequences resulting from the development of nuclear power will be with us for many times the recorded history humankind.

Based on these considerations, AFSC opposes the further development and continued use of nuclear power at home and abroad.

Therefore AFSC nationally and through its regional and area offices may support calls to:

1. halt new construction of nuclear power plants
2. end the sale or subsidy of nuclear power plants abroad
3. phase out operation of the most risky existing power plants
4. cease operation ultimately of all existing nuclear power plants.

We have a number of broader concerns that must be addressed in relationship to this guideline on nuclear power, since the decision we are calling for has far reaching influences:

1. Conservation especially in the United States where per capita energy consumption is outrageously high;
2. Urgent search for a more balanced development effort in the U.S., with an emphasis on alternative renewable energy sources as well as conservation measures;

3. Ecologically and socially sound production and use of oil, gas and coal;

4. Equality of access to scarce energy resources within and among countries; and

5. The rights of those people in the United States and in other countries whose lands, homes and lives are affected by the exploitation of energy resources.

We probably all share the Vietnam War experience which may be the common denominator around which to rally. It seems clear that U.S. played the major role and the international community organized against the U.S. government and the U.S. military. In relationship to disarmament there is even a greater need for an international movement. The focus in this country should be primarily on the U.S. government both because this is our government and because the U.S. is the leader in the arms race, but international pressure is needed on all governments. Toward this end, an International Mobilization for Survival was organized in Geneva. The fact that the U.N. has put disarmament high on its agenda will encourage local groups and will help them carry out more work on disarmament and make more contacts with other groups. This kind of cooperation and organizing will be given a priority in our peace education work.

Terry Provance concluded with a personal comment. He said he realizes this is a vast and difficult issue which may occupy us for the rest of our lives. But he is trying to internalize all this in a kind of personal disarmament, trying to find ways to speak about it. We need to find personal ways to carry out our personal disarmament and move toward a nonviolent society.

Secondly, even though the issue is so vast, even though it is so overwhelming, if we believe in truth, we have that on our side. There is a right and a wrong to this issue. It is immoral for governments to be doing what they are doing, including our own government. If we believe in that it will help us in our work.

As the presentations concluded, Betty Nute encouraged those who have not already done so to read the paper, "Disarmament Today," written by Duncan Wood, long-time Quaker worker at the Quaker United Nations Office in Geneva.

During the discussion which followed the presentations, Friends expressed appreciation for the breadth and depth of these considerations of one of the most important issues confronting the world. There was an expression of gratitude that there are some initiatives under way which relieve the feeling of frustration and the "coming to a dead end" which has long surrounded this issue. A regional executive secretary spoke of an incident when an AFSC staff person and an AFSC committee member were featured speakers on a program along with an assistant to the president of a labor union--evidence of the growing interest in peace conversion and disarmament. She said, "Now is the time to move out beyond our usual circles."

On behalf of the Board, Wallace Collett thanked International and Peace Education Divisions for preparing these presentations.

BD-79 NUCLEAR POWER a. Proposed Policy Guidelines. Oliver Rodgers reminded the Board that a Board Subcommittee on Nuclear Power had been appointed in June to develop thinking which would provide the basis for AFSC policy guidelines on nuclear power. The committee met on September 22; committee members present were Oliver Rodgers (chair), Elizabeth Boardman, Cushing Dolbeare and Lincoln Moses (Winifred McPhedran was unable to attend). Others attending were Ron Young, Jeanne Newman, and Pam Solo from staff; Everett Mendelsohn, and Wallace Collett. Everett Mendelsohn and Pam Solo were asked to attend as resource persons.

Prior to the meeting, the committee had reviewed material prepared by staff--some of it technical, some political--and had arrived at remarkably similar conclusions. As discussion developed, there was substantial agreement on five policy guidelines for

Barry Hollister concluded his presentation by again emphasizing the remarkable access Friends have to the United Nations and the planning for the Special Session.

Debby Frazer, co-chairperson of the Nationwide Peace Education Committee, introduced Terry Provance, who directed the Stop the B-1 Campaign, and is now working on the disarmament and peace conversion issues.

Terry Provance first expressed appreciation for the help and initiative of those who had supported the Stop the B-1 Campaign. He spoke of what that campaign means to the continuing disarmament movement in the United States. He said the campaign shows that when people come together and organize seriously they can succeed. The network developed during the campaign is continuing the struggle on disarmament. This is not the only network, but it is an important one. There were 120 demonstrations on the anniversary of the Nagasaki-Hiroshima bombing in 1945, most of which were carried out by people who had worked on the Stop the B-1 Campaign.

President Carter's decision on the B-1 means that labor is becoming interested in peace conversion. Corporations are also becoming interested as they see the political movement against weaponry and militarism. They are moving toward other kinds of production. Present activities in AFSC peace education work on disarmament will probably focus on local conversion projects. This may be the unique contribution AFSC can make. Already there are three local projects: the Mid-Peninsula Peace Conversion Project in Santa Clara County, California, the Rocky Flats Action Project in Denver, and the campaign in Hawaii focusing on the transfer of nuclear weapons. These projects are featured in a special edition of WIN Magazine. Much of the material in the special edition has been provided by local AFSC organizers. NARMIC, which has done a lot of research, has produced a map showing local places where the issues nuclear weaponry and nuclear energy come together. This may serve as a way of locating places where local projects might take place.

In addition, AFSC is involved with the Disarmament and Priorities Working Groups of the New Foreign and Military Policy in Washington, D.C., focusing heavily on educating the American people about disarmament and on transferring funds from the defense budget to meet human needs; and the Mobilization for Survival, which had its founding meeting at the Fourth and Arch Streets Meetinghouse in April. The Mobilization for Survival is trying to bring together nuclear energy groups, nuclear weaponry and peace groups to focus on weaponry, energy and human needs. AFSC is playing a major role since the national office is in Philadelphia.

The Mobilization's first project was the August 6-9 activities commemorating Hiroshima and Nagasaki; more than 150 teach-ins were held nationwide from mid-October to mid-December. A major demonstration is planned at the United Nations in the spring of 1978 as well as a demonstration in San Francisco.* The demonstration at the U.N. has two purposes--one to support at the United Nations any government which has taken some initiative or leadership in disarmament, and secondly to encourage the United Nations to do more.

The coming together of the peace organizations and human needs groups through the Coalition in Washington, D. C. and the Mobilization for Survival may be a signal to AFSC for greater cooperation between the Community Relations Division and the Peace Education Division.

*The Mobilization now has endorsed the Rocky Flats project as a national action.

internal use by Peace Education staff in programs and in relationships with other organizations:

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2. The spread of nuclear power plants spreads the threat of nuclear weapons;
3. Several classes of risk exist with nuclear materials, particularly with their large-scale use that are not solved at present, nor is it certain that they can be solved. The risks are a mixture of technical and social/political risks. Two examples of such risks are problems related to (a) wastes storage, handling and transport; and (b) security of materials and the consequent need for regulations;
4. A high concentration of technical, economic, and political power is inevitably associated with development and production of nuclear energy;
5. The development of nuclear energy represents an "irreversible choice," in the sense consequences resulting from the development of nuclear power will be with us for many times the recorded history of humankind.

