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CAMPAIGN AGAINST NUCLEAR POWER NEWSLETTER

STOP URANIUM MINING

P.O. BOX 238, NORTH QUAY. BRISBANE. Q. 4000. PHONE: 221 0188 NO. 61 AUGUST 1980 Registered for posting as a publication, Category B.

MARY KATHLEEN UNDER ATTACK

Mary Kathleen Uranium has come under attack over the lack of security surrounding its yellowcake stockpiles and the inadequate security precautions covering rail shipments of the radioactive material to Brisbane.

The theft of over two tonnes of yellowcake, containing enough U235 to make 7 atomic bombs, highlights the dangerously inadequate nature of the safeguards procedures in the uranium industry.

The lack of an efficient accounting method employed by Mary Kathleen Uranium has been made obvious by the fact that the company had to be informed of their loss by the Commonwealth Police.

However, police investigations were not responsible for discovering the theft.

They received their information from the firm to which the drums had been consigned.

Taking into account the apparent ease with which the theft was accomplished and the extended period of time involved, the State and Federal Governments are now seen to have been extremely lax in carrying out their obligations and responsibility to safeguard nuclear materials.

The authorities and the industry have attempted to minimise the extent and severity of the risks involved in mining uranium and in processing and transporting yellowcake by using a low key security approach.

The company manager acknowledges that incredible difficulty exists in enforcing safeguards. However, impossibility to enforce safeguards must be seen as an argument against the integrity of the nuclear industry, not an excuse for its shortcomings.

Meanwhile Mary Kathleen is not unfamiliar with cloak and dagger operations and is not opposed to some types of security provisions.

In a co-ordinated secret action, the company last month used special couriers to deliver full page advertisements to most regional newspapers in Queensland.

The security measures were apparently designed to avoid any anti-nuclear lobby criticism before the State-wide campaign was mounted.

The advertisements, dealing with transportation of uranium, revealed that railway workers and members of the general public will be involved in the clean up of spillages of dangerous radioactive yellowcake in the event of accident.

The inadequacy of emergency clean up measures catering especially for Queensland conditions are made evident by comparison with precautions taken in New South Wales.

Evidence given to a Marrickville Council investigation in 1978 by the Australian Atomic Energy Commission said that a specially trained clean up team from Lucas Heights was in constant radio contact with yellowcake convoys through Sydney suburbs.

ILLEGAL OPERATIONS

Secrecy and covert operations are part and parcel of the operation of Uranium miners, in particular of Mary Kathleen's parent company Rio Tinto-Zinc (RTZ) the London based mining multinational.

The United Nations last month began investigation on the continued illegal plundering of Namibian uranium by R.T.Z.

Mr Sean MacBride, the former UN Commissioner for Namibia, was quoted recently as saying: "Every aspect — not only the illegality — of RTZ's Rossing operations in Namibia should be subject to an international outcry.

"Workers are subjected 24 hours a day to low-level cancer-causing radiation. They are paid grossly discriminatory wages and suffer appalling working conditions and living standards.

"The fact that Britain has openly said it is importing uranium from Namibia is a disgrace in itself."

It is understood that uranium from the territory accounts for just over 40 percent of Britain's nuclear energy needs.

West Germany, Holland, Japan and France are reluctant to talk about their connection with Namibia. But it is known that France also relies heavily on Namibian uranium.

COMMENT

Mary Kathleen Uranium and its parent company are thus connected to violation of international law, inadequate safety measures over uranium transportation and lax security on its yellowcake stockpiles.

When the mine finishes operation in at most four years, it will leave its highly dangerous radioactive tailings pile to slowly seep into the surrounding environment, and all this even before its uranium enters the dangers the rest of the Nuclear Fuel Cycle provide.

The Campaign Against Nuclear Power calls on the Federal Government to:

*acknowledge the risks to which the nuclear industry exposes all people;

*Stop the mining of uranium in Australia;

*Institute a comprehensive public inquiry into the safety procedures and safeguards as practised by the uranium industry in an endeavour to ascertain if any other diversions of radioactive materials have taken place and to recover any such material.

THEATRE PARTY

Join our theatre party to see "Apocalypse Now." Wine and cheese at the Environment centre, 147 Ann St., at 6.30 p.m. Tickets $5.50, Concession $4.50. Allinclusive. Come along and help campaign funds.

