

**Meeting of the CTBT Grassroots Campaign
12:30 to 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 3, 1997
Methodist Building, Conference Room 3.**

AGENDA

1. Introductions
2. Grassroots activities
 - a. Field status reports
 - b. Home state visits
 - c. Regional workshops
3. Senate outlook

Lori Schultz-Heim, Office of Senator Jeffords
Ed Levine, Minority Staff, Senate Foreign Relations Committee
4. Activities in 1998
 - a. Grassroots: January-February
 - b. Washington visit
 - c. Alerts
 - d. Other
5. Future meetings
6. Announcements

First Draft
A Statement by Religious Leaders on Nuclear Abolition

To: Heads of States and/or Foreign Ministers of Signatories of the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty [Proposed to be sent in February 1998, two months before the PrepCom]

The meeting of the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty Preparatory Committee (NPT PrepCom) in Geneva, Switzerland on April 27 to May 8, 1998 offers an opportunity to make substantial progress toward achieving nuclear disarmament. We therefore ask that delegates come to Geneva committed to set in motion a definitive process directed toward expeditious elimination of all nuclear weapons on Earth.

Statements of Faith

There is a broad consensus within the world's religious community that nuclear weapons constitute a dangerous and unwarranted threat to the human family and to the planet Earth and that therefore all nuclear weapons should be eliminated as soon as possible.

Pope John Paul II has said: "...[to be added]...." [or another Catholic source]

The Sixth Assembly of the World Council of Churches stated: "We believe that the time has come when the churches must unequivocally declare that the production and deployment as well as the use of nuclear weapons are a crime against humanity and that such activities must be condemned on ethical and theological grounds. Furthermore, we appeal for the institution of a universal covenant to this effect so that nuclear weapons and warfare are delegitimized and condemn as violations of international law." [or an alternative statement]

[Quotations from other religious leaders and religious bodies.]

Obligation to Achieve Nuclear Disarmament

We are not alone in our belief that all nuclear weapons on Earth should be eliminated. Especially noteworthy is the commitment of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), signed by 178 states including all five acknowledged nuclear weapon states. Article VI calls for "negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament, and on a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control."

The International Court of Justice, at the request of the General Assembly of the United Nations, reviewed Article VI and unanimously agreed that "There exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control."

Steps toward Nuclear Disarmament

To fulfill this obligation it is time to commence work on a nuclear weapons convention that will outlaw and eliminate nuclear weapons by all possessors. Because such a convention serves the interests of all humanity and all nations on Earth, it is a task that can properly be taken

up by an international body, such as the NPT PrepCom, and not wait for nuclear weapon states to undertake if and when they determine. Therefore, we call upon the PrepCom to establish a working group or standing committee to begin the process of negotiating a nuclear weapons convention.

As a nuclear weapons convention is being negotiated, the nuclear weapon states should refrain from modernizing or increasing the number of operationally-deployed nuclear weapons. The United States and Russia should continue bilateral reduction of strategic nuclear weapons, but we urge a faster pace of reduction

To reduce the risk of nuclear war, we call upon nuclear weapon states to declare a policy of no first use amongst themselves and non-use in relation to non-nuclear weapon states. To prevent the use of nuclear weapons by accident, design, or miscalculation, we urge nuclear weapon states to take nuclear forces off alert and remove warheads from delivery vehicles.

These actions will set the stage for the world to enter the 21st century with a commitment to eliminating from Earth the scourge of nuclear weapons. We hope that the delegates to the NPT PrepCom will rise to the occasion and take necessary action to set the course toward abolition of nuclear weapons.

Names of Signers

For comments on this draft, contact Howard Hallman by phone/fax at 301 896-0013 (USA) or by e-mail at mupj@igc.org.

December 8, 1997

You are invited to a forum on
NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

3:00 to 5:00 p.m., Monday, December 8, 1997
Methodist Building, Conference Room 3
100 Maryland Avenue, NE, Washington, D.C.

Presenters:

Alice Slater, President, Global Resource Action Center for the Environment (GRACE)
Roger Smith, Network Coordinators, NGO Committee on Disarmament
Alyn Ware, Executive Director, Lawyers' Committee on Nuclear Policy

Moderators:

Fran Teplitz, Program Director, Peace Action
Robert Tiller, Director of Security Programs, Physicians for Social Responsibilities

The Forum will explore ways in which nuclear disarmament is considered by international organizations. Focus will be upon the United General Assembly (including the Malaysian resolution on nuclear disarmament), the Conference on Disarmament, and the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty Preparatory Committee (NPTPrepCom). The presenters are from New York and regularly deal with these international bodies.

Discussion will consider the policy positions of the United States in these organizations and how citizen organizations can influence U.S. policies. Consideration will also be given to a proposal for a nuclear weapons convention to dismantle the global nuclear arsenal.

For further information, contact: Howard W. Hallman, Chair, Methodists United for Peace with Justice, Phone/fax: 301 896-0013; E-mail: mupj@igc.apc.org

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Nuclear Disarmament and International Organizations
December 8, 1997
Methodist Building, Washington, D.C.

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First Draft of A Statement by Religious Leaders on Nuclear Abolition

To: Heads of States and/or Foreign Ministers of Signatories of the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty [Proposed to be sent in February 1998, two months before the PrepCom]

The meeting of the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty Preparatory Committee (NPT PrepCom) in Geneva, Switzerland on April 27 to May 8, 1998 offers an opportunity to make substantial progress toward achieving nuclear disarmament. We therefore ask that delegates come to Geneva committed to set in motion a definitive process directed toward expeditious elimination of all nuclear weapons on Earth.

Statements of Faith

There is a broad consensus within the world's religious community that nuclear weapons constitute a dangerous and unwarranted threat to the human family and to the planet Earth and that therefore all nuclear weapons should be eliminated as soon as possible.

The Sixth Assembly of the World Council of Churches stated: "We believe that the time has come when the churches must unequivocally declare that the production and deployment as well as the use of nuclear weapons are a crime against humanity and that such activities must be condemned on ethical and theological grounds. Furthermore, we appeal for the institution of a universal covenant to this effect so that nuclear weapons and warfare are delegitimized and condemn as violations of international law." [or an alternative statement]

Speaking for the Holy See before the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly on October 15, 1997, Archbishop Renato Martino stated: "Nuclear weapons are incompatible with the peace we seek for the 21st century. They cannot be justified. They deserve condemnation. The preservation of the Non-Proliferation Treaty demands an unequivocal commitment to their abolition....This is a moral challenge, a legal challenge and a political challenge. That multiple-based challenge must be met by the application of our humanity." [or a statement by Pope John Paul II or some other Catholic source]

[Quotations from other religious leaders and religious bodies.]

Obligation to Achieve Nuclear Disarmament

We are not alone in our belief that all nuclear weapons on Earth should be eliminated. Especially noteworthy is the commitment of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), signed by 178 states including all five acknowledged nuclear weapon states. Article VI calls for "negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament, and on a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control."

The International Court of Justice, at the request of the General Assembly of the United Nations, reviewed Article VI and unanimously agreed that "There exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control."