"Based on these considerations, AFSC opposes the further development and continued use of nuclear power at home and abroad. Therefore, AFSC nationally and through its regional and area offices may support calls to (1) halt new construction of nuclear power plants, (2) end the sale or subsidy of nuclear power plants abroad, (3) phase out operation of the most risky existing power plants, and (4) cease operation ultimately of all existing nuclear power plants."

Oliver Rodgers called attention to the use of the word "halt" rather than "ban" which is what the Mobilization for Survival asks. The committee chose the word "halt" because it implies a temporary ceasing, which could be changed should conditions change. It is the intent of the committee to recommend that the Board be kept up to date on developments through material which will be sent from time to time and a list of other resources will be supplied to the Board.

Cushing Dolbeare raised a concern about the impact, at least in the short run, of a halt on the use of nuclear energy on the further exploitation of coal. On the other hand, if we continue the use of nuclear power there is certain to be a catastrophe and the likelihood is that this will fall on third world countries because they do not have the same capacity for protective safety devices.

One Board member said this question came up for vote at a recent meeting of the National Council of Churches. She had received a lot of information from a physicist friend and had questioned a physicist Friend in her Meeting. In the latter case, before he could answer, his wife, who is a biologist said, "Don't ask a physicist; ask a biologist who sees what it would mean for generations to come should there be an accident."

Other comments included:

- The hope that the statement would make it clear that we are not against the hydrogen process which appears not to have side effects.
- That we should be more explicit about alternatives; if we are choosing coal, we should recognize that we are choosing an alternative which will mean certain death to the coal miners.
- Short-term risk is certain for coal miners and public health costs will be higher. At present there is no nuclear plant that should exist, but that is not to say there might not be changes in the future which would make the use of nuclear power feasible.

Oliver Rodgers said the committee recognized that they were asked to deal with only a very small part of a much larger whole. He called attention then to the broader concerns listed at the end of the guidelines which should be addressed at some time.

Lincoln Moses said the committee felt they "had come to the edge of their technical understanding." They recognized that what they came out with is an "incomplete truth."

In response to a question, Oliver Rodgers said major companies in the U.S. are making a large effort to develop nuclear power to export, with very little effort to train people in its use or to provide safety processes.

One person expressed discomfort that there seems to be an assumption of the inevitable increase in the use of coal and its attendant risks; such an assumption makes a related assumption that there will be growth in the use of energy. If our paper were to recommend conservation, less use of resources and alternative energy sources, we would not be implying enormous increase in the use of coal. Oliver pointed out that the guideline does call for all of these resources. Another person added that the use of coal could be made relatively safe if enough money were spent to do so.

A Corporation member spoke of recently developed nuclear weapons which destroy people but not property and asked if AFSC has dealt with this at all. Wallace Collett responded that AFSC does not have a statement on particular weapons, but has always gone on record as being against all weapons.

As the discussion concluded, a Board member felt that the document is quite helpful as in-house guidelines. Wallace Collett said he did not sense objection to the guidelines; most comments related to the broader issues.

A Board member suggested that in light of several expressions about the impact of energy policies on third world people, recognition of this should be emphasized and another felt there should be something indicating some flexibility as conditions may change; the need for periodic evaluation should be included. However, another person felt that since policy guidelines become the basis for action, the language should be specific enough to really give guidance.

The Board approved the report of the Subcommittee on Nuclear Power and approved the guidelines with the understanding that appropriate changes would be made in light of the Board's discussion. It was agreed that the revised guidelines need not come back to the Board.

b. Rocky Flats Action Project. Oliver Rodgers introduced this subject saying that it comes to the Board at this point as a matter of information rather than for action, and asked Mary Autenrieth to bring the Board up to date on actions taken since the background material was mailed. The proposal for a national action project focusing attention on the Rocky Flats production facility (near Denver) has now been approved by the North Central Regional Board.

Plans call for a large-scale national demonstration in the Denver area focusing on Rocky Flats, as a symbolic and actual center of production of U.S. nuclear weapons. The demonstration will take place sometime in the spring. There has been extensive consultation and consideration, including the Rocky Flats Action Group, the Nationwide Peace Education Committee, and the Mobilization for Survival. Some local demonstrations have been held, and those planning the project feel they cannot go further without adding a national perspective. At this stage in the considerations of the proposal, civil disobedience is not a central feature of the action plan; however, should civil disobedience become a component, the proposal will come back to the Board.

Questions and comments included:

- Does the coalition meet affirmative action guidelines? (The response was that the committee tends to be white males, but AFSC is speaking to this.)
- Is there a tie in with local Friends Meetings? (Response: Both Boulder and Denver Meetings have individuals on the Rocky Flats Action Group.)
- Is the project geared into legislative decisions before Congress? (Response: There has been no research on the impact on legislation, but the project has been working with state legislators and with members of Congress.)
- Have other regions felt hampered by the need for Board approval for civil disobedience? (Response: The San Francisco project has not been hampered; however, AFSC was not the primary sponsor of that project.)
- We should facilitate the mechanism for decisions on possible civil disobedience so as not to hamper the project.

On behalf of the Board, Wallace Collett expressed appreciation for the reports and the opportunity for the Board to give some prior thinking about the proposed action before decisions are necessary.

BD-80

REPORT TO THE BOARD FROM THE ADVISORY
PANEL ON SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY IN
INVESTMENTS

Gertrude Marshall called attention to the written report and noted a correction in the list of panel members: It should be Lee Thomas

(not Lew). She recalled that Oliver Rodgers had previously reported that the Investment Committee has played a "reactive" role in that when it comes to the attention of the Investment Committee that a particular company does not meet our social responsibility guidelines we do not purchase stock in that company and in cases where we

already hold stock, it is sold and the proceeds re-invested in a more acceptable security. This panel concentrated more on an action-oriented role.

The panel was particularly interested in hearing from Martha Savio, a member of the panel and a Friend who is currently working full time for the American Baptist Board of National Ministries in the field of social responsibility in investments. She related having some success in visiting corporations to discuss social responsibility.

The panel felt that what could be done actively to visit with corporations cannot be done by a volunteer. It is a specialized field requiring some expertise in the area of corporate finances, as well as ability to maintain contact with the various program parts of AFSC. The panel made three recommendations:

- (1) that an up-to-date list of stocks held as permanent investments by the major funds of the AFSC be shared annually with each office, division and department of AFSC;
- (2) that careful thought be put into planning for visits to management and that any such delegation include program people and people familiar with the perspectives of the business world;
- (3) that any such visits on behalf of AFSC should be coordinated in a central place to avoid duplication of approaches.

