

NNNPSC*

#1 OCTOBER, 1980

NEWSLETTER

*NATIONAL NO-NUKES PRISON SUPPORT COLLECTIVE

SUPPORT ACTION



On September 9, 1980, eight members of the Atlantic Life Community entered General Electric's Re-Entry Division assembly plant at King of Prussia, Pennsylvania. G.E. manufactures the Mark 12-A re-entry vehicle for nuclear missile warheads. Once inside, the eight proceeded to smash two re-entry vehicle cones and pour their own blood on blueprints for the project.

This inspiring act of resistance to preparations for nuclear war resulted in all eight being arrested on state charges of burglary, criminal trespass, criminal conspiracy, disorderly conduct, criminal mischief, simple assault, harassment, and criminal coercion (whew!).

Seven of the eight remain in jail on \$125,000 bonds. Daniel Berrigan has been released on a \$50,000 bond because of poor health. They expect federal charges to be added any day to those the state has filed. Their addresses are: Molly Rush and Sister Anne Montgomery; Berks County Prison for Women; Box 797; Reading, PA 19603. John Schuchardt, Dean Hammer, Elmer Maas, Phil Berrigan, Father Carl Kabat; Montgomery County Prison; 35 E. Airy St; Norristown, PA 19401.

PLEASE WRITE LETTERS PROTESTING THE MULTIPLICITY OF CHARGES AND ABSURDLY HIGH BAIL TO: James Smyth, Esq.; Montgomery County Courthouse; Norristown, PA 19401. Smyth is the prosecuting attorney, and should be reminded about the criminality of the war General Electric is preparing for. No trial date has been set as yet, nor has a judge been appointed to hear the cases.

Brandywine Peace Community; 51 Barren Road; Media, PA 19063, is coordinating support for the eight. Brandywine also publishes a newsletter of interest to religious peace activists.

ABOUT THE NNNPSC...

The National No-Nukes Prison Support Collective wants to hear from you! If you are interested in writing letters of support and protest for jailed and imprisoned anti-nuclear activists, please contact us and join with our effort. We have just begun to organize this past summer--a slow process initiated by a few activists who recognized the need for coordinated support of imprisoned anti-nuclear activists. The Collective will only be as effective as you, its members, make it. We want to hear your ideas and share them with the collective as we grow.

We hope to be publishing this Newsletter every 4-5 weeks by early next year. Through the Newsletter we hope to serve as a conduit for information about jailed and imprisoned anti-nuclear

activists, and facilitate letter-writing campaigns on their behalf.

We have set the following goals for ourselves:

****Quickly generating letters of support for jailed and imprisoned activists, and letters of protest to local authorities.**

****Building links between the anti-nuclear movement and the prison movement, with the aim of educating anti-nuclear activists to the deadly human waste of the modern prison system.**

Contributions are always welcome--stamps, money or stationary supplies, even just a few stamps or bucks in an envelope is greatly appreciated. You can write to the Collective in care of

Allyson Hunter
P.O. Box 1221
Eugene, OR 97440

or Jack Joppa
65 Lincoln Pl.
Garfield, NJ 07026

Please send contributions to Allyson, correspondence to either of us.

"But officer!! What about us!"

It was a great action! You and ten others from your affinity group surprised the security guards, arriving to block the gates minutes before the truckload of enriched nuclear fuel arrived. It could have been a bad scene, but a cameraman and reporter for the local rag came with you. Their presence reminded the shocked guards to respond in kind to your non-violent posture, and you were all trucked off to the local cooler to sit out the weekend before your arraignment on Monday morning.

Sunday night, disaster strikes! Equipment failure and human error combine to trigger a major nuclear accident at the plant. The Emergency Response Plan is put into effect, and a general evacuation is ordered for the area within a ten-mile radius of the plant. Will you and your fellow prisoners be evacuated from your cells, six miles from the site? Or will the guards take the keys and run?

Do you know what plans the local authorities have for the evacuation of jails, prisons and mental hospitals near your neighborhood nuke? NNNPSC is interested to know how the Emergency Response Plan formulated for your area affects those held in jails and prisons within ten miles of the nuke. If there are any such facilities near your local nuke, we encourage you to write the local authorities there and ask them if they know of plans to evacuate prisoners or mental patients in the event of an emergency. You might also ask civil defense and utility officials who drafted the plan initially. Let NNNPSC know what you find out, and we will publicize the response.

