

# PEACE NEWS NEW ZEALAND

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## NUCLEAR FREE PACIFIC WEEK — MARCH 1st-8th

Nuclear-Free Pacific (NFP) Day is the anniversary of the explosion of the fifteen megaton thermonuclear bomb, Bravo, on Bikini Atoll. The USA started testing atomic bombs at Bikini Atoll in the Marshall Islands, Micronesia, in 1946. They told the Bikinians that scientists were experimenting with nuclear devices "for the good of mankind and to end all nuclear wars". On 1 March 1954, Bravo, the largest hydrogen bomb exploded at Bikini, was detonated despite an incomplete and alarming wind report. As a result several inhabited islands and a Japanese fishing vessel were affected by radioactive fallout. In the first four years after exposure to the fallout women from Rongelap (one of the exposed islands) suffered stillbirths and miscarriages at more than twice the rate of unexposed Marshallese women. Islanders exposed to radiation have suffered severe health problems since that time. Thyroid problems, cancer, leukemia, growth retardation and miscarriages have become a way of life for the Marshallese.

In 1968 after a limited clean-up of Bikini Atoll, USA government scientists claimed that there was "no radiation on Bikini" and the people were allowed to return. Within years Atomic Energy Commission studies showed the islands had dangerously high levels of radiation. But still the USA government took no action. In 1977 following tests which showed that the Bikinians were taking in higher than acceptable concentrations of cancer-causing radiation from water and food grown in the islands still radioactive soil, the USA government started sending in all food and water to Bikini.

In 1978 further tests showed a 75% increase in radioactive cesium in Bikinians living in Bikini. They were also exposed to strontium-90 and other external radiation from

fallout materials still on the ground. In August of that year Bikinians were moved again to owing to high radioactive levels on all Bikini Islands. This after ten years of exposure.

Other islanders have suffered similar experiences at the hands of the USA.

The USA still uses Kwajalein lagoon (again in the Marshall Islands) as the target for Inter-Continental Ballistic Missiles tests. These missiles carry uranium as ballast. The lagoon has a high level of radioactivity.

### French Polynesia

The Marshallese are not the only people to have suffered however. In 1966 the French started atmospheric tests on Mururoa and Fangataufa Atolls in French Polynesia. In 1974 underground tests began after world wide opposition to atmospheric testing. Underground testing still continues in French Polynesia to this time, despite two nuclear accidents in 1979 on Mururoa which caused the deaths of two people and a tidal wave.

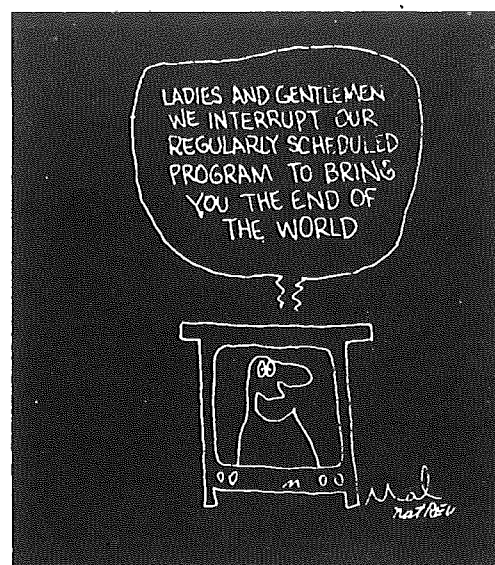
The French government refuses to release any relevant health and environmental information and in doing so goes against international standards which require information for monitoring of radiation levels and for other safety purposes. Radioactive pollution has been picked up by the New Zealand National Radiation Laboratory in Samoa, Fiji and the Gilberts, although the Centre d'Experimentation du Pacifique (the French government authority responsible) divulged no information about contamination or about scheduled test times.

The French Polynesians got no more information. Oscar Tamaru, a Tahitian politician, said at a recent Japanese

Theme continues on page 3.

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CND, Britain. From 'We Shall Not Be Mirved'

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## IN BRIEF

### UK ANTI-NUCLEAR ACTIVITY

Britain is experiencing a revival of the anti-nuclear campaign which put it during the 1950s in the vanguard of world protest against the spread of nuclear weapons. Friends of the Earth is one of the most significant anti-nuclear groups and an increasing number of Britons are listening to what it says about the dangers of nuclear energy production. The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament is gaining support at a rapid pace for its stepped up campaign to ban nuclear weapons in Europe. CND has a public ally in the newly-elected leader of the Labour Party, Mr Michael Foot who has said a Labour Government would not permit nuclear missiles on British soil and would consider withdrawing from Nato.

### OPPOSITION TO B52s in AUSTRALIA

Australia's major church and independent international aid agencies have come out against allowing the United States to conduct nuclear armed B52 flights over Australia. The Council of Overseas Aid, which represents 37 organisations including the Australian Council of Churches, Freedom From Hunger and World Vision said such flights would add "another round" to proliferation of nuclear weapons in the region. The Sydney Morning Herald, too, warned in a January editorial: "Would anyone deny that the staging of B52s through Australia, together with the presence of a large number of US facilities, does anything but increase the possibility of nuclear attack on Australia in the event of a global war? This possibility is not minimised by describing US facilities, and the B52s, as nuclear deterrents. Deterrents are targets as well". The Australian Council of Trade Unions is to call on affiliated unions to introduce bans on servicing US ships or aircraft using Australia as a staging base because ... "the involvement of Australia in providing these facilities further compromises our ability to determine a non-aligned, independent position in any continuing hostilities."

### CANADA DISARMS!

Canada is giving up nuclear weapons while remaining a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. In the next three years its 44 nuclear-armed Voodoo aircraft, which patrol the country's arctic perimeter with their powerful radar to intercept approaching bombers, will be phased out. Canada has had a long interest in non-proliferation of nuclear weapons but the move also comes with the introduction of Hornet F18 fighters suitable for air-to-air combat with incoming missiles.

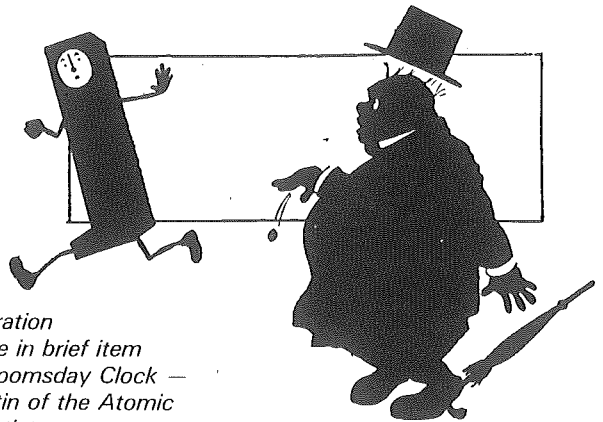
### MIDNIGHT APPROACHES

A group of atomic scientists 'started' a nuclear doomsday clock thirty five years ago. Then it pointed to 12 minutes to midnight, at the time of Hiroshima. Now the hands stand at four minutes to midnight. The clock symbol, which appears on the masthead of the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists was put forwards in the January issue to show the world closer to doomsday than at any time since the 1950s.

The Chicago-based bulletin advocates faster movement towards arms control and nuclear disarmament. It states that trends in technology and international politics have caused the movement of the doomsday clock to its present position from 12 minutes to midnight, where it stood following the signing of the Salt I arms limitation treaty in 1972.