COME TO THE

GENERAL MEETING

AUGUST 19

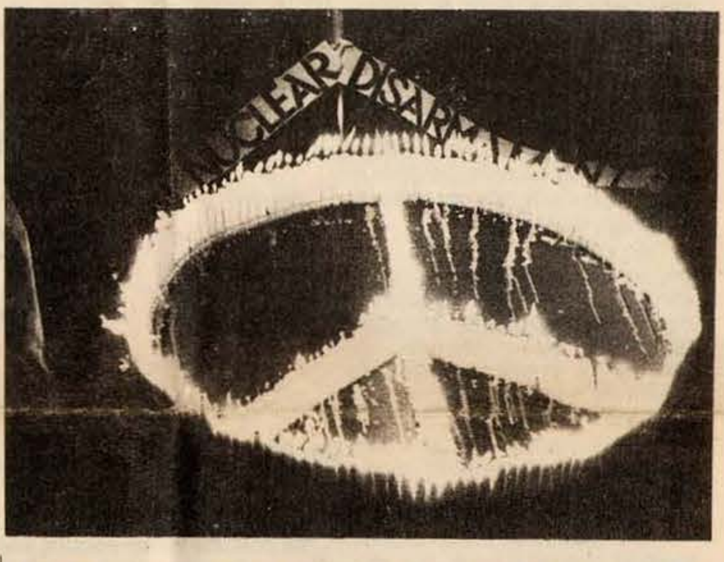
AND

SEPTEMBER 16

AT

7.30 P.M. FLOOR 9

CANBERRA HOTEL



BEN LOMOND UPDATE

Minatome Australia, which owns the Ben Lomond uranium deposit near Townsville, late last month applied to the Minister for Trade and Resources for export and foreign investment approvals necessary before mined uranium can be sent out of the country.

Up to then the Federal government has said it has been unable to do anything about the mining being done on the site because it has not been formally approached by the Company.

Now, however, Minatome Australia becomes "the proponent in respect of the Ben Lomond Uranium project for the purposes of the Environment Protection (Impact of Proposals) Act."

In other words the government acknowledges that the ball is in its court and must decide whether or not it will demand an Environmental Impact Statement to be done.

All concerned people are requested to write to Senator the Hon. David Thomson, Minister for Science and the Environment, Parliament House, Canberra, A.C.T. 2600, and urgently request that he require the Minatome Company to prepare an environmental impact statement under the Environment Protection (Impact of Proposals) Act 1974.

Every letter written will put pressure on the government to intervene in this important issue.

UNION ACTION

The Electrical Trades Union has instructed its members at the Mary Kathleen uranium mine to withdraw their labour.

A letter, dated July 18, has been sent by the ETU to members employed at the mine setting out the unions uranium policy. Members concerned had been told that if they did not withdraw their labour within 28 days, they would be proceeded against.

However, the State Government has sought to have the ETU directive disallowed as "tyrannical and oppressive" under section 49 of the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act.

Hearing of the case which began in the Industrial Court on August 8 has been adjourned to September 18. The ETU assured the court that no action would be taken against its members until the action against its rules had been resolved.

Courier Mail, August 4 and 9, 1980

NUCLEAR FREE FORUM

The Nuclear Free Pacific Forum for independence and peace takes place in Sydney from September 26 to 28, 1980. Initiated by AICD (Association for International Co-operation and Disarmament) as a project of the Australian Peace Liaison Committee it is sponsored by leading unionists, politicians, anti-uranium activists and various sections of the peace movement.

Three main themes are designed to educate participants on the facts of the nuclearisation of the region and then to develop action programs.

An information session on Friday afternoon, September 26 will enable participants to hear in detail of activities of the various Pacific Island Peoples on their struggles against nuclear weapons and bases, the dumping of nuclear waste, the struggle for land rights and the development of their labor movements. The main sessions on Saturday and Sunday will be in workshops where strategies can be discussed and developed.

As this is a national conference participants from throughout Australia are welcome. If you are interested in attending or would like more information, contact C.A.N.P. on 221 0188.

"This is for when it spots an Israeli bomb."

CHOOSING OUR ENERGY FUTURE

In his first article, (Newsletter June 1980 No. 59) Bob Phelps, looked at renewable and non-renewable energy sources. He argued that renewable energy sources, such as solar, tidal and wind power closely met ideal criteria.

On the other hand, higher levels of inflation, unemployment and environmental degredation would result from continued dependence on fossil and nuclear sources.

In this issue, Bob considers the trends in nuclear energy development, their hazards and the prospects for energy conservation.

NUCLEAR POWER PROBLEMS

Nuclear power plants are large, centralised electricity generating facilities. Only the heat source is dramatically different from that of burning coal, oil or gas. The heat released by the splitting of some uranium atoms is used to produce steam, and this is harnessed to drive turbines which power electricity generators.

Less than 5 percent of the world's electricity is generated by nuclear plants. This proportion is unlikely to increase using the present types of reactors, because expansion plans have collapsed. In the 1950's, nuclear promoters claimed that nuclear generated electricity would be too cheap to meter and would take over from other fuels, but the public and power utilities have now realised nuclear power is neither cheap, nor clean, nor safe.

The price of nuclear-generated electricity is presently comparable with that from coal-fired power stations of similar size. However, a number of previously hidden problems are escalating the cost dramatically. Among these are — the dismantling and disposing of contaminated reactors once their short lives are over; the ultimate disposal of nuclear wastes (if a successful method can be found); the impact of these factors on human health; the establishment of special surveillance, security, and additional safeguard systems.