In addition, the panel felt the present practice of voting proxies should continue; i.e., considering each issue on its merits.

In response to questions, Gertrude Marshall said the panel is referring to visits to companies specifically as it relates to investments, not the broader issues of social responsibility. Other groups which we might turn to are the Friends Committee on Economic Responsibility and the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility. The latter response elicited some discussion as to why the AFSC is not now a member of the Interfaith Center. Bob Gray said we had been a member for one year through the Friends Committee on Economic Responsibility, but that group is not expecting to continue a full membership this year. There were several expressions of support for AFSC's joining the ICCR, especially as it would keep us in touch with what other church groups are doing.

The Board approved the recommendations of the panel on Social Responsibility in Investments that (1) annually an up-to-date list of major holdings of AFSC be circulated to the offices, divisions and departments, and (2) coordination of AFSC approaches to corporations regarding investments. The Board suggested that this coordination be through the office of the Executive Secretary. The Board further approved AFSC's joining the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility and approved the allocation of \$1,000 from the Board's Fund to cover the cost of this membership. The Board asked the present Board Panel on Social Responsibility in Investments to continue to monitor AFSC's investments and the implementation of its recommendations, and report back to the Board a year from now.

American Friends Service Committee NOV 3 1977
- NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL OFFICE -
4211 Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50312

cc: Tom Rauch, Mary Autenrieth, Ron
Young/Terry Provence, Peter Dyson, A
Marie Carl, Bob Gray/Lou Schneider

11/1/77

TO: Pam Solo, Judy Danielson

DATE: November 1, 1977

FROM: Warren Witte *W*

SUBJECT: Board Approval of Proposed Rocky Flats Demonstration

This is to confirm my telephone message to Pam yesterday that responses from Board members to my memo of October 11 on the Rocky Flats proposal were all positive. Fourteen Regional Board members responded either in person, by phone or in writing. They all supported the proposal that the AFSC be directly involved in the planning and sponsorship of a major action around the Rocky Flats plant next spring.

Several expressed relief that the issue of civil disobedience remains open, and a few expressed questions about the concept and are appreciative for the opportunity for direct Board discussion of the issue in December.

And, as I mentioned to Pam on the phone, a couple of people expressed amazement that this wouldn't have any financial implications for AFSC! It seems to me that it will be useful for the two of you to put your minds to the question of expenses that the AFSC field secretary budget is apt to bear in the months ahead that are extraordinary in nature. I assume this will relate primarily to telephone and travel. It will be important for the three of us to consult on this and to discuss the matter with Peter Dyson and Bill Lambert soon so that we can develop an amended budget for the Board to consider in December.

Also, I expect that the project itself will have a considerable budget. I know that FOR is talking of putting some money into the effort, and I know that the Action group has its own financial dealings, but I am not clear as to whether anyone has given thought to the matter of fiscal administration of the project: is it to be coordinated or decentralized among the various groups? if it is coordinated, through which group? is there apt to be any involvement of AFSC at this level?

Perhaps Pam and I can discuss this at some length in Philadelphia around the edges of the Corporation meeting. But it would be good if the two of you and others could discuss it prior to that time.

American Friends Service Committee
-NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL OFFICE-
4211 Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50312

cc: NCR staff, Ron Young, Lou Schneider,
Colorado General Program Committee,
Terry Provance

TO: North Central Regional Board

DATE: October 11, 1977

FROM: Warren Witte

SUBJECT: Proposal for a Major Demonstration in Denver Re: Nuclear Weapons

This memo is a request for Regional Board approval for a national action program focusing attention on the Rocky Flats production facility (near Denver) and calling for nuclear disarmament. The proposed program has been initiated by and would to a large degree be implemented by staff and committee of the AFSC in Denver.

Given the processes for consideration of this idea at the local level in Denver and at the national level in the AFSC and in relation to other national peace and anti-nuclear groups, we need to ask for your responses by mail rather than hold this proposal for Board consideration in December. The proposal entails no financial questions. Mary Autenrieth and I agree, however, that it requires Board action in relation to the magnitude and nature of the undertaking.

BACKGROUND

You will recall that over the past several years the AFSC in Denver has been focusing significant time and energy on the presence in the Denver area of the production plant for plutonium triggers for all U.S. nuclear weapons. Staff has been instrumental in forming the Rocky Flats Action Group, (RFAG), a peace and environmental coalition which has worked to give visibility to the Rocky Flats plant and to the dangers which it poses to the community. RFAG, with major AFSC staff and committee leadership and involvement, has sponsored periodic demonstrations at the plant, sponsored a major symposium on nuclear energy and weapons, has provided testimony before various public bodies and has developed literature and articles on the issues. (See the October issue of WIN magazine.)

At the present time the field secretary staff in Denver is devoting significant time to work around this issue. Pam Solo is serving on the citizens monitoring committee of Rocky Flats, a watch-dog group appointed by the governor. And AFSC staff is providing officing and supervision to a seminarian who is working on the issue full time as a volunteer with RFAG for the calendar year.

At our September Board meeting in Madrid, you will remember, Judy Danielson made available a booklet on Rocky Flats which RFAG--again with major AFSC involvement--has developed. She has since sent copies of the booklet to each of you on the Board.

WORKING STRATEGIES

The Rocky Flats Action Group represents a unique coalition of peace, environmentalist and public health groups and interests. The group is attempting to raise in Colorado these related issues in connection with the presence of the Rocky Flats plant in the Denver area. Through education, demonstrations and in relationships with public officials and bodies, RFAG has tried to inter-relate these perspectives and to advocate a conversion of the plant and the work force to peaceful pursuits.

At this time it appears that continued work on the local level, valuable as that is, can realistically accomplish no more than to institute more rigorous health and safety safeguards. The local and state officials who are concerned about more than the local health hazards can do nothing about the mission of the plant since it is a federal facility. Thus, to the extent that AFSC and the RFAG are concerned about the broader issues of nuclear armaments and peace conversion, they must elevate the forum for discussion to the national level

PROPOSAL

During the past few months AFSC staff in Denver have been carrying on a broad process of consultation around the idea of using the Rocky Flats nuclear facility as a major national focal point for direct action and education. This idea was stimulated by the scheduling of a special UN session on disarmament next spring and the resulting interest in developing peace education strategies which would press for a strong and positive U.S. role in that UN session.

Based on consultation with the AFSC General Program Committee in Denver (the new committee which works with the field secretaries) and with other groups engaged with RFAG, AFSC staff have floated the idea of a large scale, national demonstration in the Denver area focusing on Rocky Flats, as a symbolic and actual center of production of U.S. nuclear weapons, sometime in the spring. To date the responses have nearly all been enthusiastically supportive. AFSC and Fellowship of Reconciliation national staff have been particularly supportive, as have groups connected to a new, national, anti-nuclear coalition called Mobilization for Survival. The AFSC and FOR national staffs, as well as others, have suggested the availability of staff from outside to supplement our staff resources in Denver to work on the project.