In 1949 it went to three minutes to midnight when Russia exploded its first nuclear device.

The closest setting to midnight came in 1953 — down to two minutes with the development of the hydrogen bomb. It went back to 12 minutes in 1963 with the signing of the nuclear test ban treaty and then on to seven minutes when China became a nuclear power.



*Illustration  
above in brief item  
on Doomsday Clock —  
bulletin of the Atomic  
Scientists*

Last year the Bulletin had its minute hand moved from nine to seven minutes before disaster "because of the irrationality of national and international actions".

Editors and advisers have moved the clock hand ahead three minutes because they believe "hardliners" have taken control in both the East and the West. "People are actually discussing the possibility of winning a nuclear war," said Dr Bernard T Feld, editor of the Bulletin.

Dr Feld said his group was pessimistic because the strategic arms limitation talks have broken down, Russia and the United States were planning large weapons increases and tensions were high in the Persian Gulf, Afghanistan and Poland.

### NUCLEAR DEBATE IN DUTCH FORCES

The Dutch armed forces are under increasing pressure to recognise the divisions within their ranks on the ethics of participating in a nuclear war. A survey showed that 60 per cent of conscripts, 20 per cent of non-commissioned officers and 10 per cent of officers would be placed in moral difficulty if ordered to use nuclear weapons. The Dutch Parliament last year narrowly rejected calls for a full inquiry into attitudes towards nuclear weapons within the Dutch forces.

### MISSILES POLLUTE

A group called Alliance for Survival is suing the US Air Force, air quality officials and a defence contractor in an effort to block testing of final stage engines for the MX missile system at a plant on the outskirts of Los Angeles. Members told the court that tests would cause air pollution from carbon monoxide fumes and other gases. The district court judge reserved her decision after hearing the request for a temporary restraining order to prevent the Environmental Protection Agency issuing a permit for the testing.

### DUTCH DOCTORS WARN PUBLIC

A large group of Dutch doctors have placed full-page advertisements in all major newspapers calling on the Government to discuss with medical services the probable consequences of a nuclear war. In their open letter the 800 doctors and health care workers warned that even a small nuclear explosion could wreck the medical infrastructure and leave millions to die slowly and painfully.

# SUPPLEMENT: NUCLEAR FREE PACIFIC

(continued from page 1)

Congress Against A and H Bombs "There is research going on in Tahiti into fish toxicity. But only French doctors are involved. Even if fish have become poisonous as a result of radioactivity, they won't tell us. They'll tell us not to eat that kind of fish any more, and that's all."

The use of the Polynesian peoples' land by France to test its lethal nuclear weapons has been the focal issue in the movement for independence in French Polynesia. The growing demand for independence has met with overt repression by the French in the form of intimidation and arbitrary arrest. Even the legally constituted socialist party is denied access to the press and the radio, which is the only means of communication and of informing people over such an extensive archipelago.

Charlie Ching, leader of the Tahitian Peoples Independence Party has recently been sentenced to ten years imprisonment on trumped up charges. This same fate was inflicted twenty years earlier on his uncle, Pouvaana a Oopa, the founder of the autonomist movement when his "Polynesia for the Polynesians" stance became too threatening for the French. Four years later, the party, under new leadership, called for immediate independence after the news broke in August 1962 that France was to spend \$30,000 million on turning French Polynesia into a nuclear testing site, after years of denying rumours to that effect. De Gaulle promptly dissolved the party. However the demands for immediate cessation of nuclear tests and autonomy for the islands continued.

In an attempt to stifle growing opposition to French government passed a Statute of Autonomy in July 1977. This gave the right to local rule by locally elected councillors. However "Autonomy" French style left much to be desired. The French government retains control of such vital areas as defence, foreign affairs, police, justice, immigration, monetary system, credit policies, banking, overseas trade, air traffic, fishing rights, ocean wealth, secondary education, broadcasting — TV, communal affairs and the whole civil service. This left the elected representatives the task of balancing the budget with locally raised revenues.

The French position in Polynesia is maintained so they can continue their nuclear testing. The facade of autonomy is accompanied by continuing suppression, while their bomb testing programme is surrounded by lies, distortions and half truths.

## Nuclear Wastes Dumping

The Pacific continues to be used by the major powers for testing and dumping of nuclear materials and as an area of increasing military activity. 1980 is the year of the first French neutron bomb tests, the first Chinese missile tests in the Pacific and of further plans, by the Japanese government, to dump nuclear wastes in the Pacific.

Over the next two years Japan plans to dump up to 10,000 200 litre drums of low level nuclear waste into international Pacific waters south east of its own marine boundaries. The Japanese government plans to monitor the 'experimental' operation for two and a half years and then continue dumping even greater quantities of wastes in subsequent years. Nobody yet knows the effects on the concrete sealed drums of the depth, pressure and ocean currents to which they will be subjected. Professor Ichikawa, a world renowned Japanese authority on the biological effects of radiation, fears that concrete may

become porous under pressure with time, and that a trial of at least fifteen to twenty years is necessary. He sites that the effects of radioactive waste leaking from drums dumped off the coast of the USA in the early 1950s is just now being revealed.

Recent reports of dumping operations carried out by the USA provide concrete evidence that radioactivity from the dumpsites has entered the ocean food chain. Cesium, strontium and plutonium were detected in fish that people eat and the dumpsites are situated in prime commercial fishing grounds. Strontium-90 levels found in edible fish at the Farallon site (one of the dump sites) would deliver a lifetime radioactive dose equivalent to several additional chest x-rays to the average person. Plutonium levels in the liver and flesh of edible fish species are up to 5,000 times the level expected from global fallout and radioactivity levels were 2,208 times the "background" attributed to the fallout Dr Jackson Davis, a researcher at the University of California has analysed the reports. He says "The lesson of the Farallon incident is clear; disposal of radioactive wastes into the oceans should be immediately and unconditionally banned by the US and all nations of the world."

Waste dumping in the Pacific is fiercely opposed by all independent Pacific nation governments. Julius Chan, Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea, has written to Community Aid Abroad "Papua New Guinea is totally against any form of nuclear presence in the Pacific, be it nuclear testing or radioactive waste dumping. In fact we continue to support and maintain that the Pacific be nuclear free."

The right for an independent and nuclear-free Pacific is being fought for in various ways. Palauans in Micronesia, for instance, have overwhelmingly adopted a constitution which includes a clause banning storage, use, testing and transportation of all nuclear materials and weapons. The Palauan people have been forced to hold three referendums in a year on the constitution, because of USA pressure and interference.

In July 1980 the South Pacific Forum, a political organisation of independent Pacific powers, passed a resolution condemning "any action which represents further exploitation of the Pacific for nuclear purposes in ways which disadvantage the peoples of the Pacific." In October the South Pacific Conference, a non-political organisation of independent and colonial Pacific powers "noted the grave concern" which Island governments had expressed to "the intention of some countries to dump radioactive waste in the Pacific". Pressure from colonial powers pushed through this watered down version of the original strong opinions expressed by Island governments. Governor Carlos Comach of the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands statements reflect the feelings of many delegates. He said "We have been shown an arrogant and malicious disregard of our rights as people of the Pacific. We reap no benefits from nuclear energy but we are forced to share its hazards."