HEALTH HAZARDS

Researchers working in a variety of different situations have recently produced findings on the health impact of low-levels of radiation which indicate that exposures previously considered to be within acceptable limits are, on the contrary, inducing many additional cancers and some genetic mutations. Indeed it now seems that a low radiation dose which merely damages living cells, may render the cells more likely to reproduce in an uncontrolled way (i.e. cancer) than a large dose which kills them.

It is now generally agreed among scientists that about 75 percent of all human cancers have environmental origins, especially as the result of industrial activities. It follows from this that many diseases are preventable. Whether we choose it nor not, we are all inevitably exposed to the environmental pollutants from modern industries. Therefore, everyone has a right, and a responsibility, to participate in deciding which activities are acceptable and which are not. The health impact of nuclear activities on this and future generations of people is just too great to be tolerated.

SECRET COMMITMENT

To counter these doubts, and the objection that nuclear power is a very limited energy source, industry representatives now claim that nuclear power is a necessary stop gap during the transition to renewable energies. However, it is essential to realise that these advocates intend both the breeder reactor and nuclear fusion to be large-scale successors to present nuclear technologies. They wish to expand, not contract, the commitment to nuclear technologies and hope that the existing industry will provide a basis for this expansion.

THE BREEDER REACTOR

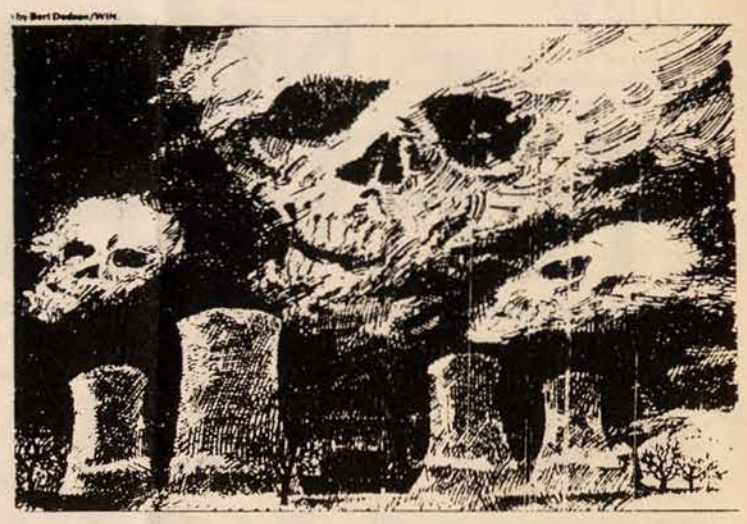
Over 90 percent of all the uranium mined is unsuitable for use in the present kinds of nuclear reactors and is discarded. But a breeder may convert much of this to plutonium which may then be used as fuel. If they meet theoretical expectations, breeder reactors would increase the amount of energy from uranium by about 70 times — equal to four or five times the reserves of coal.

The problem is that, if and when it works, the breeder would be even more hazardous then present fission nuclear reactors. Because its fuel would be nuclear weapons grade material, opportunities for plutonium diversion to military purposes would be increased.

Moreover, because the nuclear fuel would be enriched up to 35 or 40 percent (in contrast to the 3 or 4 percent used at present), a nuclear explosion would be very likely under some circumstances, in a malfunctioning breeder reactor.

CIVIL RIGHTS

Like present reactors, the breeder would be large, centrally located, and continually emitting radiation. Security precautions even more stringent than those in force at present would be required. Both the Australian "Fox Report" and the British "Flowers Report" recognised that these restrictions would reduce the civil rights of all citizens and be a very real threat to the checks and balances of democracy. International negotiations are presently underway to treat those who oppose the nuclear industry, or act against it in any



way on the same basis as aircraft hi-jackers and international terrorists. This trend would be accelerated by the introduction of breeder reactors.

NUCLEAR FUSION

Nuclear fusion is a process which combines hydrogen atoms under immense pressure. This is the sort of process going on in the sun. The super-abundance of hydrogen would render the fusion reactor an unlimited energy supply if it can be created and controlled on earth. It would operate at tens of millions of degrees celsius, within a force field, as no known material could contain the temperatures involved. The heat would produce steam to generate electricity.

In short, fusion would operate on a scale quite inappropriate to the task required of it as only a few hundred degrees are needed to produce super-heated steam. It would be like using a blow torch to heat a baby's bottle. Society would be better served by expending its scientific expertise and research funds on the refinement of solar technologies, which are much more suited to the job. Even the most ardent and optimistic supporters of fusion reactors agree that commercial nuclear fusion could not be usable until well into the next century. We simply cannot afford to wait that long for solutions.