The AFSC General Program Committee on October 8, after several preliminary discussions during the summer, formally approved of AFSC in Colorado taking a primary role in this proposed national action. Specifically the Colorado Committee authorized two of the three person field secretary team (Pam Solo and Judy Danielson) to spend full time on the project for the period between now and next spring. The committee also gave careful consideration to those pieces of work which might otherwise have been undertaken by staff and agreed to hold them in abeyance. Finally, the Committee agreed that the proposed action program should carry the name of the AFSC along with that of Rocky Flats Action Group.

CURRENT STATUS OF PROPOSAL

There obviously needs to be considerable clarification and refinement of the specifics of this action proposal. The numbers of people involved, the action focus, the duration of a demonstration, the logistics, and further thought on the possible use of non-violent civil disobedience (see below) all need a great deal of creative thought by AFSC staff and committee people locally in conjunction with other local activists in the Rocky Flats Action Group. In some ways the major demonstration earlier this year at the nuclear facility at Seabrook, NH, is seen as a model, but it is clear that strategies appropriate to the setting and to AFSC need to be worked out.

Next steps of consultation, including this request for approval by the Regional Board, include a continuing close working relationship with the Rocky Flats Action Group, discussion of the proposal by the Nationwide Peace Education Committee of AFSC and formal consideration of the proposal by the Mobilization for Survival Coordinating Committee which meets in New York in early November.

A final "go" or "no go" decision should be possible based on your early response to this memo, on final action by the Rocky Flats Action Group, and on formal action of the Mobilization for Survival next month.

THE ISSUE OF CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE

At this stage in the consideration of the proposal civil disobedience is not a central feature of the action plan. However, there is a sense that one component of the overall action might be a limited act of civil disobedience on the part of some people. The General Program Committee of the Colorado AFSC has given the matter some thought over its past two meetings and is not yet clear on how to proceed on the question. However, it has reached some clarity on the nature of a civil disobedience component of a larger demonstration if one is agreed to: it should be small and highly disciplined, it should be designed so as to preclude the possibility of violence, and it should be symbolic in nature. A civil disobedience design would need to be developed in full awareness of a volatile atmosphere in relation to workers at the plant.

The Colorado Committee will give this matter further thought and, should they come to agreement that a civil disobedience component is appropriate, this proposal would come to the Regional Board in December and would then go to the National Board for its required approval in January.

Meanwhile the Colorado Committee is feeling it is appropriate and necessary to proceed in the decision-making and planning processes related to the overall spring demonstration, whether or not it finally includes civil disobedience.

YOUR RESPONSE NEEDED

The request, then, is for Regional Board approval to move ahead in the planning of a major demonstration, nationwide in scope, at Rocky Flats and under the auspices of the AFSC and the Rocky Flats Action Group. Such planning would be in close consultation with the regional office and the national Peace Education Division, as well as in liaison with other national peace and anti-nuclear groups. The issue of civil disobedience as one part of the planned action remains pending and would not go forward without opportunity for the Regional Board and National Board to give that issue careful consideration.

PLEASE RESPOND BY MAIL OR PHONE BY OCTOBER 28.

And please use the phone or mails to raise any questions or concerns which this memo and the booklet which you have received from Denver staff leave unanswered.

WW/bw

9/22/77

(A)
OES: Hess'l
Nuclear Power

Report of Board Subcommittee on Nuclear Power

The Board Subcommittee on Nuclear Power met in Cambridge, Massachusetts on Thursday, September 22, preceding the September Board meeting. Members of the Board present were Oliver Rodgers, chair, Elizabeth Boardman, Cushing Dolbeare and Lincoln Moses. (Winifred McPhedran was unable to attend.) Ron Young and Jeanne Newman were there as staff and Everett Mendelsohn and Pam Solo were invited as resource persons, Everett because of his special knowledge in the area of nuclear disarmament and Pam Solo because of her work with the Rocky Flats Project in the North Central Region. Wallace Collett also participated in the meeting.

Committee members had reviewed two sets of background material which had been sent to them over the summer. The background materials addressed a number of issues related to nuclear power.

At the beginning of the meeting of the subcommittee Oliver Rodgers reviewed the purposes of the subcommittee as follows:

The basic purpose of the subcommittee is to develop thinking which would provide the basis for an AFSC policy guideline on nuclear power, that is to identify the key points and major concerns to be included in such a guideline. The need for a policy guideline rose directly out of ongoing Peace Education work on nuclear disarmament, especially as work for nuclear disarmament in many areas of the country is being linked up with efforts to halt the development of nuclear power. The formulation of an AFSC policy guideline in this area does not mean to imply the beginning of a new program. It would be used primarily by already existing Peace Education programs.

As the discussion developed, participants in the meeting quickly found that they had a surprisingly common approach, based on the state of knowledge about nuclear power issues and problems in 1977. They fully recognized that any position statement should be subject to revision as new knowledge was developed and released on the crucial problems for which solutions have yet to be demonstrated. They were in substantial agreement on the following draft of an internal position statement, a guideline to be used by Peace Education Division's staff in our own work and in our relationships with other organizations.

AFSC Policy Guideline on Nuclear Power:

Our prime considerations in reaching a recommended position are the following:

1. Nuclear power and nuclear weapons development and production are inextricably linked: development of nuclear power is a step toward nuclear weapons production, both in terms of know how and essential materials;
2. The spread of nuclear power plants spreads the threat of nuclear weapons;
3. Several classes of risk exist with nuclear materials, particularly with their large scale use that are not solved at present, nor is it certain that they can be solved. The risks are a mixture of technical and social/political risks. Two examples of such risks are problems related to a) wastes storage, handling and transport; and b) security of materials and the consequent need for regulations;

4. A high concentration of technical, economic, and political power is inevitably associated with development and production of nuclear energy;

5. The development of nuclear energy represents an "irreversible choice," in the sense consequences resulting from the development of nuclear power will be with us for many times the recorded history of humankind.

Based on these considerations, AFSC opposes the further development and continued use of nuclear power at home and abroad.

Therefore AFSC nationally and through its regional and area offices may support calls to

1. halt new construction of nuclear power plants
2. end the sale or subsidy of nuclear power plants abroad
3. phase out operation of the most risky existing power plants
4. cease operation ultimately of all existing nuclear power plants.

We have a number of broader concerns that must be addressed in relationship to this guideline on nuclear power, since the decision we are calling for has far reaching influences.

1. Conservation, especially in the United States where per capita energy consumption is outrageously high;
2. Urgent search for a more balanced development effort in the United States, with an emphasis on alternative renewable energy sources as well as conservation measures;
3. Ecologically and socially sound production and use of oil, gas and coal;
4. Equality of access to scarce energy resources within and among countries; and
5. The rights of those people in the United States and in other countries whose lands, homes and lives are affected by the exploitation of energy resources.