FROM 'DANCING IN THE DESERT' - BY COOK.  
SUN BOOKS - MELBOURNE.



**WE DO NOT WANT  
NUCLEAR WASTES  
DUMPED IN OUR  
OCEAN.**



**WE DO NOT WANT  
THE TESTING OF  
NUCLEAR BOMBS**

**WE DO NOT WANT  
NUCLEAR-POWERED  
SHIPS PASSING  
THROUGH OUR  
WATERS**



**WE DO NOT WANT  
TO BE DEFENDED WITH  
NUCLEAR WEAPONS**



*WE WANT A*  
**NUCLEAR FREE PACIFIC**

**Pacific Conference of Churches**

P.O. Box 208  
Suva, Fiji



# A MEDITATION ON PEACE

## Prepared by the Pacific Conference of Churches

### Texts:

Amos 5:4-15, 21-24

Luke 3:3-6

Matthew 5:9

John 14:27

A prayer for a Nuclear Free Pacific

Our commitment to peace in the Pacific today means commitment to justice.

Our commitment to justice means commitment to action. It requires a lot of work.

Our commitment to peace and justice in the Pacific today means to be bold enough to take risks with love.

Our commitment to peace and justice in the Pacific today means involvement with human situations (problems): religious, social, economic, political, personal. It is our interaction with one another and with our society wherever the relationship with God has been broken because of selfishness.

This peace means living with the inner strength and serenity in facing one's situation. It is a gift and promise of Jesus to his co-workers. We do our best, and the Lord will do his.

### Prayer:

- Let us thank God for the many blessings he gives to the Pacific Islands;
- Let us thank God for the beauty of nature, the tropical trees, mountains, rivers and falls, valleys and beaches and the beautiful clear blue sea;
- Let us take advantage of his gift of nature, and ask for his forgiveness when we abuse his blessings;
- Let us remember and pray for the victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, for the victims of the nuclear bomb testing in the Pacific;
- Let us pray for the leaders of the countries who in spite of our protest continue their nuclear activities in the Pacific;
- Let us pray for the traditional, church and political leaders of the Pacific Islands who are responsible for making major decisions for what is yet to be done;
- Let us pray for all the people of God in the Pacific and in the world. May we continuously seek the truth and pray that God will strengthen us to work and live that justice and peace would prevail.

*When respect for human beings is practiced in all nations — there will be peace;*

*When participation is substituted for oppression — there will be peace;*

*When plowshares replace armaments — there will be peace*

*When a just distribution of riches and resources is established in the world — there will be peace;*

*When co-operation shapes relationships between persons, groups and nations — there will be peace;*

*When love for our neighbour is transformed into love action — there will be peace.*

*God, help us to participate with you in the creation of peace.*

AMEN

(Celsa Garrastegui)

Mrs. Lorine Tevi

General Secretary, Pacific Conference of Churches

### A Litany

Lord in your mercy forgive us from misusing and abusing the wonderful gifts that you have provided in nature for us to use and enjoy.

*Lord in your mercy — Hear our Prayer*

Lord in your mercy save us from selfish ambitions, greed and want of power.

*Lord in your mercy — Hear our Prayer.*

Lord in your mercy deliver us from lightning and tempest, from plague, pestilence and famine; from battle, murder and from sudden death.

*Lord in your mercy — Hear our Prayer.*

Lord in your mercy, help people who control power and money in the world to listen and care for the needs of small people who have human rights and privileges in your word.

*Lord in your mercy — Hear our Prayer.*

Lord in your mercy help all the peoples of the vast Pacific Ocean to be good stewards of the sea and its resources. Help all people everywhere to acknowledge the fact that you alone have spread out the heavens and rule over the seas, and that the waters are a gift from God.

*Lord in your mercy — Hear our Prayer.*

Lord in your mercy help the scientists and technicians of the world to use their knowledge and skills for the good of mankind and not for destructive purposes. May the countries which produce nuclear energy channel such a bounty for the good of mankind.

*Lord in your mercy — Hear our Prayer.*

The Rt. Rev. Jabez Bryce

Anglican Bishop in Polynesia and Chairman, Pacific Conference of Churches

### A Prayer

O God our Father, save our shores from the weapons of death, our lands from what may deny our young ones love and freedom. Let the seas of the Pacific Ocean carry messages of peace and goodwill. Turn away from our midst any unkind and brutal practices. Let each child swim and breathe the fresh air that is filled by the Holy Spirit. O Lord Jesus, bless all that are makers of that inner peace that breaks down the barriers of hatred, and unite us with the open arms of your cross, that all the peoples of the world may live happily together. Amen.

Dr Sione Amanaki Havea

Principal, Pacific Theological College

**PACIFIC CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES PO BOX 208, SUVA, FIJI.**

### PCC MEMBER CHURCHES/ORGANISATIONS

Church of the Province of Melanesia.  
Anglican Diocese of Polynesia.  
Churches of Christ in the New Hebrides.  
Cook Islands Christian Church.  
Gilbert Islands Protestant Church.  
Nauru Protestant Church.  
Ekalesia Niue.  
Congregational Christian Church in Samoa.  
Tuvalu Church.  
Evangelical Church of New Caledonia & Loyalty Islands.  
Evangelical Church of French Polynesia, Tahiti.  
Methodist Church in Fiji.  
Methodist Church of Samoa.  
Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga.  
Presbyterian Church of the New Hebrides.  
United Church of Christ in Ponape, Inc., Caroline Islands.  
United Church of Christ in the Marshall Islands.  
The United Church in Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands.  
Fellowship of Christian Churches in Samoa.  
Solomon Islands Christian Association.  
C.E.P.A.C. (Episcopal Conference of the Pacific) including the Catholic Dioceses:  
Diocese of Samoa & Tokelau      Archdiocese of Papeete  
Diocese of Rarotonga.      Diocese of Port Vila.  
Archdiocese of Suva.      Diocese of Taiohae, Marquesas Islds.  
Diocese of Tarawa.      Diocese of Wallis & Fortuna.  
Diocese of Tonga.      Diocese of The Carolines and Marshalls.

The poster on page 4, produced by the Pacific Conference of Churches is available in 58 x 39cm size, black and red, for \$1.00 post free, from Peace News New Zealand, P.O. Box 9563, Courtenay Place, Wellington.

## A Prayer for The Church

O God our creator, we pray for the Church, which is set today in the midst of the confusion and difficult choices of a rapidly changing world, a Church face to face with so many new and bewildering tasks.

We pray that you will baptize her anew with the life-giving spirit of Jesus! May she be utterly loyal to your will, proclaiming the truth boldly in love, in the great tradition of

your prophets.

Fill her with Christlike concern for justice, stewardship and peacemaking. May she not fall to the temptation of seeking her own life, lest she lose it, but be brave to pour out her life for humanity — so that like her crucified Lord she may go forward by the pathway of the Cross to a higher glory. Amen.

(adapted)

# STEWARDSHIP, JUSTICE AND PEACEMAKING

## Comments, questions and scripture references

### CONCERNING STEWARDSHIP

We have a solemn responsibility to care for the universe which God has created, and for the many expressions of God-given life which it contains and supports. For this we are accountable to God, to each other, and to future generations.