NOT THE ANSWER

We would be foolish to pin our hopes on energy systems which will so obviously require extensive technical infrastructures just to cope with the problems which they create. These sub-systems would themselves be vulnerable to disastrous failure.

A program of energy conservation, and the sensible use of our remaining fossil fuel reserves, can lead us to a sustainable energy future which need not include nuclear power of any sort.

ENERGY CONSERVATION

Up to two thirds of all the primary energy consumed does no useful work for us and is wasted. Inefficient systems and processes and the substitution of energy for human labour contribute to this.

We should concentrate on the conservation, and redirection of the energy saved, during the transition to a sustainable energy future, instead of greatly expanding present energy production as is generally proposed. Conservation is the cheapest, cleanest, safest, and most highly productive way to make more energy available for modest rates of economic and population growth.

The ways of conserving energy are endless and we can enhance our quality of life by wasting less. Personal initiatives to save energy should go hand in hand with public policy to create the climate for a painless transition to a sustainable energy future.

PALAU VOTES FOR N.F.Z.

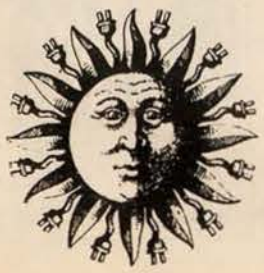
Voters in the American administered islands of Palau have overwhelmingly approved a constitution which proclaims a nuclear free zone.

Palauans approved the constitution by 4-1 with about 68 percent of those registered voting.

The Palau Islands are near the Caroline Islands, northwest of Papua New Guinea, and east of the Philippines.

The American government has said the new constitution is incompatible with the concept of free association under negotiation between Palau and the US.

The US objections are based on three constitutional points which claim sovereignty over waters lying between the Islands of Palau, prohibit the stationing of nuclear weapons, materials or ships in the Territory and stop large areas of land being used as a US military base and training area.



STEWARDSHIP BETRAYED

Palau is in the Micronesia group of islands which were the last United Nations Trust Territory to be placed under United States administration.

This stewardship is due to expire in 1981 when the new constitution will come into force.

It is a pretext of trusteeship to help the people to become independent, but the US has not tried to foster Palau's independent industry.

Instead, the US has built an economic structure in which the Palauans have no choice but dependence on the U.S. through aid.

The US in a letter to C.A.N.P. last month said: "The constitution would seriously impair the defence functions of the United States . . . by prohibiting the introduction of nuclear and other types of weapons or materials . . ."

Under free association the Americans would assume responsibility for the defence of the islands.

However, their desire to establish a military base which will act as home base for Trident Nuclear Missile submarines and as a back up to US bases on Guam betray the truth of whose defence the Americans wish to secure.

COMMENT

The courageous action of the Palauan people in maintaining their stand against nuclear weapons at the risk of economic hardship should be an inspiration to people everywhere.

Theirs is the continued struggle of a small isolated population of 15,000 people against the huge state power of the US.

Your support in the form of a letter to Toshio Nakamura, Palau Legislature, Palau Islands, 96940 would be appreciated.

Courier Mail, July 17, 1980.
AMPO, Vol. II, No. 4, 1979.

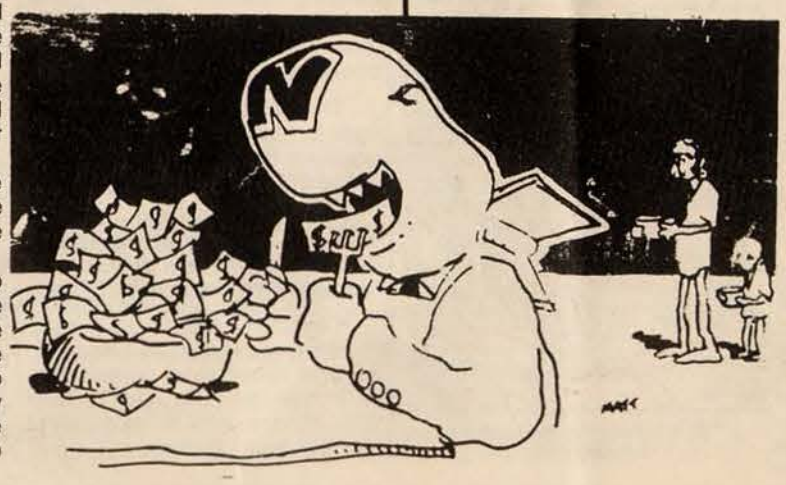
NUCLEAR RISK INCREASES

The United States has adopted a new military doctrine which claims that the best way to prevent a major conflict with the Soviet Union is to be capable of waging a prolonged but limited nuclear war.

President Carter has signed a document know as Presidential Directive 59, which gives priority to attacking military targets in the Soviet Union rather than destroying cities.

The new directive is dependent on the upgrading of existing American nuclear forces.

It thus justifies the recent decision by the Carter administration to proceed with the development of the controversial and expensive MX and cruise missile systems.