(In addition to the above recommended policy guideline, it was agreed that a list of background readings should be developed to accompany the circulation of this guideline throughout the AFSC. This should include both readings to describe current knowledge and positions, and references to publications through which interested staff could keep up to date on the continuing debate.)

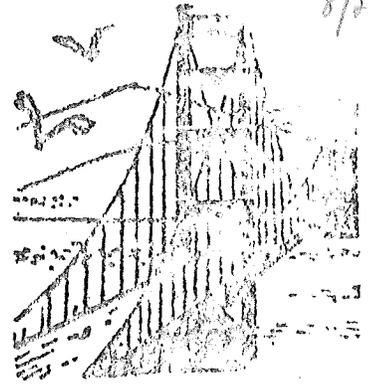


AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE

2160 LAKE STREET • SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94121

Date August 23, 1977

To: Bob Gray
From: Bob Eaton *BSE*
Subject: Board Discussion on Nuclear Power



Enclosed is the statement of the Northern California Region on Nuclear Power. It was discussed at the July meeting of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee appointed a small group to do some final editing, and approved the draft. I have reprinted the relevant part of the Executive Committee minute EX 77-50 in the following paragraph.

"Nuclear Power Minute. A draft minute on nuclear power, written by the Simple Living Committee, had been circulated with the meeting agenda. In a general discussion, several issues were raised about the length and scope of the document.

"The Executive Committee asked staff, in consultation with the Clerk of Simple Living, Barbara Graves and Mike Ingerman, to edit the statement to clarify thought and to reflect the concerns raised in the committee's discussion. It is understood that the minute will be forwarded to the National Board of Directors for their discussion of nuclear power in September. The regional minute will not be publicly circulated until the conclusion of the Board discussion."

I would stress that the Executive Committee felt that this statement is not for public circulation until the Board has concluded its deliberations. We hope it will be useful as the Board discussion develops.

cc: David Hartsough
Barbara Graves
Marge Swann

7/7/77

STATEMENT ON NUCLEAR POWER

The Northern California Office of the AFSC believes American energy policy is headed in the wrong direction. Government and industry continue to develop centralized, highly technological and costly methods of generating energy that destroy the environment and diminish the quality of our life. It threatens future generations. Nuclear power is given top priority in our nation's energy budget. As a Quaker organization, we find this priority contradicts Friends' testimonies of simplicity, peace, and equality.

Simplicity. Our current high rate of energy consumption for the sake of speed and convenience risks the loss of quality and control over our lives. Instead, we need to use less energy on a personal as well as industrial scale, make more efficient use of what we have, and support local control of energy sources that are renewable and non-polluting. We advocate energy systems that provide the most jobs for the amount of money spent. Nuclear power is one of the least labor intensive industries.

Peace. Nuclear power plants are intimately tied to nuclear weapons proliferation because they provide the vital ingredients for making atomic bombs: plutonium and enriched uranium. The police state security measures required to protect radioactive wastes from terrorist attack threaten our civil liberties.

Equality. Nuclear power development concentrates wealth in the hands of a few. This concentration is inherently undemocratic. Although a few gain, through government subsidy and federal law limiting the nuclear industry's liability in case of accident, we all pay.

We are appalled by the use of a power source that compromises the health and safety of future generations in exchange for current profligate energy use and increased profits. Plutonium and other wastes cause cancer and must be isolated from the environment for thousands of years. Most of these wastes are routinely emitted into the environment and contaminate our water, land, air, and food. Moreover, nuclear power plants pose the terrible hazard of major accidents that have the potential of killing thousands of people and contaminating large geographic areas.

We reject an irreversible path based on nuclear power with all its risks. We affirm energy choices that are socially, economically, and ecologically sound and which consider the needs and health of future generations. We recognize that interim energy solutions of coal, oil, and natural gas create a burden for people who live in areas with rich deposits of fossil fuels, especially American Indians and Spanish Americans. In taking this strong position against the development of nuclear power, we reaffirm our commitment to assist American Indians, Spanish Americans, and communities in coal-rich Appalachia to regain control of their land and water resources.

The American Friends Service Committee, Northern California Regional Office, calls for an immediate and permanent halt to the construction and operation of nuclear power plants in this region. The issue of nuclear energy, however, is not limited to geographical boundaries. We extend our concern against nuclear development to the rest of the nation and to other countries. We strongly advocate research in and development of conservation methods and renewable forms of energy. We support the Abalone Alliance, an emerging state-wide network in California committed to education and non-violent actions to halt the development and operation of nuclear plants in the state. We urge people to support groups dedicated to stopping the development of nuclear power through non-violent means.

San Francisco, July 7, 1977

AUG 12 1977

MEMORANDUM AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE, Incorporated, 1501 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19102

(A)

Oliver Rodgers, Cushing Dolbeare, Winifred McPhedran, Lincoln Moses, Elizabeth Boardman
To: cc: Wallace Collett, Lou Schneider/Bob Gray, John Sullivan, Date: August 10, 1977
Barbara Moffett, Steve Thiermann/Jeanne Newman
From: Ron Young
Subject: Board Subcommittee on Nuclear Power

8/10/77 GA
085: Hen
Nuclear Power

You will recall at the June meeting of the Board it was decided, on recommendation from the Nationwide Peace Education Committee, that a small Board subcommittee should be appointed to develop thinking which would be the basis for an AFSC policy on nuclear power. Wallace and Lou were asked to consult in order to select persons for this subcommittee. Wallace and Lou consulted after the Board meeting, in some cases having already talked with you about this committee, and agreed that they would like to ask the five of you to serve as this subcommittee. I hope you are willing.

It is my understanding from the Board discussion that the responsibilities of this subcommittee are to review a variety of background materials and concerns which we believe should be addressed in an AFSC policy on nuclear power; to meet prior to the September committee to discuss these materials and concerns; and to draft the points which we believe should be included in an AFSC policy on nuclear power.