Then God said, 'And now we will make human beings; they will be like us and resemble us. They will have power over the fish, the birds, and all animals, domestic and wild, large and small.' So God created human beings, making them to be like himself; He created them male and female, blessed them, and said, 'Have many children, so that your descendants will live all over the earth and bring it under their control; I am putting you in charge' (Gen 1:26-28a)

When I look at the sky, which you have made, at the moon and the stars, which you set in their places — what is man, that you think of him; mere man, that you care for him? Yet you made him inferior only to yourself; you crowned him with glory and honour. You appointed him ruler over everything you made; you placed him over all creation; sheep and cattle, and the wild animals too; the birds and the fish and the creatures in the seas (Psalm 8:3-8)

"Stewardship" implies that we live in a limited world. Although we human beings are "made in God's image", we are limited in our cleverness. As our capacities expand, we must learn to deal humbly and responsibly at every stage with our limitations. The earth is also limited. It is limited in its capacity to suffer exploitation. It is entirely possible for us human beings to seriously hurt the world in which we live.

Much is required from the person to whom much is given; Much more is required from the person to whom much more is given. (Luke 12:48b)

Whoever is faithful in small matters will be faithful in large ones; whoever is dishonest in small matters will be dishonest in large ones; If then, you have not been faithful in handling worldly wealth, how can you be trusted with true wealth? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to someone else, who will give you what belongs to you? (Luke 16:10-12)

Each one, as a good manager of God's different gifts, must use for the good of others the special gift he has received from God. (1 Peter 4:10)

God created us human beings in an intimate, integral relationship with nature. How may we "progress" in ways which might reinforce rather than weaken the relationship?

(See Acts 17:24-31)

God, who made the world and everything in it, is Lord of heaven and earth, and does not live in man-made temples. Nor does he need anything that we can supply by working for him, since it is he himself who gives life and breath and everything else to everyone. (Acts 17:24-25)

In him we live and move and exist. Acts 17:28)

### CONCERNING JUSTICE

Unwelcome testing of nuclear weapons and dumping of radioactive wastes in the Pacific represents injustice: unjust relationships between nations, between regions, between generations.

Some of you are not satisfied with eating the best grass; you even trample down what you don't eat! You drink the clear water and muddy what you don't drink! My other sheep have to eat the grass you trample down and drink the water you muddy. (Ezekiel 34:18-19)

What he requires of us is this: to do what is just, to show constant love, and to live in humble fellowship with our God. (Micah 6:8)

How do we confront the whole reality of Sin? Not only the arrogance, greed, and broken relationships of individuals, but also the institutional sin of nations, groups, companies which puts the narrow national or corporate self-interest ahead of all other considerations. How shall we as a Pacific community responsibly relate to such a frustrating, difficult, but critically important task?

For we are not fighting against human beings but against spiritual forces in the heavenly world, the rulers, authorities, and cosmic powers of this dark age. (Ephesians 6:12)

No one is holy like the Lord; there is none like him, no protector like our God. Stop your loud boasting; silence your proud words. For the Lord is a God who knows, and he judges all that people do. The bows of strong soldiers are broken, but the weak grow strong. The people

who once were well fed now hire themselves out to get food, but the hungry are hungry no more. The childless wife has borne seven children, but the mother of many is left with none. The Lord kills and restores to life; he sends people to the world of the dead and brings them back again; He makes some men poor and others rich; he humbles some and makes others great; He lifts the poor from the dust and raises the needy from their misery. He makes them companions of princes and puts them in places of honour; The foundations of the earth belong to the Lord; on them he has built the world (1 Samuel 2:2-8) (from Hannah's prayer)

If you oppress poor people, you insult the God who made them; but kindness shown to the poor is an act of worship. (Proverbs 14:31)

The kind of fasting I want is this: remove the chains of oppression and the yoke of injustice, and let the oppressed go free. Share your food with the hungry and open your home to the homeless poor. Give clothes to those who have nothing to wear, and do not refuse to help your own relatives. Then my favour will shine on you like the morning sun, and your wounds will be quickly healed; I will always be with you to save you; my presence will protect you on every side. (Isaiah 58:6-8)

And now, you rich people, listen to me! Weep and wail over the miseries that are coming upon you! Your riches have rotted away, and your clothes have been eaten by moths. Your gold and silver are covered with rust, and this rust will be a witness against you. (James 5:1-3a)

### CONCERNING PEACEMAKING

Upon what are we depending for our security? How can we in the Pacific help to challenge humankind in its brokenness to take risks for peace? Considering the realities of the 1980's and beyond what is "good thinking" regarding *reconciliation, peace, security*?

Those who go to Egypt for help are doomed! They are relying on Egypt's vast military strength — horses, chariots, and soldiers. But they do not rely on the Lord, the holy God of Israel, or ask him for help. He knows what he is doing! He sends disaster. He carries out his threats to punish evil men and those gods who protect them. The Egyptians are not gods — they are only human. Their horses are not supernatural. When the Lord acts, the strong nation will crumble, and the weak nation it helped will fail. Both of them will be destroyed. (Isaiah 31:1-3) (See whole of Isaiah 31)

How many we contribute to dialogue leading toward new peace dynamics in the world, towards a reduction of the fear and mistrust which has the world locked into a terrible armaments and energy race?

I urge you, then — I who am a prisoner because I serve the Lord: live a life that measures up to the standard God set when he called you. Be always humble, gentle, and patient. Show your love by being tolerant with one another. Do your best to preserve the unity which the Spirit gives by means of the peace that binds you together. (Ephesians 4:1-3)

And look out for one another's interests, not just for your own. The attitude you should have is the one that Christ Jesus had: He always had the nature of God, but he did not think that by force he should try to become equal with God; Instead of this, of his own free will he gave up all he had, and took the nature of a servant. He became like man and appeared in human likeness. He was humble and walked the path of obedience all the way to death — his death on the cross. (Philippians 2:4-8)

Come and see what the Lord has done. See what amazing things he has done on earth; He stops wars all over the world; he breaks bows, destroys spears, and sets shields on fire. 'Stop fighting' he says, 'and know that I am God, supreme among the nations, supreme over the world.' (Psalm 46:8-10. See whole of Psalm 46)

But if you act like wild animals, hurting and harming each other, then watch out, or you will completely destroy one another. (Galatians 5:15. See Galatians 5:13-15)

Put your sword back in its place, Jesus said to him. "All who take the sword will die by the sword." (Matthew 26:52)

All this is done by God, who through Christ changed us from enemies into his friends and gave us the tasks of making others his friends also. Our message is that God was making all mankind his friends through Christ. (11 Corinthians 5:18-19a)



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## CONCERNING UNDERGROUND TESTING — SOME LESSONS FOR THE PACIFIC?

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Some excerpts from "Another A-Bomb Cover-up", by Raymond E. Brim and Patricia Condon, in *The Washington Monthly*, January 1981.

It's hard to pick up a newspaper today without reading something about the radioactive havoc caused by the open-air nuclear tests of the 1960's. The stories are shocking and depressing. But at least, you probably think the danger ended 'way back then.' In 1963, nuclear testing went underground, and fallout was said to be eliminated.