As the concept of a 'limited nuclear war' becomes politically more acceptable the use of atomic weapons in the event of a conventional conflict becomes much more likely.

The trouble is there is no way to guarantee that a limited nuclear war will stay limited.

With both superpowers having so much invested in national pride, the temptation to try to alter the battle trend by going nuclear would be likely to be irreversible.

New policies, attitudes and military hardware make nuclear war more likely.

In the meantime major defence spending squanders financial and human resources thus increasing unemployment and creating a psychological atmosphere of pessimism and escapism.

COMMENT

The Fraser Government has adopted a militaristic attitude which reflects the nuclear insanity gripping US and indeed all nuclear weapon states.

These events can be countered by more people becoming active in building a non nuclear world.

Your help is needed.

By helping C.A.N.P. at the Saturday afternoon or Thursday morning working bee's you will make a real contribution to securing a non nuclear future.

SOLAR CELLS PROGRESS

CHEAP, CLEAN ENERGY SOON

Following is an abridged version of a paper presented to a University of N.S.W. symposium in November 1979 by Dr Martin Green of the University's School of Electrical Engineering and published in the University Occasional Papers No. 5.

INTRODUCTION

Long term energy resources for mankind should satisfy three criteria. They should be essentially non-exhaustible, non-polluting and add only marginally to the thermal energy received from the sun. Not many present or projected technologies can satisfy all three criteria. One that can is a solar technology based on silicon solar cells.

Silicon is the second most abundant element in the earth's crust. It is extracted commercially from its dioxide which is the major constituent of sand. Sunlight striking a silicon cell is converted directly into electricity by electronic processes without any moving parts or polluting by-products. The very simplicity of this conversion process together with the inherently infinite life of the cells are its main features.

SOLAR CELL OPERATION

The photovoltaic effect on which solar cell operation is based has been known for over one hundred years. However, the first solar cell of reasonable efficiency was not reported until 1954.

For commercially available silicon cells, about 13 percent of the energy in the sunlight striking the devices can be converted into electrical energy. The theoretical limit of this efficiency for silicon is often quoted as 22 percent. Cells with efficiencies approaching this limit are currently being fabricated at the University of New South Wales using a new approach to cell design.

This technique is much simpler than the present commercial process. Its simplicity produces more efficient cells with fewer processing steps. More importantly, it allows silicon of relatively low quality (and therefore cost) to be used while still producing reasonable performance.

At the present time, the most efficient silicon solar cells ever made are being fabricated in our laboratory with this approach. These convert 18-19 percent of incident sunlight into electricity.

COSTS

Present limitations on the use of solar cells arise from their high cost. However, these costs have reduced by a factor of 5 over the last five years and seem likely to reduce by a further factor of five the next five years.

The reason for this cost reduction has been the support of the US Department of Energy for the development of solar cells. In 1975, definite cost goals were set for the coming decade.

The aim was to reduce cell costs by a factor of 50 over the decade by stimulating the infant US industry, at the same time promoting a vigorous research and development program. This program is aimed at developing new approaches to preparing the silicon material as well as for processing this material into cells.

At the end of 1986, the goal is to produce suitably encapsulated cells at a cost of $0.50 per peak watt generating capability (1975 US dollars). Longer term goals aim at cells in the $0.10-0.30 per peak watt range.

APPLICATIONS

Presently the major use of cells is in telecommunications. Telecom Australia has been one of the pioneers in this area. For example, a microwave link between Alice Springs and Tennant Creek has recently become operational. The thirteen repeater stations which make up this link are powered entirely by sunlight using silicon solar cells. Telecom's pioneering work has encouraged the use on other systems in Australia, such as for powering the communications system of the new Tarcoola to Alice Springs railway link. These systems have been amongst the largest commercial installations in the world. Australia's combination of vast areas remote from the electricity supply grid, high sunshine insolation, developed technological base, and commercial requirement for cells make it an ideal centre for developing cells and systems for less developed countries.

As cell costs continue to decrease, it will become viable to use them in larger power systems in decreasingly remote areas. The next large market where the cells will be viable is in the replacement of diesel generators at prices of about $2 per peak watt. These prices are likely to be reached within the next five years. Poorer countries in neighbouring regions have a particularly large demand for systems of this type for such applications as producing potable water, water pumping, and village power.

The likely inability of such countries to raise the capital required for 'distributed' electrification along these lines makes systems of this type candidates for developmental aid programs.

At the 1986 goals of $0.50 per peak watt, it becomes feasible for consumers to generate residential power at costs comparable to grid supplied electricity. This is the market the US Department of Energy sees as the first major application of photovoltaics. The market is seen as large enough at this stage for the industry to become self-sustaining, producing cells ultimately at prices between $0.10-0.30 per peak watt. At such prices, electricity generated by solar cells would be as inexpensive as generated by conventional large power plant.