We cannot permit those who are in jail to be made guinea pigs of the first meltdown!

The following books, among others, are recommended reading to gain an accurate picture of life inside prison walls. The first was written almost 80 years ago, the second much more recently. Both give a very readable account of what prison is all about. Prison Memoirs of an Anarchist, by Alexander Berkman and Soledad Brother; The Prison Letters of George Jackson, by George Jackson

Getting the news inside



We have begun to hear from prisoners who are interested in learning more about nuclear issues. Some have even started study groups inside the walls to explore the nuclear threat.

A great pool of committed political activists exists inside the prisons of our country -- men and women whose political and social awareness has been sharpened and strengthened by their own experience in the belly of the monster. To aid those prisoners who desire more information, we'd like to hear from groups distributing literature who would be willing to donate anti-nuclear literature to those on the inside.

NNNPSC can begin to serve as a clearinghouse, and place prisoners in touch with groups in their area who can supply information resources and hopefully visit with the prisoners who are using the information. If you are already involved in this way, please write and tell us of your experience.

Any readers of this newsletter who live near Norfolk Prison in Massachusetts and would like to work with a group already established there should contact Roberto Brown; Box 43; Norfolk, MA 02056. His group, "Nukes Kill", would like to bring a workshop on nuclear issues into the prison, and needs assistance from groups nearby.

NNNPSC NEEDS YOU!

HELP!! Due to the exigencies of living in this inflation-ridden society with its war economy, and the geographical separation of the initial energy for the Collective, and our inexperience at getting such a concept off the ground, our initial outreach has not brought us in contact with as many local groups as needed in order to provide a broad, effective support network. We have established contact with several dozen committed letter writers who will report on activities in their area and write protest letters, but we feel we have not reached out to contact all those activists who are currently being jailed or imprisoned for more than a couple of weeks.

PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD OF THE COLLECTIVE, AND HELP US TO ESTABLISH CONTACT WITH JAILED ANTI-NUCLEAR ACTIVISTS WHEREVER THEY ARE IN NORTH AMERICA.

The information we need about imprisoned activists, to pass on to the Collective includes:

- Name and jail address of activist. If they are being held for refusal to give their name, it is sufficient to simply specify 'Mary Doe' or 'John Doe'.
- Name and address of prosecuting attorney and sentencing judge. Letters of protest should be directed to them. If there is a particular problem in the jail, like a refusal to prepare a vegetarian diet or allow food to be brought in, send also the name and address of the head

jailer or warden.

--Length of sentence and starting date, or date of trial for those being held until then. This will help us keep track of who is being held where, and when. We would also like notification when someone is released, especially if it is before the end of their sentence.

We have recognized that one difficulty with the work of the Collective is that often people are held for only a few days, or sentenced for only a few weeks or less. This makes it hard to coordinate a national letter-writing campaign before the sentence is finished and the issue moot. In these cases, it is important to generate as many letters locally as possible. We would still like to know of these cases, because we hope to eventually establish some statistics on numbers of people jailed for anti-nuclear actions, and total time served.

It is our opinion that longer sentences, particularly for repeat 'offenders' are becoming more likely. It is in these cases, where people are sentenced to more than a month, that we see the greatest opportunity for effective action. The sentences eventually imposed on the G.E. defendants (see 'Support Action' on page 1) are likely to be very long indeed.

With this Newsletter is a sheet about writing protest letters and attracting media attention to jailed activists. If you have any comments or suggestions for improving the information contained there, please share them with us. We will be sending this leaflet to all who express an interest in the collective. We would appreciate constructive criticism so we can make this a better resource in later printings.

VISITING THE MANAGER'S OFFICE

Waiting room at the Plutonium fabrication facility
"Give us the weapons we need to protect ourselves."
The bareheaded guard lifts a flyswatter above his desk

- whap!

Green letter'd shield on the pressboard wall:
"Life is fragile. Handle with care" -
My Goodness! here's where they make the nuclear bomb triggers.

—Allen Ginsberg

National No-Nukes
Prison Support Collective

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