Guess again, "safe" underground tests regularly leak, spraying deadly radiation into the air. Things are not as bad as they were in the 1950s, since not every test leaks — but the government continues to take unnecessary, avoidable risks because of its sloppy management of fallout. Americans were exposed to dangerous levels of radiation from "safe" underground tests all through the 1960's and 1970's, and remain in danger today. As recently as September 25, an underground nuclear test in Nevada broke through the earth and scattered its radiation to the winds.

Just as the risk of fallout continues, so does the conscious government effort to cover up the situation. Department of Energy officials fully understand that underground testing can't fully contain radiation, yet downplay the information or even withhold it from the public. Exactly as they did in the 1950's, officials refuse to reveal information necessary for those who live near radiation accidents to protect themselves. When the test leaked in September, news of the vent was not released for two days — long after the damage had been done.

**UNDERGROUND TESTS: SAFE?** Today it seems incredible that straight-faced government spokesmen could proclaim that standing downwind of an open-air nuclear explosion was perfectly safe. It seems equally incredible that people believed their claims. Yet that twin mentality continues to operate, with Washington making what will, in years to come, be considered preposterous claims about the safety of underground tests, and most people nodding their heads in agreement.

The continuing problem of underground testing is that leaks — called "ventings" in nuclear parlance — frequently occur during the explosion. In an underground test, the bomb is buried about 2,000 feet down at the bottom of a vertical shaft, or at the end of a horizontal tunnel. The millions of tons of earth surrounding the device are supposed to be sufficient to contain even the force of thermonuclear explosion. If the blast is held in place, radiation is absorbed by the surrounding earth. The spot of the blast becomes "hot", but since it is isolated from the air, it doesn't matter.

But often, the force of the explosion blows part of the covering earth away, especially the cap placed directly over the bomb. This creates a sort of chimney, out of which spew dirt and rocks and debris, all intensely radioactive. The bomb's expanding mass heads up, seeking the lower pressure of the sky, and carrying radiation with it. Ventings have happened as late as 2 days after the detonation, when a shift in the earth allowed pent-up pressure to escape.

Because material from an underground nuclear blast roars out of a vent with such a vengeance, it can be blown

high up into the atmosphere. There, winds can carry it across the continent. Recognising from the beginning that supposedly safe underground tests might do this, officials decided to detonate bombs in Nevada only then the wind was blowing north. That way, escaping fallout would not be carried south towards Las Vegas.

This "precaution", however, applies only to surface winds. Vented fallout is carried northward by surface winds until it rises high enough to meet the prevailing winds, which generally blow from west to east. No part of the country is secure. Radiation does not respect state borders.

Fallout from ventings was detected in the 1960s and 1970s over Nebraska and Iowa, in California and Idaho, over several East Coast states, and at least once in eastern Canada. On some occasions, it headed off across the Atlantic.

One of the well-documented ventings took place on December 18, 1970. A device called Baneberry (nuclear shots are designated by code names) blew its cover, venting large amounts of radiation into the sky. An official report on the accident states that a dangerously high concentration of iodine 131, a radiation by-product, was found in the milk of Utah and Nevada cows which had eaten vegetation exposed to Baneberry's fallout. Deer and sheep as far as 400 miles from the test range had abnormal concentrations of iodine in their thyroid glands, and the thyroid of a fetus from one sheep contained five times more iodine than the thyroid of its mother. (Children are more vulnerable to radiation than adults, and the fetus is most vulnerable of all.) The many lawsuits against the government pertaining to the deaths and cancer which Baneberry might have caused will continue for years.

**VENTINGS ARE NOT ISOLATED INCIDENTS:** Only in 1978 did the public first learn that ventings were not isolated incidents. At that time, Department of Energy (DOE) Assistant Secretary Donald Kerr, admitted at a hearing that there had been 19 ventings. He listed names and dates. Quick examination of back newspapers showed that at the time of the blasts, DOE reported nothing unusual. Some reports DOE did release at the time were misleading. Others made passing reference to fallout, but reported it as much less than classified records showed that it actually was.

Last year, at a hearing of the House Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, General Mahlon Gates, operations manager for the Nevada test site, admitted that the real number of ventings is at least 40. He justified the discrepancy by saying that word of some ventings had just been "declassified" — true enough, perhaps, but as noted before, keeping news of a venting secret has no security value. Gates says the number 40 may not be correct either, since records of some tests have been inadvertently lost in electronic storage. Gates blandly informed Nevada residents that he "couldn't be sure some other tests might not drop out of the computer."

Other information released in Gates' report casts doubt on the reliability of any of his numbers. Gates presented an estimate of the total amount of radiation downwind of a test site in the period from 1951 to 1969 which worked out to less than a quarter of the radiation the Public Health Service recorded after a *single blast* on the same site.

Similar official information about underground ventings contains impossible contradictions. In 1978, Kerr testified

that a test called Red Hot, which vented on March 5, 1966, produced gamma-ray radiation that was monitored in eastern Iowa. There, Kerr said, trackers lost contact with the gamma cloud as it diffused. But in 1979, another DOE official testifying about Red Hot said it caused "no gamma readings above ground," even at the test site itself. How could the radiation have travelled all the way to Iowa if it never left the ground?

SINCE THE DEBATE IS UNSETTLED, LET US NOT GAMBLE WITH THE HEALTH OF FUTURE GENERATIONS: Scientists on all sides of the fence have been unable to agree on just how dangerous fallout is. Some, like Pendleton, make a powerful argument that exposure to even the most minute amounts of radiation causes long-term disease and mutations that do not manifest themselves for decades. Other respected scientists make equally powerful arguments that there is a "threshold" of tolerance to radiation. They say the amounts of fallout released by most underground ventings simply don't affect people. It may be that they are right, and small amounts of radiation really should not cause alarm. (It must be remembered, though, that almost every scientific claim about the "safety" of radiation has been discredited. Remember how "safe" the medical X-ray was thought to be?) But since the debate is unsettled, it seems the height of madness to gamble with the health of future generations. The logical course of action would be to spare no expense protecting society from underground-test fallout unless and until it can be proven harmless.

\* \* \*

Raymond E. Brim is a retired Air Force colonel. Until 1975 he was assigned to the Pentagon office which collected data on radiation escaping from underground nuclear tests. Patricia Condon is a Utah writer.

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## FACTS ABOUT MURUROA

### from a letter from Greenpeace NZ to the Pacific Conference of Churches

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We are reliably informed that this series will include the first underwater test conducted under the lagoon of Mururoa. This represents a significant change in the French programme as this is an untried, dangerous technique which the French hope will enable them to test much larger weapons than has been possible since the atmospheric testing ceased. The shift to under the lagoon is also necessitated by the deterioration in the outer Atoll wall caused by nearly forty underground tests. These tests have caused the whole Atoll to subside, and in places the land has sunk below the sea, cracks have appeared in the surface and outside of the Atoll under water, and last year a portion of the southern Atoll slipped into the sea, causing a tidal wave to sweep part of the Atoll. With such major structural damage, radiation leakage is inevitable, and will continue leaking radioactive poisons into the ocean ecosystem, where it accumulates in the food resources that all island dwellers are most reliant on. Studies indicate that the incidence of diseases such as leukemia is directly proportional to the dose of radiation even at extremely low levels, and that there is no safe threshold level; so any increase is potentially harmful. Children are particularly susceptible, and it must be borne in mind that these poisons will continue to accumulate through the food chains into the future far beyond the realms of the human imagination. The only monitoring of radioactive leakage into the sea is conducted by the French military, who keep the results very secret. New Zealand monitors only for airborne material and cannot be expected to produce results relevant to seafood contamination from this.