Steps toward Nuclear Disarmament

To fulfill this obligation it is time to commence work on a nuclear weapons convention that will outlaw and eliminate nuclear weapons by all possessors. Because such a convention serves the interests of all humanity and all nations on Earth, it is a task that can properly be taken up by an international body, such as the NPT PrepCom, and not wait for nuclear weapon states to undertake if and when they determine. Therefore, we call upon the PrepCom to establish a working group or standing committee to begin the process of negotiating a nuclear weapons convention.

As a nuclear weapons convention is being negotiated, the nuclear weapon states should refrain from modernizing or increasing the number of deployed nuclear weapons. The United States and Russia should continue bilateral reduction of strategic nuclear weapons, but we urge a faster pace of reduction

To reduce the risk of nuclear war, we call upon nuclear weapon states to declare a policy of no first use amongst themselves and non-use in relation to non-nuclear weapon states. To prevent the use of nuclear weapons by accident, design, or miscalculation, we urge nuclear weapon states to take nuclear forces off alert and remove warheads from delivery vehicles.

These actions will set the stage for the world to enter the 21st century with a commitment to eliminating from Earth the scourge of nuclear weapons. We hope that the delegates to the NPT PrepCom will rise to the occasion and take necessary action to set the course toward abolition of nuclear weapons.

Names of Signers

Drafted by Howard W. Hallman, Methodists United for Peace with Justice, Washington, D.C., December 9, 1997. Please send comments to him at mupj@igc.org.

A Statement by Religious Leaders on Nuclear Abolition
Draft of December 16, 1997

To: Heads of States and/or Foreign Ministers of Signatories of the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty [Proposed to be sent in February 1998, two months before the NPT PrepCom]

"The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein." So says Psalm 24, sacred to Jews and Christians alike. The First Book of Moses, also known as Genesis, indicates that God made earth available to humankind to till and keep, that is, to use for mutual benefit and to preserve. [Add appropriate Islamic and Buddhist teachings.] It follows that all of us together have a responsibility to be good stewards of planet Earth.

Because nuclear weapons have the potential of doing grave harm to Earth and its inhabitants, our stewardship responsibility requires us to rid Earth of this perilous threat. The necessity of nuclear abolition is affirmed by numerous voices from the world's religious community, represented by several attached statements.

Already the nations of Earth are committed by Article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) "to the cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament." After reviewing this article at the request of the General Assembly of the United Nations, the International Court of Justice unanimously agreed that "There exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control."

The time has come to take this obligation seriously. Therefore, we ask you to instruct your delegation to the forthcoming meeting of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Preparatory Committee, scheduled for April 27 to May 8, 1998 in Geneva, Switzerland, to come committed to setting the course resolutely for the abolition of all nuclear weapons on Earth.

To be specific, we call upon the NPT Preparatory Committee to establish a working group to begin the process of negotiating a Nuclear Weapons Convention that will outlaw and eliminate nuclear weapons by all possessors. Because such a convention serves the interests of all humanity and all nations on Earth, it is a task that can properly be taken up by an international body, such as the NPT Preparatory Committee, and not wait for nuclear weapon states to undertake, if and when they determine.

As a Nuclear Weapons Convention is being written, the nuclear weapon states should take steps to reduce the risk of nuclear war and make progress toward nuclear disarmament. Such action should include:

- Declare a policy of no first use amongst themselves and non-use in relation to non-nuclear weapon states.
- Take nuclear forces off alert and remove warheads from delivery vehicles.
- Refrain from modernizing or increasing the number of deployed nuclear weapons.
- Continue bilateral reduction of nuclear weapons by the United States and Russia, but at a faster pace of reduction

These intermediate actions will combine with negotiations for a Nuclear Weapons Convention to set the stage for the world to enter the 21st century with a commitment to eliminating from Earth the scourge of nuclear weapons.

Names of Signers

Attachment: Statements by Religious Bodies and Religious Leaders on Nuclear Abolition

The Sixth Assembly of the World Council of Churches stated: "We believe that the time has come when the churches must unequivocally declare that the production and deployment as well as the use of nuclear weapons are a crime against humanity and that such activities must be condemned on ethical and theological grounds. Furthermore, we appeal for the institution of a universal covenant to this effect so that nuclear weapons and warfare are delegitimized and condemn as violations of international law." [or an alternative statement]

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[Quotations from other religious leaders and religious bodies.]

Drafted by Howard W. Hallman, Methodists United for Peace with Justice. Please send comments to him via e-mail at mupj@igc.org, or by fax to 301 895-0013 (USA), or by regular mail to 1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036

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December 22, 1997

Selected Religious Denominations in the United States, by Size of Membership

Denomination	Membership
Roman Catholic	60,280,454
Baptist	
Southern Baptist Convention	15,663,296
National Baptist Convention, USA	8,200,000
National Baptist Convention of American	3,500,000
Progressive National Baptist Convention	2,500,000
National Missionary Baptist Convention	2,500,000
American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A.	1,517,000
Baptist Bible Fellowship International	1,500,000
(There are other smaller Baptist denominations.)	
Methodist	
United Methodist Church	8,538,662
African Methodist Episcopal Church	3,500,000
African Methodists Episcopal Zion Church	1,020,842
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church	718,922
Lutheran	
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	3,845,063
Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod	1,943,288
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod	314,169
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)	2,665,276
Episcopal Church	1,585,930
United Church of Christ	1,472,213
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)	602,237
Reform Church in America	183,255
Orthodox Church in America	1,000,000
Church of the Brethren	143,121
Mennonite Church	90,812
Mennonite Church, General Conference	35,852
Friends United Meeting	43,680
Friends General Conference	31,415
Evangelical Friends International - North American Region	8,666

Church of God in Christ	5,499,875
Other Churches of God (combined total)	1,115,768
Assemblies of God	1,377,730
Churches of Christ	1,262,000
Pentecostal Assemblies of the World	1,000,000
Seventh-day Adventists	790,731
Church of the Nazarene	598,946
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormon)	4,208,400
Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints	177,779

Jewish Organizations

Federation of Reconstructionist Congregations
 United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism
 Union of American Hebrew Congregations (Reform)
 Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations in America

Other Religions

Baha'i Faith
 Buddhist Churches
 Ethical Culture Movement
 Muslims
 Sikh
 Unitarian Universalist Association
 Vedanta Societies

Source: *Yearbook of American & Canadian Churches, 1997*. Edited by Kenneth B. Bedell for National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Nashville: Abingdon Press.