ENERGY STORAGE

Terrestrial solar energy systems require some form of energy storage to accommodate periods of low insolation. With present solar cell systems, lead acid batteries are widely used. As cell costs decrease, the costs of such batteries will become an increasingly large part of system costs.

A different, less expensive electrochemical approach based on storing energy in REDOX couples has been demonstrated. This would be well suited for the diesel replacement and residential types of application of solar cells and could be commercially available in the required time scale.

In a central power station use of solar cells, studies indicate that a reasonable penetration of photovoltaics (in some cases up to 20 percent) can occur without any storage required at all. This is because of the flexibility in supply already built into grid networks. However, storage and solar cells have synergistic effects in such applications. Use of one makes the other more feasible. Since larger penetration than the above is unlikely before the turn of the century, there remains time to develop a viable long term storage medium for solar cell generated power. Storage as chemical energy such as in 'hydrogen economy' concepts seems the most viable approach. □

NUCLEAR BASE — HAWKE SUPPORT?

The US team of experts who visited Australia to look at the facilities at Cockburn Sound have returned to Washington convinced that the base would be highly suitable for the Navy's needs.

The chances that the Carter Administration will give the go ahead for the construction of the base are said to be "around 90 percent."

The proposal will require the storage of nuclear weapons at Cockburn Sound.

Cockburn Sound, close to Perth, with a benign climate, an English-speaking population and the facilities that American dependents would like outside their station, would be ideal, provided, of course, that the political climate also remains hospitable.

HAWKE OK

US State Department officials who want to home-port a nuclear carrier force in Cockburn Sound near Perth were heartened by the attitude of the ACTU leader, Mr Hawke, on his recent visit to Washington.

They say that Mr Hawke left them with the distinct impression that if he were leader of the Labor Party he would not oppose the home porting concept.

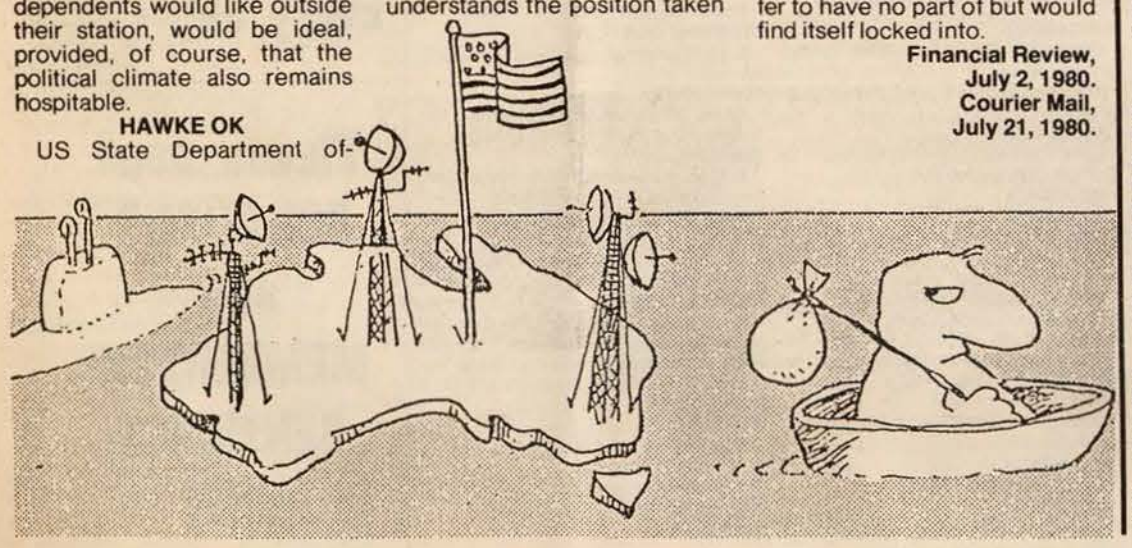
However, one State Department official familiar with Australia has said that if he were an Australian he would oppose US home-porting at Cockburn Sound. He says he understands the position taken in strategic assessment written by Australian defence officials in which new US bases in Australia are opposed.

This particular US official says that homeporting of US carriers near Perth would seriously impede independent action by Australia in the foreign policy arena.

He said that as an energy exporting country, Australia's interests were not the same as those of the US in the Persian Gulf.

He said he could envisage future US military actions involving carriers from Cockburn Sound that Australia might prefer to have no part of but would find itself locked into.

Financial Review, July 2, 1980. Courier Mail, July 21, 1980.



HARRISBURG CLEAN-UP MAY BREAK OWNER

The financial damage of last year's Three Mile Island nuclear accident has "seriously impaired" the ability of the plant's owner to clean up the disabled reactor and continue providing electric power, according to a Congressional study.

Since the accident in March 1979, near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Metropolitan Edison has been buying power from outside utilities to serve its customers.