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## THE PROPOSED JAPANESE OCEANIC NUCLEAR WASTE DISPOSAL PROGRAMME: A CRITICAL ANALYSIS

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Issued by *The Honorable Joaquin I. Pangelinan*, Speaker of The House of Representatives, Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature; and prepared by *W. Jackson Davis, Ph.D.*, Professor of Biology and Environmental Studies and Chairperson, Psychobiology, The Thimann Laboratories and The Long Beach Marine Laboratories, University of California Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, California 95064 U.S.A.

December 10, 1980

### Introduction

The Japanese Government has announced its intention to initiate oceanic dumping of "low-level" radioactive wastes commencing as early as September 1981. According to his programme, radioactive waste would be mixed with concrete, packaged in 55 gallon metal drums, and dumped at sea 400 miles north of the territorial waters of the Northern Marianas Islands. The amount of radioactive wastes to be disposed is stated as one hundred thousand curies per year — more radiation each year than the United States allegedly dumped during its 24 year oceanic dumping programme.

The Japanese Government has claimed, based on its scientific analyses, that the proposed radioactive dumping programme poses an insignificant danger to people who

catch and eat fish from the Pacific ocean. A careful analysis of the documents on which this claim is based, however, reveals a number of errors, omissions and faulty assumptions. These flaws have the collective effect of vastly underestimating the potential health hazard not only to the peoples of Micronesia, but also to Japanese fishermen and to the Japanese public. The purpose of this report is to identify and document these flaws, and to thereby expose the substantial dangers of the proposed Japanese oceanic radioactive dumping programme to animal and human life.

### Methods

This study is based on detailed analysis of the document furnished by the Japanese Government and entitled "Environmental Safety Assessment on Sea-Dumping of Low-Level Radioactive Wastes", dated October 1980. Reference is made also to a second document furnished by the Japanese Government, entitled "Preoperational survey of the proposed area for sea disposal of the low-level radioactive wastes, and the study on solidified waste packages", dated November 1979. These two documents are analysed with reference to a number of published studies related to the subject, as cited in the bibliography.

### Summary

The Japanese Government's safety evaluation of the proposed radioactive dumping programme suffers from a number of fundamental scientific errors. These errors col-



lectively result in a serious under-estimation of the potential health hazards of the programme not only to the peoples of Micronesia, but also to the Japanese people. The following specific flaws are documented in this report.

*First*, the proposed radioactive dumping programme is in clear violation of the London Dumping Convention of 1972, the international law which regulates ocean disposal of radioactive wastes, in that the Japanese dumping would occur in waters that are fished commercially.

*Second*, the concentrations of radioactive wastes in sea water are calculated on the assumption that these wastes will diffuse evenly in the entire Pacific Ocean, an assumption what would minimise the estimated concentration in the dump area. Surveys of the U.S. nuclear dumpsites have shown that this assumption is false. Radioactive wastes that are dumped at sea in fact remain concentrated in the dumpsite area, where they are incorporated into oceanic food chains.

*Third*, the Japanese evaluation completely neglects the role of bottom-dwelling animals and plankton-eating fish in introducing radiation into oceanic food chains. The U.S. experience demonstrates that bottom animals in fact play a major role in incorporating radioactive wastes into animal life.

*Fourth*, the Japanese evaluation does not take into account recent oceanographic data showing that deep ocean bottom currents are much stronger than previously believed, and that vertical migration of fish is also much more

extensive than previously suspected.

*Fifth*, the "concentration factors" of radioactive wastes in marine animals that are employed by the Japanese are much lower than those which have been documented in numerous scientific studies.

*Sixth*, the Japanese evaluation commits several fundamental ecological errors, all of which would underestimate the dangers of the dumping programme. For example, the valuation assumes that the total mass of fish is greater than the total mass of plankton — the reverse of the actual relationship.

*Seventh*, the Japanese calculation of dose rates to people is inexplicably based on a release rate of one curie of radiation per year, rather than the one hundred thousand curies that will in fact be dumped. When the radiation level in fish is calculated using the correct release rate of one hundred thousand curies per year, the radiation exposure to both fishermen and consumers substantially exceeds maximum U.S. Federal exposure limits.

In view of the fact that the proposed Japanese sea dumping of radioactive wastes is much more dangerous than previously acknowledged, the Japanese should desist from this programme and develop alternative modes of storing their radioactive wastes. A simple calculation shows that all of the "low-level" radioactive wastes that would be generated for the remainder of this century could be stored on the Japanese mainland in a single, medium-sized industrial warehouse.

## PACIFIC VOICES SPEAK OUT: NOT IN OUR OCEAN

### Japanese Nuclear Waste Dumping Protested

On November 12, 1979, Japanese Government agencies issued a report concluding that the ocean dumping of low level radioactive waste should be undertaken. That same month, Gov. Carlos Camacho of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands inaugurated a series of protests that continue to this day. These pages record part of the chorus of Pacific voices speaking out in every available forum:

March 5, 1980  
PALAU Legislature

"The plans of the Japanese Government to dump radioactive wastes northwest of the Northern Marianas Islands demonstrates a careless disregard for the health, safety, and welfare of the people and ecology of the Northwest Pacific.... This legislative body hereby protests the plans of the Japanese Government to dump radioactive wastes in the Pacific Ocean."

April 1980  
Western Pacific Fishery Management Council

Their resolution opposes the storage, disposal, transportation, and testing of high or low level nuclear material in the Pacific.

May 19, 1980  
United Nations Trusteeship Council

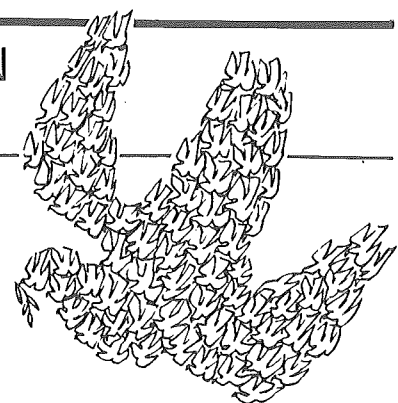
Governor Carlos Camacho, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, said: "I consider it gravely and morally irresponsible for any nation to fob such dangers off on distant people who have no recourse to prevent it."

June 30, 1980  
Chamber of Commerce, GUAM

The 17 member Board of Directors unanimously adopted a resolution opposing nuclear waste storage in the Pacific. Executive Director, Jim McDonald says: "Nations that use nuclear power should store their radioactive waste in their own territory."

June 30, 1980  
GUAM Marine Fisheries Advisory Council

"The storage of radioactive wastes under or on the seabeds of the



Pacific represents a substantial and perpetual threat to the biological and economic integrity of Guam's fishery resources."

July 2, 1980  
Lt. Gov. Joe Ada, GUAM

"The Government of Guam .. may take its case to international courts as a conquered territory if the federal (U.S.) Government is unable to help."

July 7, 1980  
NORTHERN MARIANAS House Speaker Joaquin I. Pangelinan in a letter to Jacques Cousteau

"The only recourse short of violence is through worldwide publicity and opposition.... Your visit to FSM President Nakayama is a big morale booster. It shows that our struggle is not isolated."