Religious Affiliation by Percent of Adherents, by States

New England

Maine	Catholic, 75.1; Jewish, 7.2; UCC, 3.4; Episcopal, 2.1; UMC 1.8; Black Baptist, 1.8; American Baptist, 1.7
New Hampshire	Catholic, 67.8; UCC, 8.4; UMC, 4.4; American Baptist 4.3; Episcopal, 3.7
Vermont	Catholic, 60.8; UMC, 10.4; UCC, 10.3; Episcopal, 4.1; American Baptist, 3.7
Massachusetts	Catholic, 75.1; Jewish, 7.2; UCC, 3.4; Episcopal, 3.1; UMC, 1.8; Black Baptist, 1.8; American Baptist, 1.7
Rhode Island	Catholic, 82.3; Episcopal, 4.1; Am. Baptist, 2.8; Jewish, 2.1; UCC, 1.2; UMC, 1.2; Black Bapt, 1.2; Armenian, 1.2
Connecticut	Catholic, 67.1; UCC, 6.6; Jewish, 5.6; Episcopal, 3.8; Black Bapt., 3.2; UMC, 2.8; Am. Bapt., 2.4; ELCA, 1.7

Middle Atlantic

New York	Catholic, 61.6; Jewish, 15.6; Bl Bapt, 4.2; UMC, 3.9; Episc, 2.0; Am Bapt, 1.9; Presby, 1.7; ELCA 1.6; AMEZ 1.5
New Jersey	Catholic, 67.4; Jewish, 9.1; Bl. Bapt, 4.8; UMC, 3.5; Presbyterian, 2.9; Episcopal, 2.2; ELCA, 1.8; Am. Bapt, 1.7
Pennsylvania	Catholic, 50.4; UMC, 9.9; ELCA, 9.4; Presby, 5.3; Jewish, 4.5, UCC, 3.9; Bl. Bapt, 3.0; Episc, 1.9, Am. Bapt, 1.6
Delaware	Catholic, 38.0; UMC, 19.9; Bl. Bapt, 12.9; Presbyterian, 5.0; Episcopal, 4.3; Jewish, 3.1; ELCA, 2.2
Maryland	Catholic, 36.6; UMC, 13.4; Bl. Bapt, 11.3; Jewish, 9.1; S. Bapt., 5.1, ELCA, 4.6; Episcopal, 3.6; Presbyterian, 2.0
District of Columbia	Bl. Bapt, 27.5; Cath. 20.7; AMEZ, 10.6; Am Bapt, 9.0; Jewish, 6.5; UMC, 4.9; S. Bapt, 4.7; Episc, 4.3; Presby, 2.6
West Virginia	UMC, 24.6; Am. Bapt, 17.8; Cath, 14.6; S. Bapt, 5.8; Presby, 5.1; Nazarenes, 3.5; Ch of Christ, 3.4, Ch. of God, 2,7

Southeast

Virginia	Southern Baptist, 25.0; UMC, 16.5; Catholic, 13.0; Bl. Bapt, 12.6, Presby, 4.7; Episc, 4.4; ELCA, 2.2; Jewish, 2.2
North Carolina	Southern Baptist, 36.4; UMC, 15.2; Bl. Bapt, 11.6; AMEZ, 7.9; Presby, 5.2; Cath, 3.1; ELCA, 2.2; Episc, 1.9
South Carolina	Southern Baptis, 41.4; Bl. Bapt, 16.0; UMC, 14.3; Presby, 4.3; Cath, 3.7; ELCA, 2.8; Episc, 2.3; Ch of God, 2.1
Florida	Catholic, 28.2; S. Bapt, 20.6, Jewish, 10.0; Bl. Bapt, 9.6; UMC, 8.1; Presby, 2.9; Episc, 2.98; Assemb of God, 2.4
Alabama	Southern Baptist, 45.8; Bl. Bapt, 13.9; UMC, 11.6; Am. Bapt, 5.6; Cath, 4.8; Ch. of Christ, 4.1; Assemb/ God, 1.8
Mississippi	Southern Baptist, 48.2; Bl. Bapt, 18.0; UMC, 13.3; Cath, 5.3; Church of Christ, 2.2, Baptist Missionary Assn, 2.2
Tennessee	Southern Baptist, 25.0; UMC, 13.3; Bl. Bapt, 8.4; Church of Christ, 7.4; Cath., 4.6; Presby, 2.4; Ch of God, 1.5
Kentucky	So. Baptist, 43.2; Cath, 16.4, UMC, 10.2; Christian Ch, 4.1; Bl. Bapt, 4.0; Disciples, 3.0, Ch/Christ, 2.6; Presby 2.0

Great Lakes

Ohio	Cath, 39.4; UMC, 12.1; Bl. Bapt, 7.1, ELCA, 5.9, Presby, 3.8; UCC, 3.6; S. Bapt, 3.5, Christian, 2.5; Jewish, 2.3
Michigan	Catholic, 49.8, Bl. Bapt, 8.0; UMC, 5.4; Mo. Synod, 5.3; Reformed, 4.0; ELCA, 3.6; Presby, 2.7, Jewish, 2.3
Indiana	Cath, 26.3; UMC, 13.1; Ch of Christ, 6.1; Bl. Bapt, 5.3; Am. Bapt, 5.0; Orthodox, 5.0; Mo. Syndod, 4.2; Disciples, 3.4; Presby, 3.3; ELCA, 3.0' Nazarene, 2.6; UCC, 2.3
Illinois	Cath, 52.7; UMC, 6.4; Bl. Bapt, 5.8; ELCA, 4.3; Mo. Synod, 4.3; So. Bapt, 4.3, Jewish, 3.9; UCC, 2.7, Presby, 2.3
Wisconsin	Catholic, 49.2; ELCA, 14.6; Mo. Synod, 7.9; Ws. Synod, 7.0; UMC, 4.8; Bl. Bapt, 2.5, UCC, 2.0; Presby, 1.5

Great Plains

Minnesota	Catholic, 39.1; ELCA, 29.0; Mo. Synod, 7.6; UMC, 5.0; Presby, 2.4; UCC, 2.0, Ws. Synod, 2.1
Iowa	Catholic, 31.0; UMC, 16.2; ELCA, 15.8; Mo. Syd,7.4; Presby, 5.1; UCC, 3.5; Disciples, 3.0, Reformed, 2.0
North Dakota	ELCA, 37.1; Catholic, 35.8; Mo. Synod, 5.3; UMC, 4.9; Presby, 2.5; UCC, 2.0; Assembly of God, 1.9
South Dakota	Cath., 30.3; ELCA, 24.2; UMC, 9.1; Mo. Syd, 7.0; UCC, 3.9; Presby, 3.3; Episc, 2.5; Ws. Syd, 2.2; Am Bapt, 1.8
Nebraska	Cath, 33.3; UMC, 14.4; ELCA, 12.8; Mo. Syd, 11.4; Presby, 4.8; UCC, 2.8; Bl. Bapt, 1.9, Assbly of God, 1.7
Kansas	Cath., 27.3; UMC, 17.6; So. Bapt, 7.1; Am. Bapt, 5.5; Presby, 4.7; Mo. Synod, 4.7; Discples, 4.3; Ch of Christ,3.5; ELCA, 3.3; Bl. Bapt,3.0; Nazarene, 2.2, Assembly of God, 1.9