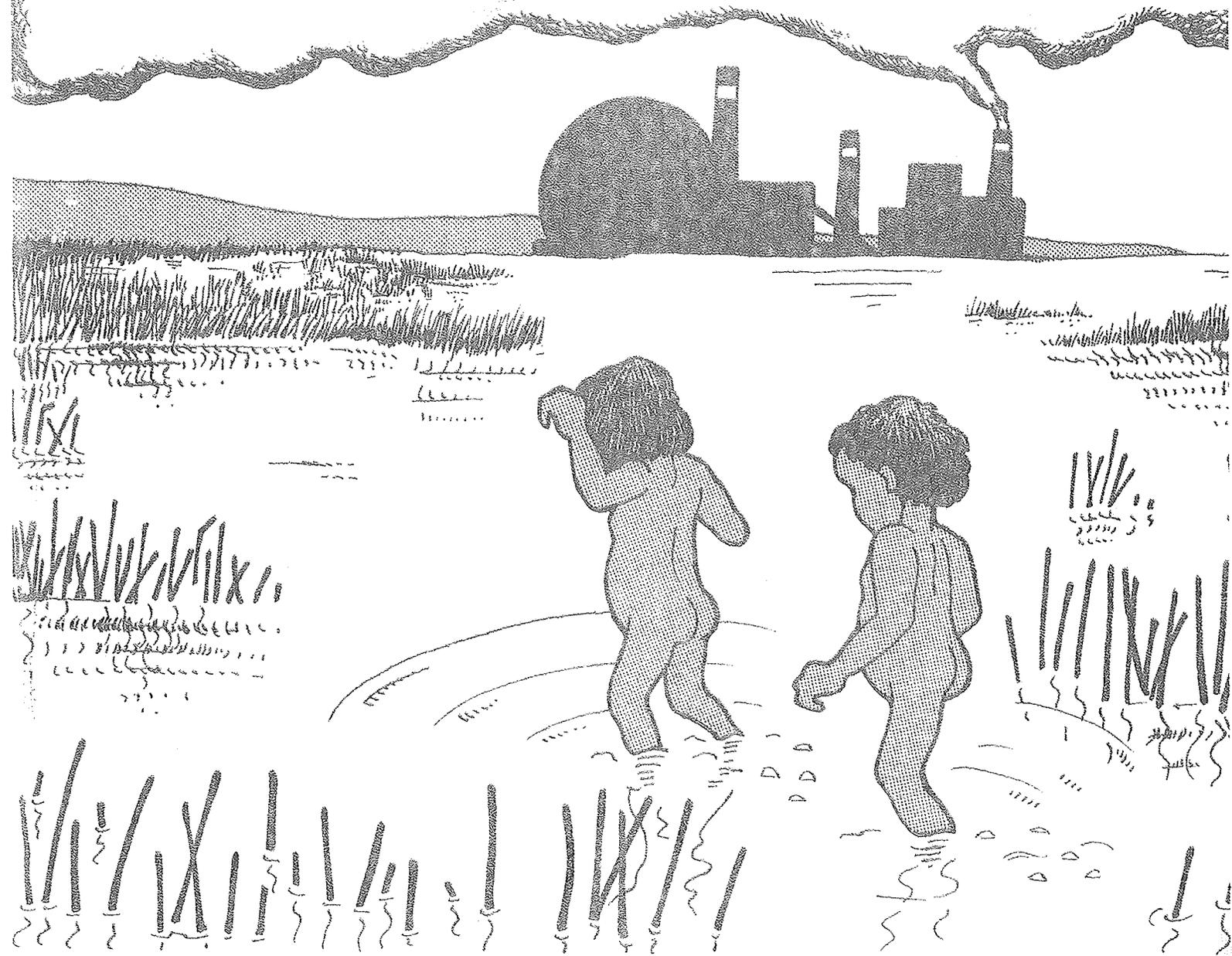
The immediate need for AFSC to develop a policy on nuclear power arises out of Peace Education program work in three regions of the country, specifically Northern California, the North Central Region and the New England Region. In the time since the Board meeting I think Peace Education programs in several other areas of the country are finding they too are in need of a policy on nuclear power. On a nationwide level, AFSC is working very closely with the Mobilization for Survival which is making a dual emphasis on a call for disarmament and a call for stopping the development of nuclear power. The AFSC needs to develop its thinking in relationship to this issue in order to help clarify and hopefully facilitate current program work in which we are involved in several areas of the country.

The issue of nuclear power obviously is part of a much more comprehensive and complex set of issues related to energy policies for the future. There is a particular concern which AFSC policy needs to address in relationship to whether there should be at least a moratorium on the development of nuclear power until a number of questions related to overall energy policies and the safety of nuclear power development are resolved. There also are the particular concerns which arise about how various energy policies, including specifically the development of nuclear power, impact on the poor and minorities of our country and other parts of the world.

In my capacity as staff for this subcommittee I have been collecting a variety of materials on nuclear power and broader energy issues. I have selected the enclosed materials as ones I think it would be useful for all of us to read. I particularly call your attention to the article by Amory Lovins entitled "Energy Strategy: The Road Not Taken?" This article, originally published in Foreign Affairs, addresses a number of the concerns raised by AFSC staff and committee and has been recommended to me by a number of persons. I hope if you know of additional materials which you think should be read by members of the subcommittee you will share them with the rest of us. (I have enclosed a list of names and addresses of all of us in order to facilitate your sending copies directly to us.)

I suggest that we meet as a subcommittee on Thursday evening, September 22, at the Cambridge office of AFSC. This is immediately prior to the Board meeting which will take place in New England. As you read through these and other materials I hope you will begin to focus on the points which you think AFSC should address in the policy statement on nuclear power. This should be the primary focus of attention for our meeting in September.

PEOPLE AGAINST NUCLEAR POWER



NUCLEAR POWER INVOLVES UNACCEPTABLE RISK. It threatens our health and endangers future generations with radiation, waste, and safety problems; it threatens our lives by encouraging nuclear proliferation and atomic terrorism; and it threatens the health of our society by further concentrating great wealth and power into the hands of a few. We will have progressively less control over our own lives. We can meet our energy needs better through energy conservation and the development of safe, renewable alternatives such as solar and wind power. These methods would create far more jobs, save money, and spare the environment.

WE ARE PART OF A DEVELOPING NETWORK OF GROUPS THROUGHOUT CALIFORNIA WHICH IS COMMITTED TO STOPPING NUCLEAR POWER THROUGH THE USE OF NON-VIOLENT DIRECT ACTION, AND ENCOURAGING ENERGY ALTERNATIVES. These groups will work locally to stop nuclear power plants in their own areas, and will participate and lend support for major non-violent direct actions by other groups in the network, including possible occupation of construction sites.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT PEOPLE AGAINST NUCLEAR POWER, % AFSC, 2160 Lake St, S.F. 94121
phone: 752-7766

PEOPLE AGAINST NUCLEAR POWER
% AFSC, 2160 Lake St.
San Francisco, 94121



NONVIOLENCE IS POWERFUL AND PERSUASIVE. On February 23, 1975, some 26,000 people marched onto the site of a proposed nuclear power plant in Wyhl, West Germany to protest its construction. The demonstrators began an occupation of the site which lasted for months and has resulted in halting construction to this day. The Wyhl occupation became the inspirational model for the Clamshell Alliance, a coalition of people from all walks of life working together to stop nuclear power in New England. On August 22, 1976, over 1000 people demonstrated against the Seabrook, N.H. nuclear power plant. 179 people peacefully occupied the power plant site and were arrested. They ranged in age from 15 to 75, and included clamdiggers, fishermen, businessmen, teachers, students and housewives. A permanent occupation, perhaps 10,000 strong, is planned to begin April 30 if construction is still underway at that time.