July 14, 1980  
SOUTH PACIFIC FORUM, meeting in Kiribati

The Forum "condemns any action which represents further exploitation of the Pacific for nuclear purposes in ways which disadvantage the people of the Pacific."

July 14-30, 1980  
UNITED NATIONS Mid-Decade Conference and Forum for Women, Copenhagen  
FORUM FOR NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS

Pacific women unanimously agreed to an action programme of top priority by all peoples and governments: "The immediate creation of a nuclear-free zone comprising the whole Pacific and the conclusion of an international treaty expressly forbidding nuclear tests, the use of nuclear submarines, and the dumping of nuclear waste..."

August 3, 1980

**1980 World Conference Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs, TOKYO DECLARATION**

"We note and support the opposition of the governments and people of the Pacific Islands to any dumping or storage of nuclear wastes in the Pacific Ocean by Japan or any other country."

August 14, 1980

**ASSOCIATION OF CHIEF EXECUTIVES OF THE PACIFIC BASIN CONFERENCE, meeting in Guam after presentations by Science and Technology Agency, Japan**

"The present state of nuclear science cannot guarantee the absolute safety of these programmes and any release of radioactive material into the ocean may have irreversible negative impact upon the fishery resources of the Pacific and the health and lives of the citizens of the Pacific Basin..."

"We are vehemently opposed to and we will seek all legal means necessary to prevent any dumping or storage of nuclear wastes in the Pacific Basin..."

Signed by Chief Executives of GUAM, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS, PONAPE, FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA, TRUK, KOSRAE, PALAU, YAP. Not present for ceremony: Marshall Islands and Nauru.

September 27, 1980

**OGASAWARA ISLANDS, an isolated archipelago of 27 tiny islands and part of Tokyo Prefecture, lie within 340 miles of the chosen dump site.**

Shigeo Kikuchi, chief of Ogasawara FISHERMEN'S CO-OPERATIVE, protested: "Fish caught would not sell if nuclear waste was dumped there." Spokesman for the fishing fleet threatened to deploy their boats in a blockade around any vessel carrying nuclear waste to the dumping site.

Katsumi Mochimaru, Mayor, opposed the plan on the grounds that the fishing industry plays an important role in the Ogasawaras economy.

September 27, 1980

**Hilda Lini, VANUATU, before the Nuclear Free Pacific Forum for Independence and Peace, Sydney, Australia**

"For so long the superpowers have been using the Pacific for their own interests regardless of the people who live there. Nuclear testing and dumping of nuclear waste are extensions of colonialism."

October 1980

**PACIFIC CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES: CHURCH AND SOCIETY PROGRAMME**

B. David Williams, Jr., Co-ordinator, in a memo to Church Leaders and Others Concerned:

"There is great pressure from the nuclear industry to dispose of radioactive waste, and to dispose of it in the cheapest possible way. As we deal with the present statements of intentions from the 'nuclear nations', let us have a strong memory for the disparities between statement and actual behaviour in the past."

October 1, 1980

**Jishu — Koza, JAPAN**

"Nobody in the world has the right to contaminate the Pacific with radioactivity. We strongly agree with the Pacific Islanders in their appeal that 'If it is really safe, the Government should dump the wastes in Japan's inland sea. Don't make the Pacific a nuclear dumping ground!'"

October 4, 1980

**PACIFIC BASIN DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL: Governors of NORTHERN MARIANAS, GUAM, AMERICAN SAMOA, and HAWAII, meeting in Hawaii**

"As a statement of principle, the Pacific Basin Development Council opposes the dumping of radioactive nuclear waste in any part of the Pacific Ocean."

October 4, 1980

**Governor Carlos Camacho, Pacific Basin Development Council**

"Our concern is that Japan will dump despite the concerns of really every Pacific Basin country."

October 10, 1980

**United Nations General Assembly**

Foreign Minister Noel Levi of PAPUA NEW GUINEA called for an end to nuclear weapons testing and the dumping of nuclear wastes in the Pacific: "Indeed the long term effects could be catastrophic.... As a demonstration of faith in their own technology, the nations responsible should carry out their nuclear testing and dump their wastes within their immediate boundaries."

October 10, 1980

**United Nations General Assembly**

Ambassador Filipe Bole of FIJI spoke: "Sadly, the largest and by its name supposedly the most peaceful of oceans remains the hub of nuclear testing and related nuclear activities. We therefore call on those States concerned to refrain from any action contrary to the objective of establishing a nuclear weapon free zone. We protest the dumping of nuclear wastes in our waters and on our islands."

October 20, 1980

**Mayor Felipe Mendiola of TINIAN ISLAND in the Northern Marianas**

"I cannot believe the theory that although the American drums were broken, Japanese ones won't. I don't think the Japanese people are so coldhearted as to dump Japan's wastes into our waters. Please push the national government."

"If Japan enforces the ocean dumping plan, we will demolish the five memorial monuments built by the Japanese who came to gather the bones of their dead, and throw them into the sea. We will not allow the bereaved families to come to our island to gather their bones either. We cannot show much more resistance, but we will do these things."

"It is wrong to dump Japan's wastes into other people's waters to make Japan clean and rich."

"We will block the operation of Japanese fishing boats by force."

"There is no hope of having the Japanese Government understanding in this matter. Our only hope is to get the co-operation of the wise Japanese people."

October 27, 1980

**Governor Carlos Camacho, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS ISLANDS (Saipan, Tinian, Rota)**

"For us who inhabit these islands in the Pacific Basin, the sea is our farmland, our rangeland, and our forest."

"Our people reap no benefit from nuclear energy, yet we are expected to share in its hazards. This, we feel, is wholly immoral, unethical, and insolent; and is the kind of diplomatic proposition that great nations do not permit in their dealings with one another."

"The record of miscalculation in this field for the last 30 years is monumental."

October 23, 1980

**SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION, 20TH CONFERENCE, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea**

"The Commission ... notes the extreme concern expressed by the Pacific Island Governments at the decision by some governments to dump radioactive waste in the Pacific and that they urge them to seek alternative means and areas for the disposal of such waste."

October 29, 1980

**David Rosario, GUAM based MARIANAS ALLIANCE AGAINST NUCLEAR DUMPING**

"The people feel Japan is committing a great criminal act. We have already suffered in the Second World War from the Japanese military. And now we wonder why Japan is trying to impose more suffering."

October 29, 1980

**Mick Miller**

**Northern Territories Land Council, AUSTRALIA**

"We can see what will happen in the end product. The dumping of nuclear wastes in the Pacific affects our friends in the Marianas as much as it does us. We are in the same ocean. Japanese uranium firms pressure Australia's government to force mining concessions on the aborigines and are a party to the effective genocide of my people."

October 31, 1980  
C.O. Dolan, President, AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF TRADE  
UNIONS

"The decision of the Japanese Government to dump nuclear waste,  
and the further testing of nuclear devices by the French Government  
in the area constitute a grave danger to all inhabitants of the area."

November 1980  
Governor George R. Ariyoshi, HAWAII

"Certainly, one of the most crucial issues facing those of us who con-  
sider the Pacific Ocean our home is the haunting prospect of it be-  
coming an international dumping ground for nuclear wastes. I have  
fought this prospect at every opportunity, and at every level."