South Central

Missouri	Catholic, 27.1; So. Bapt, 26.8; UMC, 8.7; Bl. Bapt, 5.4; Mo. Synod, 4.9; Disciples, 3.5; Assembly of God, 2.9; Presbyterian, 2.7; UCC, 2.3; Christian Church, 2.2; Jewish, 1.8
Arkansas	Southern Baptist, 43.3; UMC, 13.9; Black Baptist, 8.5; Churches of Christ, 6.1, Baptist. Missionary Assn, 5.5; Catholic, 5.1; Assembly of God, 3.9; Presbyterian, 2.0
Louisiana	Catholic, 46.0; Southern Baptist, 25.5; Black Baptist, 13.0; UMC, 5.8; Assembly of God, 1.6; Episcopal, 1.1
Oklahoma	Southern Baptist, 45.9; UMC, 15.5; Catholic, 6.8; Assembly of God, 4.2; Black Baptist, 4.0; Ch. of Christ, 4.1; Christian Church, 2.1; Disciples, 2.1; Presbyterian, 2.0; Nazarene, 1.7
Texas	Cath, 32.8; So. Bapt, 29.9; UMC, 9.2; Bl. Bapt., 7.5; Ch. of Christ, 3.5; Assmb. of God, 1.9; Presby, 1.8; Episc, 1.6

Mountain

Montana	Catholic, 36.9; ELCA, 14.4; LDS, 8.4; UMC, 5.7; Assembly of God, 4.8; Mo. Synod, 4.7; Disciples, 3.5; Presbyterian, 2.9; UCC, 2.3; Christian Church, 2.2; Jewish, 1.8
Wyoming	Catholic, 27.5; LDS, 21.2; So. Baptist, 8.6; UMC, 6.1; Mo. Synod, 5.2; Episcopal, 4.6; ELCA, 4.2; Presbyterian, 4.0; Am. Baptist, 3.2; Assembly of God, 2.4; Wesleyan, 2.3
Colorado	Catholic, 37.3; UMC, 7.1; So. Baptist, 5.4; LDS, 5.4; ELCA, 4.8; Presbyterian, 3.9; Jewish, 3.8; Mo. Synod, 3.7; Episcopal, 2.8; Black Baptist, 2.7
New Mexico	Cath, 52.6; So. Bapt., 17.9; UMC, 6.1; LDS, 4.4; Assb. of God, 2.3; Ch. of Christ, 2.2; Presby, 1.7; ELCA, 1.3
Arizona	Cath, 41.6; LDS, 12.7; So. Bapt, 10.3; Jewish, 4.5; UMC, 3.8; ELCA, 3.5; Assby of God, 3.2; Presby, 2.3
Utah	LDS, 90.0; Catholic, 4.8; Southern Baptist, 1.0; UMC, 0.5
Idaho	LDS, 52.8; Cath, 14.6; UMC, 4.1; So. Bapt, 3.1; Assb of God, 2.7; ELCA, 2.5; Nazarene, 2.5, Mo.Synond, 2.6; Presbyterian, 2.2

West

California	Cath., 56.7; Jewish, 7.3; Bl. Bapt, 4.7; LDS, 4.2; So. Bapt, 4.0; UMC, 211; Presby, 2.1; ELCA, 1.5; Episc, 1.4
Oregon	Catholic, 30.6; LDS, 9.8; ELCA, 5.3; Assembly of God, 5.1; UMC, 4.6; Presbyteriana, 4.2; Christian, 4.0 Seventh-day Adventists, 3.8; Southern Baptist, 3.4; Four Square Gospel, 3.3
Washington	Catholic, 32.7; LDS, 9.3; ELCA, 8.2; UMC, 5.6; Assembly of God, 5.3; Presbyterian, 4.5; So. Baptist, 3.7
Alaska	Catholic, 25.5; So. Baptist, 16.2; LDS, 8.9; ELCA, 5.5; Presbyterian, 3.6; Bl. Baptist, 3.1; Moravian, 3.0
Hawaii	Catholic, 59.6; LDS, 9.98; UCC, 5.8; So. Baptist, 5.2; Assembly of God, 3.3; Episc, 2.1; UMC, 2.1; Bl. Bapt, 1.8

Key to Abbreviations

AMEZ - African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church
ELCA - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
LDS - Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormon)
Mo. Synod - Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod
UCC - United Church of Christ
UMC - United Methodist Church
Ws. Synod - Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

Source: *Churches and Church Membership in the United States 1990*. Atlanta: Glenmary Research Center.

Note: Some omissions in data, such as African American Episcopal Church.

The NPT Preparatory Committee

The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) provides for a Review Conference every five years to consider progress made in achieving the treaty's objectives. When the treaty was extended in 1995, provision was made for a Preparatory Committee to meet annually in order to enhance review procedures and prepare for the next five-year Review Conference. The first meeting of the NPT Preparatory Committee (NPT PrepCom) took place in New York in April 1997. The second meeting will occur in Geneva from April 27 to May 8, 1998. The next Review Conference will take place in 2000.

Through its Chair's final report, the annual session of the NPT PrepCom can make policy recommendations to nation states. In 1997 Marshall Islands proposed that a working group be established to begin negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention, a global treaty for the elimination of nuclear weapons. Although the PrepCom did not implement this proposal, this idea was included in the Chair's report and will be a focus of attention in the 1998 session.

Accordingly, the citizen movement known as Abolition 2000 believes that the 1998 NPT PrepCom meeting in Geneva offers an excellent opportunity to advance the cause of nuclear abolition. The NPT Working Group of Abolition 2000 has suggested that non-governmental organizations (NGOs) work together to persuade the PrepCom to adopt a final report calling for the following steps:

- 1) Establish an intersessional working group to assist in the commencement of negotiations in 1998 for a treaty to eliminate nuclear weapons.
- 2) Take all nuclear weapons off alert.
- 3) Adopt a "no first use" pledge by all nuclear weapons states.
- 4) End all nuclear weapons design, development, laboratory, and sub-critical nuclear testing.
- 5) End all international shipments of nuclear waste.
- 6) Establish a Sustainable Energy Agency

The Religious Working Group of Abolition 2000 intends to support NGO participation in the 1998 NPT PrepCom session in Geneva in two ways. First, a statement from world religious leaders will be sent to heads of states and foreign ministers prior to the session, asking them to instruct their PrepCom delegates to support creation of a working group to start drafting a nuclear weapons convention and to advocate other measures that will advance nuclear disarmament. Second, religious leaders will host a reception for PrepCom delegates and NGO representatives on the first night of the session in order to welcome the delegates to Geneva and offer ideas on what they might accomplish during the session.

For further information, contact Howard W. Hallman, chair, Methodists United for Peace with Justice, 1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036; phone/fax: 301 896-0013; e-mail: mupj@igc.org.

January 14, 1998

Dear Dwain:

During the past two weeks I have been conferring via e-mail with persons in the Abolition 2000 network about the schedule for events at the NPT PrepCom in April-May 1998. An alternative proposal had come forth for another event on Monday evening, April 27, but we worked out an agreement that that the reception with religious leaders should be the principal NGO event on that day. We want to invite both PrepCom delegates and NGO representatives (perhaps one per organization). A selected number of religious leaders (say, one for each major faith) will make fairly brief statements or welcoming remarks. There will be light refreshments of the kind you suggested. A person who knows the PrepCom suggests that the reception run from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. She also suggests that the reception be held at the UN building rather than the Ecumenical Center in order to make it easier for delegates and thereby attract more of them.