DISCIPLINED NON-VIOLENT DIRECT ACTION CAN ALSO BE USED EFFECTIVELY IN CALIFORNIA. The power of non-violence, which keeps its means consistent with its ends, is the most appropriate tool for a campaign which grows out of our love and concern for people and the earth. The goal is not to defeat our opponents but to bring about a non-nuclear solution to our energy needs. Our actions may include vigils, bike rides, fasts, and plutonium tours in the Bay Area, as well as working with the network on possible major occupation of sites.

OUR CAMPAIGN WILL INCLUDE OUTREACH PROGRAMS. We will show the films Lovejoy's Nuclear War, and Nuclear Reaction in Wyhl, provide speakers, hold monthly educational gatherings, and participate in alternative energy fairs. An ongoing task will be facilitating the growth of regional study/action groups and working together democratically through the network of common support.

IF THE NUCLEAR INDUSTRY CONTINUES CONSTRUCTION OF POWER PLANTS, WE WILL PUSH TOWARD NONVIOLENT INTERVENTION TO HALT FURTHER CONSTRUCTION. If large numbers of people join the campaign as they have in Germany, Switzerland, and New England, we will have a chance of stopping the spread of nuclear power plants. But even if only a small number of people are involved, this campaign can be significant as an educational force.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

1. Educate yourself and others about nuclear power. Ask us for suggested readings.
2. Contact us for a film showing or a speaker to address your class, group, church or friends.
3. Come to our monthly educational gatherings.
4. Join or start a nuclear power study/action group and become part of the network.
5. Join the phone tree to be contacted for major nonviolent direct actions.
6. Find others that would be interested in joining the network.

PEOPLE AGAINST NUCLEAR POWER DEVELOPED AS A PROJECT OF THE AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE SIMPLE LIVING PROGRAM. However the network will be much larger than an AFSC project. We encourage all people and groups who are committed to stopping nuclear power to join us.

8/5/77

Arrests follow Diablo Canyon protest

S.F. EXAMINER—Page 3
☆☆ Mon., Aug. 8, 1977

By Alan Cline
Examiner Staff Writer

SAN LUIS OBISPO — For the first time in his 71 years, Ian McMillan has an arrest record.

The crusty former state parks commissioner, a self-described "law-and-order man," was among 48 antinuclear activists who trespassed on the site of PG&E's Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant and spent a few hours yesterday in the county jail.

Three others swam onto PG&E property and were arrested before a three-hour afternoon rally started on the beach at Port San Luis, next to the utility's land and about 10 miles south of here.

There was singing and speech-making on a sunny Sunday before the protesters, all with training in nonviolent techniques, headed out single file.

Using stepladders, they scaled two barbed wire fences and then walked a half mile up the seven-mile long road leading to the unfinished, twin-reactor plant before walking into a wall of 30 gold-helmeted sheriff's deputies dressed for combat.

As helicopters circled overhead, the marchers stopped and sat.

Arrests began when they refused to go back. Some of the younger protesters chose to be

dragged to waiting buses. Others, including McMillan, chose to walk. All had their hands tied behind them with cord wrist restraints.

The deputies were polite and some even carried knapsacks the protesters had brought. They contained provisions for a three-day occupation.

One of the 48 was Meg Symond, a recent arrival in San Francisco from Boston. She participated in the May 1 Clamshell Alliance demonstration at a proposed Seabrook, N.H., nuclear plant site and was among 1,414 people who spent two weeks in a makeshift armory jail before authorities worked out a settlement that freed all.

Here, Sheriff George Whiting acknowledged that his 6-year-old jail already held 50 more prisoners than its capacity of 108. The 51 were booked and released on their own recognizance to face the three misdemeanor trespassing and failure-to-disperse charges.

All but three pleaded innocent during arraignment that lasted until shortly before midnight in the jail's auditorium. Authorities were prepared as a last resort to set a token bail and post it themselves to avoid further overloading of the jail.

Symond spoke for many of the protesters when she said: "This was smaller than Clamshell, but next time it will be larger."

The event was the initial effort by the Abalone Alliance, a new amalgamation of antinuclear groups throughout the state.

The arrests followed the rally on the beach where a crowd of 1,000 cheered speakers Daniel Ellsberg and environmental activist Barry Commoner, who predicted the issue of nuclear energy would become the next great political struggle in the United States.

But McMillan, looking like the

rancher he is in Levis and Stetson, said he opposed trespassing, although he felt the federal agencies charged with licensing the Diablo Canyon plant had failed to consider the dangers of an earthquake fault three miles offshore.

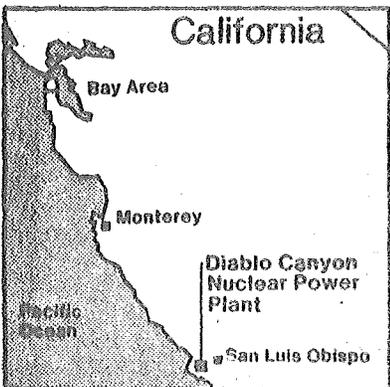
He said he was also disturbed by the fact the power the plant will produce will go to urban areas and not to the area of the plant site.

"I think some of my basic constitutional rights have been violated that supersede the rights of property," he said.

Among those arrested was another senior citizen: Mary Gail Black, a retired state employe active in the local Mothers for Peace group.

Black said she was not a mother, but became active in antinuclear activities because she lived near the Diablo Canyon property.

A dozen nuclear energy advocates demonstrated with signs, but the afternoon remained as serene as the winds and the scenic bay.



SF Examiner 8/31/77 pg. 3

Cops drag off A-protesters

Examiner News Service

Police began dragging away protestors outside an Oregon nuclear power plant today, following anti-nuclear demonstrations in 17 states this weekend — the 32nd anniversary of the dropping of the atom bomb on Hiroshima yesterday.

The dozens of protests around the country included rallies, demonstrations and the releasing of thousands of helium filled balloons carrying messages against the use of nuclear power.

In Ranier, Ore., demonstrators began blocking the Trojan power plant Saturday, the anniversary of the bombing, and vowed not to leave until arrested or the plant shut down.

The plant continued operating over the weekend, and at 6 a.m. today police began making arrests after the 92 demonstrators refused to move.

"You are downwind from a nuclear power plant," said another sent from Waterford, Conn. "Just as these balloons have arrived at your doorstep, radioactive particles may have also."

Counter-protests were staged in some states by power company workers.

In North Carolina and South Carolina, personnel of the Duke Power Co. launched balloons of their own with the message, "Nukes Make Good Neighbors."