It also has taken preliminary steps to try to clean up the damaged reactor and possibly return it to service, which the GAO estimated could cost $US500 million to $US600 million.

EVACUATION

Meanwhile a Senate report on the accident has concluded that because of uncertainty about the condition of the reactor core an evacuation of the area probably should have been started within hours.

Instead, two days elapsed before children and pregnant women were requested to leave.

The sub-committee also warned that the highly contaminated plant could again become dangerous to the public.

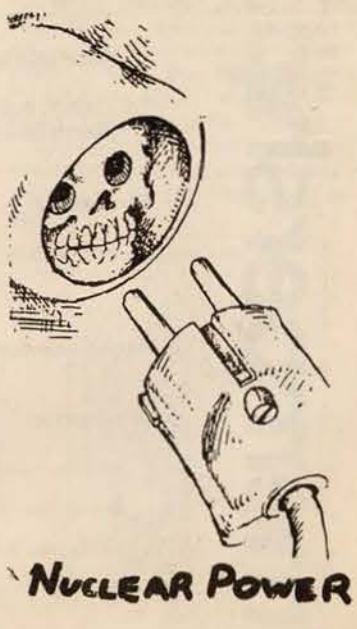
"Further weakening and failure of important equipment can be expected with the passage of time."

Accidental releases of radiation, as well as another accident similar to last year's were possible, the report said.

The sub-committee noted a dilemma in the clean-up operation, expected to take two to four years.

The effort must be carefully planned, it said, but idle equipment was growing increasingly unreliable.

Financial Review, July 7, 15 1980.



ACTION AGAINST URANIUM

DAYTIME GROUP

The Daytime Support Group has been meeting regularly on Thursday mornings for the past month.

There is still lots of room for more people who may like to meet during the day time and support the work of C.A.N.P. so feel free to come along. Children are welcome.

HIROSHIMA ACTIONS

Rockhampton, Mackay, Toowoomba, Townsville and other regional centres held activities commemorating the use of atomic weapons against the people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Reports reaching Brisbane indicate all were a great success.

NEW COUNTRY GROUPS

The newly formed Gympie anti-nuclear group has issued a press release to the local paper condemming ~~France, the USA~~ and Japan for their use of the Pacific as a testing ground and nuclear waste dump.

More information can be obtained from Sue Bissett, 18 Ashford Rd., Gympie, 4570.

A new group has also been formed in the Central Queensland coastal area at Cooee Bay. They may be contacted by phone at 079 39 1420.

OFFICE

Much of the organisers time continues to be taken up in general administration. Watch can be done by volunteers. If you can help out even a few hours per week please let us know.

RALPH NADER

Ralph Nader addressed over a thousand people at each of his two talks in Brisbane last month condemning the multinational and government promotion of nuclear power. At the same time he called on greater involvement at the grass roots level to steer our society on a more healthy and people-controlled path.

HIROSHIMA DAY

Hiroshima Day in Brisbane was a great success with over 1500 people attending the evening rally and march from City Square.

A picket of the French Bank organised by the Campus Movement Against Uranium Mining (Qld Uni) highlighted the danger of Australian uranium being used to assist their nuclear weapons strategy.

U.K. GROUPS GROW

Britain's decision to buy the Trident missile system from the US has caused a revival in anti-nuclear groups throughout the country.

Hundreds of people have been seeking to join the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament C.N.D. — the group which began the Ban the Bomb movement in the 50s.

To carry the Trident missiles, the Thatcher government has decided to build four new nuclear submarines and spend $10,000 million over 15 years.

With renewed vigour, UK anti-nuclear groups have condemned the decision, its inflationary import and the waste of human and financial resources which it entails.

SAFETY PROBLEM

A snag in the British plans is a lack in the number of healthy physicists available to ensure the safety of workers at the Aldermaston Atomic Weapons plant which will manufacture the missile atomic warheads.

A special report prepared for the Ministry of Defence said that the prospect of finding health physicists are dismal.

A previous report prepared for the Ministry said that some buildings at the Aldermaston plant contained concentrations of plutonium higher than presented safety levels.

The Times May 20, 1980
Courier Mail July 17, 1980.
ABC News August 1, 1980.

Illustration by **Tony Auth/Philadelphia Inquirer**

DIARY OF EVENTS

AUGUST

TUESDAY 19, 7.30 p.m. C.A.N.P. general meeting.

At 9th floor, Canberra Hotel — all welcome.

TUESDAY 26, 6.30 p.m.

Join our theatre party to see "Apocalypse Now." Wine and cheese at the Environment centre, 147 Ann St., at 6.30 p.m. Tickets $5.50, Concession $4.50. All inclusive. Come along and help campaign funds.

THURSDAY 21, 9.30-7.30 a.m. Daytime support group meets.
At 69 Thomas St., West End.

SATURDAY 23 1-5 p.m. Working bee at 147 Ann St.
All welcome to help work for a non-nuclear world.