This is pretty much along the lines that you and I discussed earlier except for holding the reception in the UN building. What do you think of this alternative? Does it make sense? If so, how does one make arrangements? Is this something you can do in our behalf? Or should I or an NGO based in Geneva make the arrangements? I'm not sure of the numbers we are talking about, perhaps 200 to 300 people (I'll try to get a better estimate). I'm confident that we can raise necessary funds to pay the costs.

The one other factor to consider is the possibility that the chair of the PrepCom session may want to hold a reception for delegates, perhaps on the first night or some other evening. I have been advised that we should contact him, offer our proposal to host a reception for the delegates, inquire whether he has plans for a reception and if so, when, and state our desire to have our reception on Monday evening, April 27 if it doesn't conflict with his plans. The chair-designate is Polish Ambassador Eugeniusz Wyzner, now based at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, but scheduled to become Polish ambassador to the United Nations in January.

I know that you don't have a lot of time to work on arrangements, but I believe that this inquiry to Ambassador Wyzner would be better coming from the World Council of Churches rather than some vague entity called the Religious Working Group for Nuclear Abolition or my own organization. To help you along I have roughed out a draft of a letter, which you of course may change or rewrite as you choose.

I am working on a draft of a joint statement by religious leaders, which I will send you soon.

Dave Robinson of Pax Christi USA leaves on Wednesday, December 3 for a meeting in Europe of Pax Christi International. He will confer with Cardinal Danneels about obtaining Catholic representation for the event. Do you or your colleagues have persons to propose for Jewish, Islamic, and Buddhist participation, and perhaps other faiths?

With best regards,
Howard

Attachment: Draft letter to Ambassador Wyzner from World Council of Churches official

His Excellency Eugeniusz Wyzner
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

[Address]
Warsaw, Poland

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

We understand that you will serve as chair of the next session of the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty Preparatory Committee (NPT PrepCom), scheduled for April 27 to May 8, 1998 in Geneva. Along with a variety of NGOs the religious community is interested in the outcome of this session and would therefore like to work cooperatively with you in planning and scheduling some events that will run parallel with the PrepCom meeting.

We are now conferring with representatives of major religious faiths about the possibility of holding a reception for PrepCom delegates to welcome them to Geneva and to share with them the concern of the world religious community that the time is ripe to move decisively toward nuclear disarmament. We understand that the PrepCom chair sometimes holds a diplomatic reception for delegates some time during the session. Therefore, we want to pick a date that does not conflict with a reception that you may be planning.

We are considering the possibility of holding our reception from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. [18:00 to 20:00], on Monday evening, April 27 the first day of the PrepCom session. This would fit in with a two week schedule being developed by a coalition of NGOs to hold public forums and other events at times when the PrepCom is not in session. However, we do not want to conflict with a reception that you may be planning.

Therefore, we would greatly appreciate learning what you may have in mind so that we can move ahead to reserve space and invite world religious leaders to participate.

[Complimentary close]

[Name of signer]

Methodists United for Peace with Justice
1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036
Phone/fax: 301 896-0013 E-mail: mupj@igc.apc.org

December 2, 1997

To: Alice Slater

Fax: 212 726-9160

No. of pages: 2

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Re: Meeting on December 8

Dear Alice:

We're looking forward to your participation in the meeting on December 8 to discuss nuclear disarmament and international organizations. Here is a copy of the announcement we have distributed. You will note that Bob Tiller and Fran Teplitz are serving as co-moderators.

With best regards,

Methodists United for Peace with Justice
1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036
Phone/fax: 301 896-0013 E-mail: mupj@igc.apc.org

December 8, 1997

To: Jim Wetekam

Fax: 202 833-5307

No. of pages: 1

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Dear Jim:

Here is the sentence you requested:

"We like to use targeted action-alert postcards initiated and produced by 20/20 Vision and welcome the opportunity to be a cosponsor."

If that doesn't meet your needs, let me know and I'll try again.

Shalom,

To: Participants in CTBT Ratification Campaign from Religious Community

Re: Meeting On December 3

The feature of December 3 meeting on grassroots activities for CTBT ratification was discussion with Lori Schultz-Heim of Senator Jeffords' staff and Ed Levine, minority staff (under Senator Biden) on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. They stressed the need for a diverse coalition in support of treaty ratification, including from the grassroots. There should be a sufficient volume of letters and phone calls to get senators' attention. Persons most likely to gain access to senators for home state visits include active clergy, scientists, friends, and donors. Even if citizens cannot get appointments with their senators, they should make contact with staff, who will convey messages to the senator. Radio call-in shows and letters to the editor can also make an impact.

On the Foreign Relations Committee it is important for several Republicans to be committed to the treaty. Awareness of this will affect the chairman even if there is never a showdown vote, such as whether to hold hearings. There was a consensus that five committee members in particular should receive our attention: Lugar of Indiana, Frist of Tennessee, Hagel of Nebraska, Thomas of Indiana, and Brownback of Kansas. We will want to pick up on this in January as it comes time for Congress to reconvene.

There remains uncertainty when the CTBT will reach the Senate floor. It is not likely to occur until after the spring recess. Pessimists fear that it will be put off altogether in this session. Those of you who are looking ahead to newsletters and denominational journals might consider March and April as a good time to encourage action in support of the CTBT.

We reviewed field status in the target states and realized that we need to continue to build grassroots coalitions in all of them.

The next regional workshop will be in Pittsburgh, Pa. on Saturday, January 17. Flyers are now ready for distribution. If you haven't received them and want some to distribute, contact Kathy Crandall at 202 898-0172, x. 232.

Jim Wetekam of 20/20 inquired whether organizations in the religious community would be interested in their own joint postcard alert. Several thought this would be a possibility. To determine the interest he will draft one for use in the five states of the committee members indicated above. If there is sufficient interest, this trial run could be mailed in the second half of January.

The next meeting on the CTBT grassroots campaign will be held on Wednesday, January 28, 1998 from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. in Conference Room 3, Methodist Building. We hope to see you all then.

Shalom,

Howard Hallman

Methodists United for Peace with Justice
1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036
Phone/fax: 301 896-0013 E-mail: mupj@igc.apc.org

December 9, 1997

To: Jerry Blumenthal

Fax: 202 785-9581

No. of pages: 3

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Dear Jerry:

As promised, I am sending you a roster of persons attending the meeting yesterday afternoon, December 8 at the Methodist Building.

Good luck on your project. If I can do anything to help, please let me know.

Methodists United for Peace with Justice
1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036
Phone/fax: 301 896-0013 E-mail: mupj@igc.apc.org

D

December 10, 1997

To: Joanna Baker

Fax: 202543-5994

No. of pages: 3

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Dear Joanna:

Here is a copy of the flyer for the Pittsburgh workshop. If you want fresh copies without fax marks, you can get them from Bridget Moix at FCNL or Kathy Crandall at the Disarmament Clearinghouse.

The five members of the Foreign Relations Committee who we want to target in January, urging them to see to it that the CTBT receives prompt hearings, are Frist of Tennessee, Lugar of Indiana, Hagel of Nebraska, Brownback of Kansas, and Thomas of Wyoming. Jim Wetekam is developing a postcard alert for religious organizations to use if they choose. We'll get you a draft copy when it is ready.