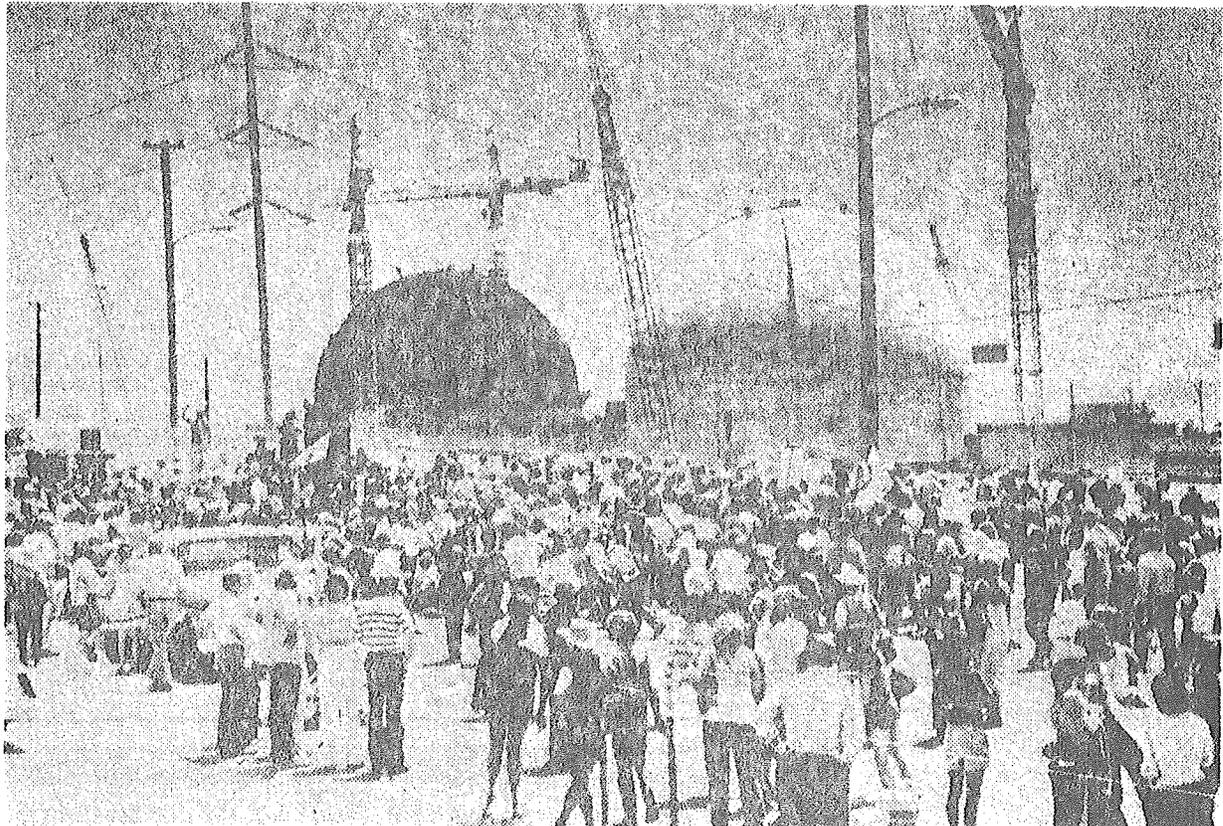
The Virginia Electric & Power Co., two of whose plants were weekend protest targets, issued a statement claiming it has saved customers millions of dollars in fuel costs by using nuclear power to generate electricity.

The groups which organized the demonstrations pattern themselves on New Hampshire's Clamshell Alliance, which last May spearheaded a weekend occupation of the construction site of the Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant, at which 1,414 persons were arrested.

They're called the Catfish Alliance in some southern states, the Palmetto Alliance in South Carolina, the Paddlewheel Alliance in Kentucky, the Sunshine Alliance in Virginia.

Four persons were taken into custody after they swam onto the Trident Nuclear Submarine base at Bangor, Wash., pushing across and a huge wooden salmon figure as a "messenger of life."

The Nuclear Regulatory Agency reported today that several workers at a nuclear power plant being built in Clinton, Ill., were exposed to low levels of radiation when a radiography device fell 40 feet and broke open.



UPI

Protesting in another place

A crowd estimated at upwards of 2,000 demonstrated Saturday — the 32nd anniversary of the dropping of the A-bomb on Hiroshima — at the San Onofre nuclear power plant a few miles south of San Clemente. The protesters marched for

about an hour, then listened to speeches stressing the dangers of contamination if an accident occurred at the plant. The plant is run jointly by Southern California Edison Co. and San Diego Gas and Electric Co.

STATEMENT ON NUCLEAR POWER

OES
Nuclear

7/7/77

The Northern California Office of the AFSC believes American energy policy is headed in the wrong direction. Government and industry continue to develop centralized, highly technological and costly methods of generating energy that destroy the environment and diminish the quality of our life. It threatens future generations. Nuclear power is given top priority in our nation's energy budget. As a Quaker organization, we find this priority contradicts Friends' testimonies of simplicity, peace, and equality.

Simplicity. Our current high rate of energy consumption for the sake of speed and convenience risks the loss of quality and control over our lives. Instead, we need to use less energy on a personal as well as industrial scale, make more efficient use of what we have, and support local control of energy sources that are renewable and non-polluting. We advocate energy systems that provide the most jobs for the amount of money spent. Nuclear power is one of the least labor intensive industries.

Peace. Nuclear power plants are intimately tied to nuclear weapons proliferation because they provide the vital ingredients for making atomic bombs: plutonium and enriched uranium. The police state security measures required to protect radioactive wastes from terrorist attack threaten our civil liberties.

Equality. Nuclear power development concentrates wealth in the hands of a few. This concentration is inherently undemocratic. Although a few gain, through government subsidy and federal law limiting the nuclear industry's liability in case of accident, we all pay.

We are appalled by the use of a power source that compromises the health and safety of future generations in exchange for current profligate energy use and increased profits. Plutonium and other wastes cause cancer and must be isolated from the environment for thousands of years. Most of these wastes are routinely emitted into the environment and contaminate our water, land, air, and food. Moreover, nuclear power plants pose the terrible hazard of major accidents that have the potential of killing thousands of people and contaminating large geographic areas.

We reject an irreversible path based on nuclear power with all its risks. We affirm energy choices that are socially, economically, and ecologically sound and which consider the needs and health of future generations. We recognize that interim energy solutions of coal, oil, and natural gas create a burden for people who live in areas with rich deposits of fossil fuels, especially American Indians and Spanish Americans. In taking this strong position against the development of nuclear power, we reaffirm our commitment to assist American Indians, Spanish Americans, and communities in coal-rich Appalachia to regain control of their land and water resources.

The American Friends Service Committee, Northern California Regional Office, calls for an immediate and permanent halt to the construction and operation of nuclear power plants in this region. The issue of nuclear energy, however, is not limited to geographical boundaries. We extend our concern against nuclear development to the rest of the nation and to other countries. We strongly advocate research in and development of conservation methods and renewable forms of energy. We support the Abalone Alliance, an emerging state-wide network in California committed to education and non-violent actions to halt the development and operation of nuclear plants in the state. We urge people to support groups dedicated to stopping the development of nuclear power through non-violent means.

San Francisco, July 7, 1977