SATURDAY 30, 1-5 p.m. Working bee with C.A.N.P.
At 147 Ann St. All welcome.

SEPTEMBER

FRIDAY 19, Bush dance with Bale em Up at Caxton St. Hall.

WEEKEND 26-28. Nuclear Free Pacific Conference in Sydney.

"Think positively, Metzger! When our nuclear-waste disposal plant blew up, it also probably wiped out every bubble-headed solar energy nut in the country!"

WORKPLACE TOUR SUPPORT CALL

The forthcoming ballot in the Railway Station Officers' Union in October may determine whether or not there is a complete ban on the transportation of yellowcake throughout the State.

It is with this in mind that the Workers Against Uranium Mining have organised a speaking tour of Queensland. It will begin on August 25 and will take in as many workplaces and railway stations between Brisbane and Townsville as possible.

Our main emphasis will be on workplace meetings, but we also hope to do evening public meetings where organised. We will be coordinating with the regional anti-uranium groups and with trade unionists in each of the centres.

We urgently need help in both the organisation and especially the funding of the tour.

Beside the proposed ban on Mary K already announced by the Australian Railways Union and the Electrical Trades Union, two other unions have also taken decisions which through action by their rank and file can halt the uranium industry.

The ATEA (Telecom technicians) took a decision at their Queensland State Conference to implement ACTU policy on uranium and will begin immediately with an education campaign amongst their members.

The AMWSU (metal workers) National Conference in July called on their 50 Mary Kathleen members to leave the mine by February 28 next year and resolved not to "cover" anyone who remained after that date.

Workers Against Uranium Mining have been campaigning largely around the economic aspects of the mining and export of yellowcake and the effects these exports will have on ordinary workers. Most importantly we think uranium exports will in fact destroy thousands of jobs for Australian workers.

Only solid trade union action can stop the mining and export of uranium from this country and rank and file awareness and opposition can guarantee this action.

Julian Quinn for
WORKERS AGAINST URANIUM MINING

IF THERE IS A CROSS HERE, AND YOU WISH TO CONTINUE RECEIVING THIS NEWSLETTER REGULARLY, PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM AND SEND IT WITH YOUR MEMBERSHIP FEE SOON.

membership

MEMBERSHIP & DONATION FORM

To: CANP, P.O. Box 238,
North Quay, Qld. 4000.

My name is .....

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HEREWITH:

| | $3 student unemployed pensioner membership

| | $6 individual membership

| | $20 Organisation Membership

$| | A Donation | pledge $| | a month

YOUR GROUP

BAYSIDE ANTI-NUCLEAR GROUP
BANG meets every fortnight at Manly. All welcome. For further details ring Gloria 396 1269 or Miriam 396 0753.

BUNDABERG
Bundaberg Nuclear Concern Group c/- Harry Akers.
"Electra Court". Electra Street, Bundaberg, 4670.

CABOOLTURE
CANP (Caboolture) c/- Pat Moran, P.O. Box 109, Caboolture. 4510.

KINGAROY
S.S.A.N.E. Society for Sane alternatives to Nuclear Energy. P.O. Box 16, Kingaroy.

MACKAY
Mackay Nuclear Awareness Group P.O. Box 458 Mackay. 4741.

MT ISA
CANP (Mt. Isa). P.O. Box 1473 Mt. Isa

NORTHWEST SUBURBS ACTION GROUP.
c/- Scott O'Keefe, 9 Musgrave Tce Alderley, 4051.

PADDINGTON
Joan Shears 356 1492.

PINE RIVERS
CANP (Pine Rivers) Grace Duffield 285 3381.

ROCKHAMPTON
CANP (Central Qld) P.O. Box 795. Rockhampton. 4700.

SALISBURY
Phone Barbara Robson 277 6597.

SUNSHINE COAST
CANP (Sunshine Coast) P.O. Box 520, Nambour. 4560.

TOOWOOMBA
CANE (Toowoomba) P.O. Box 1167 Toowoomba, 4350 Ph. 076 343 983

TOWNSVILLE
MAUM (Townsville) P.O. Box 364, Townsville. 4810. Phone 71 6226.

TRADE UNION ANTI-NUCLEAR LOBBY
P.O. Box 196, Broadway. 4000. Phone Ken McGrath 221 2350.

UNIVERSITY OF QLD
Meetings or activities of the Campus Movement Against Uranium' Mining every week during semester. Ring the Union 371 1611 or Bruce Doyle 378 1514 for details.

WEST END
Ring Kathy Moran 44 3896.

WINDSOR/CLAYFIELD
Ring Chris Tooley 57 2704.

WORKERS AGAINST URANIUM MINING Telephone 391 5966.

Our street address is: C/- QCC Environment Centre, 147 Ann St., BRISBANE.

Workingbee Every Sat. 1-5

Please send DONATIONS and MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS NOW