Thanks for all you are doing.

Methodists United for Peace with Justice
1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036
Phone/fax: 301 896-0013 E-mail: mupj@igc.apc.org

December 10, 1997

To: Jerry Powers

Fax: 202 541-3339

No. of pages: 3

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Re: CTBT Workshop in Pittsburgh

Dear Jerry:

The next regional workshop on the CTBT grassroots campaign will take place in East Liberty, Pennsylvania on Saturday, January 17, 1998. It is for activists in Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, and Kentucky. We hope that some key people from your diocesan justice and peace offices can participate.

In case you are willing to send out an announcement, a copy of the flyer for the workshop is attached. I can get you a supply of fresh copies without fax marks if you want them. As an alternative you might provide names of persons to invite so that the workshop sponsors can send out invitations directly and make follow-up phone calls.

Looking ahead to January, we are planning a focused effort on Senators Frist (TN), Lugar (IN), Hagel (NE), Brownback (KS), and Thomas (WY), who are members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, to urge them work for prompt hearings on the CTBT. I'll be back in touch with you then.

Shalom,

December 10, 1997

Mr. Gordon Quinn
Kartenquin Films
1901 W. Wellington
Chicago, IL 60657

Dear Gordon:

It was a pleasure to meet with you and your associates on Monday. Good luck with your film project.

You seem to be tending toward using people's fears and anxieties as the main handle for your film. However, I don't think you can recreate the feelings of the early 1980s when fears of the Soviet Union combined with President Reagan's rhetoric about the evil empire and his military buildup to produce the Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign as a counterforce. I would like to think that a more positive approach, based upon what is right and necessary, might be preferred. I realize, though, that it might lack the drama and tension of a fear-based approach.

But suppose sunflower planting was the main theme. You could film teachers and group leaders talking with children of four age groups: pre-school, elementary age, middle school, and high school. The setting in the United States could be churches of many varieties in different locales (white steeple churches of New England, simple Friends meetinghouses, solid Catholic city churches, modern suburban places of worship, synagogues, mosques) and also community centers (settlement houses, storefront club houses, 4H centers, rural firehalls). Similar settings could be used in Russia. Teachers would talk about the symbolism of planting sunflowers as a counter to nuclear weapons, explaining the latter and need to abolish them. Children and youth would plant sunflowers. In all likelihood there would be a few churches or community centers where members or neighbors would object to this intrusion of "politics" (a conflict angle for your film). The sunflowers would sprout. Children would water them and watch their growth. Here and there they might be vandalized, introducing another type of conflict. Teachers and leaders would continue to talk with their children and youth throughout the growing season. In the fall they would harvest the sunflowers. Some would use the seeds to feed birds.

Mr. Gordon Quinn
December 10, 1997
Page two.

In parallel sunflowers would be used by citizen activists in the nuclear abolition movement: planting them on military bases, at the Pentagon, perhaps to be dug up and discarded; carrying blooming sunflowers in vigils and demonstrations; giving sunflower bouquets to, say, Mrs. Clinton and other prominent persons.

Already available is a film clip of Secretary Perry and the defense ministers of Ukraine and Russia planting sunflower seeds at a former Soviet missile site in Ukraine. Subsequent filming could show the sunflowers in bloom. Other sunflower plantings at former missile bases might occur in the United States and Russia. You could interview persons who served on those bases, their families, people in the community.

What might be lacking in nail-biting drama could be made up by the beauty of sunflowers, which come in many varieties, many heights. Van Gogh's sunflowers are famous. (A Japanese filmmaker used another of Van Gogh's paintings, or a contemporary, by having actors in effect walk into the painting and across the field to open a film segment. You might borrow something from that.)

There are lots of songs and hymns with a nature theme, such as "For the Beauty of the Earth", "Where Have All Flowers Gone" (maybe with a new set of verses where the flowers are returning).

For whatever it's worth, these are the extensions of my thoughts after talking with you.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Methodists United for Peace with Justice
1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036
Phone/fax: 301 896-0013 E-mail: mupj@igc.apc.org

December 12, 1997

To: Ambassador Jonathan Dean

Fax: 202 332-0905

No. of pages: 3

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Dear Jonathan:

On December 8 a dozen or so from the Monday Lobby community met with Alice Slater and Roger Smith from New York to be educated on nuclear disarmament and international organizations. For further education I believe those present could benefit from your article on "Using the NPT Review Process to Advance Nuclear Disarmament." In case your office is willing to send out copies, I am attaching a list of persons who attended. As an alternative, I can send them out if you can supply me copies (or I can reproduce the one you sent me).

As follow up, I am suggesting that we give some attention to the NPT PrepCom and its upcoming session in Geneva. As a minimum, we could develop a statement or a sign-on letter to President Clinton, offering our ideas on what the U.S. position should be at the PrepCom. If others have sufficient interest to move in this direction, your participation and advice would be invaluable.

Through the Religious Working Group for Nuclear Abolition, I am helping develop a statement by world religious leaders that offers recommendations on what the PrepCom should accomplish. If we can get agreement on the statement by February or so, I would like it to go to heads of states and/or foreign ministers so that the views of the religious leaders can be taken into account in instruction of delegates. A first draft is under review. I'd like to send you a copy of the next draft for your comments.

After the first of the year I would like to have an opportunity to talk about these matters with you directly.

Shalom,

Howard

December 17, 1997

Ms. Mary R. Page, Program Officer
Program on Global Security and Sustainability
The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
140 S. Dearborn Street, Suite 1100
Chicago, IL 60603-5285

Dear Ms. Page:

We request a grant of \$10,000 from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation for a project to mobilize the influence of world religious leaders on the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty Preparatory Committee (NPT PrepCom) when it meets in Geneva from April 27 to May 8, 1998. I initiated this project through the Religious Working Group for Nuclear Abolition, which I serve as co-convenor along with David Gracie of the American Friends Service Committee and Clayton Ramey of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. The project will be part of a broader effort of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to influence the outcome of the 1998 NPT PrepCom session.

For many years numerous religious bodies have called for the elimination of nuclear weapons, based upon religious and moral principles. (See attached samples from the World Council of Churches and the Holy See.) This project will bring this commitment into focus at the NPT PrepCom. This will occur in successive stages.

- ❖ Approximately two months before the PrepCom meets, a joint statement of world religious leaders will be sent to heads of states and foreign ministers, urging them to instruct their delegates to go to Geneva prepared to take action that advances the cause of nuclear disarmament.
- ❖ Religious organizations in particular nations will be encouraged to contact their governments in support of the recommendations of world religious leaders.
- ❖ On the opening night of the PrepCom prominent world religious leaders will host a reception for delegates and will address them about the need for concrete action at the session.
- ❖ Religious representatives will join other NGO representatives in conferring with delegates during the two-week PrepCom session.
- ❖ In the second week an ecumenical worship service will be held for PrepCom delegates and NGO representatives who wish to attend.

Ms. Mary R. Page
December 17, 1997
Page two.