November 1, 1980  
Justin Manglona, Chairperson, SAVE OUR SEAS, SAIPAN

"Our only chance is to bring the issue before the Japanese and to en-  
courage a coalition of the minority parties of the Japanese Diet to op-  
pose the Plan. The precedent we are following in our opposition is the  
same as that established in the Palau Superport controversy of 1977.  
To do this, we need world-wide support."

November 8, 1980  
Meeting between Northern Marianas Government leaders  
and STA, Japan

President Tenorio: "The issue of nuclear dumping transcends any  
valid legal considerations and places the issue in the realm of moral  
and social implication. Although I am not a man of technical training,  
common sense and practicality dictate that the dumping of nuclear  
wastes can only have negative and adverse effects on our lives in the  
Northern Marianas, notwithstanding present scientific theories to the  
contrary... Will the future tell us that our present scientific information  
is obsolete? The risk is too great for us to turn our backs on this ques-  
tion. We must show at least minimum compassion for one another."

November 12, 1980  
The Hon. Ratu David Toganivalu, FIJI Minister for Labour,  
Industrial Relations and Immigration

"We have very little land. It is all precious. The Pacific is our well-  
stocked pantry. It delivers food daily, on time, to tiny populations that  
have depended on it for centuries. If our ocean is ruined, our life sup-  
port system fails. We shall die."

November 14, 1980  
PACIFIC TRADE UNION FORUM PREPARATORY MEET-  
ING, Nadi, Fiji:

"Declaration: We declare our determination to campaign for a Nuclear  
Free Pacific. We call on all trade unions and trade unionists  
throughout the Pacific Region to oppose the following vigorously:  
testing of nuclear weapons, dumping of nuclear waste, uranium min-

ing, proliferation of nuclear reactors, presence of nuclear vessels and  
nuclear military bases, transport and storage of uranium, uranium  
waste, and nuclear weapons.

November 25, 1980  
FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA CONGRESS,  
PONAPE

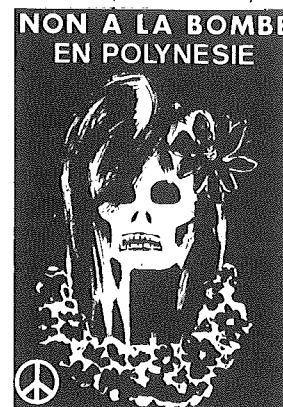
FSM Congress adopted a resolution requesting the FSM President to  
begin talks with other Pacific Island nations and territories to organise  
a boycott of Japanese goods if Japan proceeds to dump nuclear  
waste north of the Marianas.

November 28, 1980  
David Evans, Ministry of Natural Resources, in *News  
Drum*, SOLOMON ISLANDS

"The Pacific is not a 'no-man's land' but a 'commons' for all the peo-  
ple of the world. It should not be used unwisely for any purpose, least  
of all as a cheap sewer for the convenience of highly industrialised  
nations."

January 9, 1981  
JAPAN: Reports in leading Japanese newspapers, *The  
Asahi Shinbun* and *The Mainichi Shinbun*

Science and Technology Agency officials are experiencing difficulty  
obtaining the acceptance by Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and  
Fishery, and Ministry of Foreign Affairs for their intention that Japan  
become a member of the multinational supervision organisation of the  
Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development's Nuclear  
Energy Agency (OECD/NEA). Such membership has been a major  
argument by the Japanese Government for the assurance of com-  
pliance with international safety regulations. *Secondly*, STA's budget  
for 1981 fiscal year (April 1981 through March 1982) does *not*  
include funds for the actual experimental dumping. Rather, the funds  
approved for the continued preparation are for: (a) surveys of radio-  
activity in the ocean; (b) for testing the safety of the drum containers;  
(c) for production of films and pamphlets for public relations purposes;  
and (d) for further STA trips to the Pacific to "explain the safety."



Compiled by Pacific Concerns  
Resource Center  
P.O. Box 27692  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96827  
January 1981

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# WAITANGI: THE PROTESTORS SPEAK

TAMA TU, TAMA ORA, TAMA NOHO, TAMA MATE

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## WHY WE PROTEST

For Maori people, February 6 is the day we are sharply reminded of the broken promises of the Treaty of Waitangi. The Treaty promised that if we gave our sovereignty to the British Crown, in return, our rights as the indigenous people, to our lands, forests and fishing grounds would be protected.

These promises have never been honoured. From 66 million acres, we have only 2.8 million left in Maori ownership. We are liable to prosecution if we freely gather traditional sea foods.

The *celebrations* that take place at Waitangi each February 6, are an utter farce. Until this *charade* is discontinued or until the Treaty is ratified the anger of the Maori people will continue to grow. Because the Treaty has never been ratified, we do not consider ourselves British subjects.

- WE MAORI PEOPLE STILL HAVE OUR SOVEREIGNTY. WE ARE NOT SUBJECT TO BRITISH LAW.
- WHAT WERE THE STATE FORCES DOING ON THE TE TIRITI O WAITANGI MARAE — THE LAST BASTION OF MAORI SELF-RULE AND FREE SPEECH?
- WHAT RIGHT DID THE POLICE HAVE TO ARREST PEOPLE ON THE MARAE?
- THREE OF THE NINE ARRESTED ARE TANGATA WHENUA OF THAT MARAE. SIX ARE DESCENDANTS OF NGA PUHI TRIBES.

We had every right to be there and every right to protest. At all times our protest was disciplined and peaceful. When one of our group approached the dias, he was merely attempting to personally dissuade Graeme Latimer and Whina Cooper from accepting medals from the very same Crown that has constantly ripped-off the Maori people.

Within seconds, the Maori Wardens had cordoned off the investiture area. No other protestor attempted to break through that cordon.

- WHY THEN DID THE POLICE RE-ENTER THE MARAE AND MAKE SELECTIVE ARRESTS OF EIGHT OTHERS, WHO BY THIS TIME WERE PART OF THE GENERAL CROWD.

- POLICE PRESENCE ON ANY MARAE IS COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE.
- THOSE ARRESTED HAVE BEEN CHARGED WITH RIOTING. BY NO STRETCH OF THE IMAGINATION CAN EVENTS ON THE MARAE BE DESCRIBED AS A RIOT.
- We demand that these charges be dropped and that those who are being held in custody be unconditionally released.
- If any *trial* of this years' events on Te Tiriti O Waitangi Marae are really necessary, then we insist that such a hearing be aired, NOT IN THE CROWN COURTS, but on the Marae, and before Maori people, young and old, from all the tribes of Aotearoa.

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Initiate discussions — among your families, friends, work mates, clubs etc. If you wish to have:

- A speaker at your meetings etc.
- To make a donation
- To help organise the Marae hearing
- To offer any other kind of assistance e.g. stationery, transport, etc.

## PLEASE CONTACT:

### AUCKLAND

Ngaro, 2748-615 Collect  
Grace & Ben, 863-677 Collect  
Peka, 798-551 Collect  
Hilda, 2769-816 Collect

### POSTAL ADDRESSES:

DEFENCE FUND,  
P.O. Box 61-140, Otara.

P.O. Box 417, Kaikohe.

33 Plunket Street, Moerewa

**KA WHAWHAI TONU MATOU,  
AKE! AKE! AKE!**