STOP THE MX MISSILE

The danger of nuclear war is again increasing. SAFL negotiations have been trimmed and new nuclear weapon systems are being actively pursued. Negotiations for the control of nuclear arms have been suspended, both between the superpowers and among European states. Plans proceed to place nuclear missiles in Europe threatening Moscow, and in the USSR threatening Europe.

Out of the White House and Pentagon come proposals for the use of nuclear weapons in the event of a nuclear war, a twenty-fold increase in nuclear damage in the U.S. and in the Soviets not to renew it when it would expire in 1985. With or without SALT, the MX will just be another horrid threat.

Large missiles, enough to destroy the 4600 shelters of the present MX scheme by using only a few of our own nuclear retaliatory force is in fixed land-based systems, which will be fully vulnerable in the face of a first-strike threat posed by the MX. A world in which both sides deploy so powerful a potential first-strike force as the MX Missile.

The Minuteman I1 carries only a quarter of the total U.S. nuclear strategic IVX capacities of distant combat.

Upcoming activities:

Initiated by John, E. Bell, B. Feld, P. Morrison, S. Paradise, K. Telipa, J. Dennis, D. Mellinger '83 and the Disarmament Study Group and the Faculty Disarmament Coalition.

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I would like to help stop the MX Missiles by:

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Fuller's two-fold increase in nuclear damage in the U.S. and in world-wide fallout, since the MX system invites thousands of Soviet nuclear warheads. Their detonation on the ground would yield radioactive fallout over millions of square miles downwind from them and Russia. Three the way to the East Coast will be connected with lethal amounts of radioactive fallout. The pain producing Great Plains of the United States will be so contaminated as to be unusable for decades, even if there were any survivors to till them.

2. Even if never used, the MX missile is a major environmental and economic hazard. The Air Force plans to place the MX in the desert a project comparable to several hundred vast desert bomb sites which thousands of miles of military railroad going nowhere, transporting missiles. The deceptive claim that it affects on land and sea, the demands for big machinery and even on water, current, and fast, the permanent damage to a thin and even unsteady ecosystem are obvious high costs for a cascading and dangerous system. The MX is the biggest construction project in history; surely it is the biggest folly.

The Pentagon says that MX will cost from 40 to 60 billion dollars. Senator Proxmire predicts $100 billion. The Navy has won a new strategic program, the Trident submarines, while the Air Force lost the 114 billion. Can the Air Force enthusiasm for the MX be a move to maintain their place of the strategicversations and the budget? Given our real defense needs: our need for heavy civil treatment to revitalize an industrial sector so that we may successfully compete with Japan and Germany, our need for new energy production and conservation technology, and for development of public transportation, our need for economically productive research and development given all this, it is absurd to spend enormous sums of taxpayer's money for a weapons system which endangers U.S. security.

The defense we really need

We must recognize the inescapable fact that we cannot solve conflicts among nations by firing or even translating nuclear weapons. We certainly cannot guarantee the U.S. peaceable supply by nuclear war. Until such time as these weapons can be ablated by mutual agreement, both sides need to realize that.

First use of nuclear weapons will lead to a nuclear holocaust.

The MX, as an effective first-strike weapon, will seriously increase the risk of nuclear war. It is not clear that the MX will be able to deliver a first-strike to any country. In this context of crisis, let us not fail in the social campaign to legitimize the use of nuclear weapons. At this first step, reject the MX while it is still in its million-dollar stage. We have weapons in plenty. What we need are sensible long-range economic policies and prudent, steady negotiations to ban anti-satellite weapons, and begin to reduce nuclear arsenals.

Write, call and visit the President, members of Congress, your governor, and any state legislatures; send them copies of this MX, and reprint it in your community and church newspapers. Form your own group.

The MX group.

For further information, contact either:

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Tuesday, April 15 - DSG meeting, 5:30pm 7-102
Friday, April 15 - Teach-In on the Arms Race
March on Washington