To get this project underway, in September I approached Dwain Epps, coordinator for international affairs for the Geneva-based World Council of Churches, which has 332 member denominations from around the world. Through him we have obtained a commitment from Dr. Konrad Raiser, general secretary of the World Council of Churches, to make substantive welcoming remarks at the reception. If we cannot obtain space at the UN building, the reception will be held at the nearby Ecumenical Center. The worship service during the second week will be held at the chapel at the Ecumenical Center.

Simultaneously Dave Robinson, disarmament coordinator of Pax Christi USA, has obtained a commitment from Cardinal Danneels, president of Pax Christi International, to participate in the reception. Cardinal Danneels will seek official representation from the Holy See.

We are working through inter-religious dialogue groups in Geneva and through other channels to obtain participation of world Jewish, Muslim, and Buddhist leaders.

In Geneva we will receive support from David Atwood of the Quaker United Nations Office, Edith Ballanatyne of the NGO Disarmament Committee, and Felicity Hill, representing Abolition 2000. We have cleared the date for the reception with the NGO network. We are checking with Polish Ambassador Eugeniusz Wyzner, designated chair of the 1998 PrepCom, to be certain that our reception does not interfere with a possible chair's diplomatic reception he may host.

I have taken the initiative to draft a statement for world religious leaders. A second draft is attached to show the tone of the statement and the initial cut of recommendations. The statement makes the point that nuclear abolition serves the interests of all humanity and all nations on Earth. Accordingly, the PrepCom should establish a working group to begin the process of negotiating a nuclear weapons convention. From experience I know that the statement will go through further revision as we gain participation of other religious leaders. I hope to have the final version completed by February and then send it to heads of states and foreign ministers

In January I will start lining up U.S. religious denominations to approach President Clinton on having the United States take a positive approach at the NPT PrepCom. This will include the National Council of Churches, member denominations, the U.S. Catholic Conference, and Jewish representatives. This effort will build upon relationships I have developed during the past several years to mobilize religious leaders in behalf of nuclear abolition, as shown in several attachments.

We will work with others in the Abolition 2000 network to encourage organizations in other nations to contact their leaders and gain support for decisive action at the PrepCom.

Ms. Mary R. Page
December 17, 1997
Page three.

My organizational base for this project is Methodists United for Peace with Justice, a national association of laity and clergy established in 1987, which I serve as chair. In the basic organizational activities of Methodists United I serve as an unpaid volunteer. For outreach work to mobilize the broader religious community, some of my work is compensated from foundation grants. Thus, earlier this year we received a \$10,000 grant from the Samuel Rubin Foundation to facilitate my work with the Religious Working Group for Nuclear Abolition, including setting up a list-serve. I drew upon support from this grant for the initial work on the NPT PrepCom project, but those funds are now fully expended. During the past six months I have put together a coalition of 21 religious organizations to join in a grassroots campaign in support of ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. We have pending a request for a grant from the Ploughshares Fund for continuation of this activity.

The \$10,000 grant requested from the MacArthur Foundation will pay for 32 days of my time from February through May on the final phase of the project and travel expenses for a trip to Geneva for the NPT PrepCom. A budget is attached.

The grant recipient would be the Methodists United Peace/Justice Education Fund, a 501(c)(3) entity and a public foundation under 509(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code. IRS letters are enclosed.

If you have a formal application or proposal guidelines to follow, I will present the project in the required manner. If you wish further information or references, please let me know.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman, Chair

**A Project to Mobilize World Religious Leaders
at the NPT Preparatory Committee Meeting in 1998**

Budget

Personnel: Hallman 32 days @ \$200	\$ 6,400
Communications, administrative expenses	600
Travel expenses (airfare, hotel, meals)	<u>3,000</u>
Total	\$10,000

December 17, 1997

Methodists United for Peace with Justice
1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036
Phone/fax: 301 896-0013 E-mail: mupj@igc.apc.org

December 19, 1997

To: Maureen Eldredge

Fax: 202 234-9536

No. of pages: 1

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Here is some information for your profile sheet about Tennessee.

Religious affiliation in Tennessee by percent of adherents.

Southern Baptist	45.0%
United Methodist	13.3
Black Baptist	8.4
Churches of Christ	7.4
Catholic	4.6
Presbyterian	2.4
Church of God	1.5

All other less than 1.5%

Methodists United for Peace with Justice
1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036
Phone/fax: 301 896-0013 E-mail: mupj@igc.apc.org

December 22, 1997

To: President William J. Clinton

Through: Mr. Samuel R. Berger

Fax: 202 456-2883

No. of pages: 4

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Re: Abolition of Nuclear Weapons

Dear Mr. President:

Christmas greetings! I hope that you and your family have a joyous holiday together.

As a person working for the abolition of nuclear weapons, I seem to be drawn to the subject at many times and in many places. Such was the case recently when I sang the last verse of "It Came upon the Midnight Clear".

For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophet seen of old,
When with the evercircling years shall come the time foretold
When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
And the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.

The song is "Peace on earth, good will to all from heaven's all gracious King."

Although I'm not confident that we can end all "little" wars in the near future (there are 30 going on now), I'm convinced that "the days are hastening on" when we can abolish nuclear weapons. Clearly there is a growing convergence of opinion from many sources that this task can and should be accomplished.

Public opinion polls reveal strong support for the elimination of nuclear weapons even though there is not widespread, vociferous demand. Numerous denominations have strong statements favoring nuclear abolition. This includes the Episcopal Church, which adopted a resolution on nuclear abolition last summer, and the United Methodist Church, whose 1996 General Conference unanimously adopted a resolution on nuclear abolition (see pages 556-561 of *The Book of Resolutions* recently presented to you). The Catholic Church shares this perspective, highlighted recently by the Holy See's representative to the United Nations who recalled a previous statement that "The world must move to the abolition of nuclear weapons through a universal, non-discriminatory ban with intensive inspection by a universal authority." He observed that "there is a gathering momentum of world opinion in support of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons."

This momentum of opinion includes a variety of commissions and study groups composed of prominent military leaders, scientists, and civilians with national security experience, such as:

- Henry L. Stimson Center's Project on Eliminating Weapons of Mass Destruction (General Andrew J. Goodpaster, Chair).
- The Canberra Commission.
- Sixty generals and admirals from around the world in a December 1996 statement.
- General Lee Butler.
- International Court of Justice in a ruling on Article VI of the NPT.
- Committee on International Security of the National Academy of Sciences.
- Carnegie Commission on Preventing Deadly Conflict.
- A majority vote of the United Nations General Assembly on the Malaysian resolution favoring multi-lateral negotiations on nuclear disarmament.

Who is resisting this momentum, this convergence of opinion? The greatest resistance comes from the military establishments of the United States and Russia, which seem unwilling to give up these relics of the Cold War even though they have no utility in warfighting, no deterrent effect on "little" wars, and no influence over terrorists. All that's left is strategic nuclear weapons deterring strategic nuclear weapons, a task that would be unnecessary if they were all eliminated. SIOP is holding U.S. policy hostage because it requires a considerable arsenal to maintain its commitment to mutually assured destruction, a long-outmoded public policy.

On the matter of disutility, I note that, according to newspaper reports, your recently revised nuclear policy foresees the possibility of using nuclear weapons in retaliation for use of chemical or biological weapons. However, I believe that you as a moral person would never allow this to happen. First, there are other military options. Second, you would not want to kill and maim tens of thousands of innocent civilians because of an action brought on by a rogue ruler. For as General Butler has said, there are no rogue nations, only rogue rulers.

Given this convergence of opinion favoring nuclear abolition, what is most needed now is creative, courageous political leadership. That's your opportunity, Mr. President, for the remaining three years of your second term. I can see a scenario of your taking up this issue in a major way because it is the right thing to do (even though it doesn't appear at the top of the list of concerns expressed in focus groups). Many of us outside government would work hard to develop the practical political support necessary to achieve success, including Senate ratification of international agreements.

You have a great national security staff, but they are already fully occupied in other important tasks. Why not create a special unit for nuclear abolition (or if "abolition" is too scary, call it simply "disarmament")? Appoint someone like General Lee Butler to head it. Create a public liaison unit to help generate widespread public support. Working in partnership with citizen organizations, organize a speakers' bureau of bishops, retired generals, retired admirals, scientists, physicians, lawyers, and many others to go throughout the nation to build support for decisive action.

There is already a solid basis for building grassroots support, stemming from the campaign for ratification of the Chemical Weapons Convention, now transformed and enlarged to work for ratification of the CTBT. At the moment 21 religious denominations and religious peace

fellowships are bound together with a dozen or so peace and arms control organizations to build grassroots support for the CTBT. We are organizing coalition networks in 24 states represented by swing vote senators. We have capability of covering all 50 states. It would be a pleasure and relatively easy to mobilize widespread support for imaginative measures of nuclear disarmament proposed by you as president. We could certainly add other denominations and many more citizen groups in support.

I realize that you and your staff worry about Senate conservatives. But I think it is important to realize that die-hard, irreconcilable, Cold War hawks in Congress are not as numerous as some believe. Self-appointed, outside spokesmen who oppose measures to curtail nuclear weapons are crafty and persistent but, again, are not all that numerous and can be effectively countered by mobilizing broad, latent support for nuclear abolition. If approached properly, there is no reason why true conservatives cannot be convinced of the desirability of eliminating all Russian and Chinese nuclear weapons in exchange for reciprocal action by the United States.

That was the experience at the 1996 United Methodists General Conference. Although 40 percent of the delegates were part of the theologically conservative Good News caucus, the resolution on nuclear abolition passed the legislative committee unanimously, went on the consent calendar, and was passed by acclamation. I can't promise unanimous consent in the U.S. Senate, but I'm convinced that strong presidential leadership in full partnership with a vigorous grassroots campaign could yield approval by 75 to 85 of the senators for really significant nuclear disarmament measures.

As to potential Pentagon opposition, civilian control of the military enables you to determine national security policy. A commitment for nuclear abolition might initially produce some grumbling at the Pentagon, but I think there would also be a certain sense of relief among the top officers who, judging by their retired peers, don't put much store in the utility of nuclear weapons. Moreover, you already have a prestigious cast of retired military officers on your side, and I believe that several of the retired chairs of the Joint Chiefs of Staff would rally in support of carefully designed, verifiable measures of nuclear disarmament.

The menu of actions to take is already well-defined by the reports cited above:

- Declaration of no first use.

- De-alerting by removing warheads from delivery vehicles and other means.

- Accelerating the pace and depth of U.S.-Russian reduction of strategic weapons.

- Negotiating a nuclear weapons convention to complete the task.

On the latter I urge you to end U.S. opposition to multilateral negotiations for nuclear abolition. There is no reason, for instance, why the Conference on Disarmament can't have groups simultaneously working on a fissile material ban and a nuclear weapons convention.

An even greater opportunity will come at the NPT Preparatory Committee meeting in Geneva on April 27 to May 8. A growing number of non-nuclear weapons states supported by a global network of NGOs are advocating that the PrepCom establish a working committee to begin developing a nuclear weapons convention. We ourselves are mobilizing a coalition of world religious leaders to advocate this approach, for believe that "the earth is the Lord's" (to quote Psalm 24), that all earth dwellers are stewards, and that we can't wait for nuclear weapon states to act on the necessity of eliminating nuclear weapons. Why don't you lead the U.S. delegation

and make the commitment to a nuclear weapons convention? Or, send General Lee Butler or an equivalent, prestigious person to represent the United States. Please don't have the United States be a laggard, opposing progressive action widely supported by global opinion.

Don't worry about going out on a limb. Nuclear abolition is the trunk of the tree of public opinion. The roots we are organizing give the trunk support and nourishment. It's the opponents who are out on the limb, their leaves fluttering noisily in the wind they themselves generate. Together we can achieve what prophets have foretold: global abolition of nuclear weapons.

In the three years and a month you have remaining in office, you still have time to set the course for the total elimination of nuclear weapons in the early days of the 21st century. But not a lot of time. The early months of 1998 offer an opportunity for decisive action.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman, Chair
Methodists United for Peace with Justice.

Methodists United for Peace with Justice
1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036
Phone/fax: 301 896-0013 E-mail: mupj@igc.apc.org

December 22, 1997

To: Ms. Melanne Verveer
Office of the First Lady

Fax: 202 456-6244

No. of pages: 5

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Dear Melanne:

I would like to share with you my latest epistle to President Clinton on nuclear abolition.

I enjoyed reading the Washington Post magazine article about you. I first met you at meetings of the Coalition on Human Needs and was impressed by how you combined religious idealism with political good sense. I'm glad you have carried this combination into the White House.

I hope you and your family have a happy Christmas.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman

Methodists United for Peace with Justice
1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036
Phone/fax: 301 896-0013 E-mail: mupj@igc.apc.org

December 22, 1997

To: Ms. Mary R. Page
The MacArthur Foundation

Fax: 312 917-0334

No. of pages: 3

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Re: Preparation for NPT PrepCom Meeting

Dear Ms. Page:

On Friday I received the attached e-mail communication from Edith Ballantyne of the NGO Committee for Disarmament in Geneva about a meeting scheduled for February 20-21 in Geneva to plan for NGO participation in the forthcoming NPT PrepCom. As I have written to you, I am leading an effort of the Religious Working for Nuclear Abolition to mobilize world religious leaders at the PrepCom meeting. For that purpose I requested a grant of \$10,000 from the MacArthur Foundation.

It would be very useful to me and the effort I am spearheading to participate in the February 20-21 meeting in Geneva. I could also take an extra day or two to confer with staff of the World Council of Churches and other persons from the religious community based in Geneva and to handle first hand the arrangements for the reception we are planning at the PrepCom session. Therefore, I would like to add \$2,000 to our grant request in order to make this additional trip. This would increase the total requested to \$12,000.

I realize that this request coming in the holiday season may not be in time for your January grant review and that processing in February is likely to come too late to obtain an advantageous airfare. Nevertheless, I hope that you will give consideration to this supplemental request as well as the original grant proposal.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman. Chair

December 22, 1997

Rabbi Arthur Waskow, Director
The Shalom Center
6711 Lincoln Drive
Philadelphia, PA 19119

Dear Arthur:

Working through the Religious Working Group for Nuclear Abolition, I am presently lining up world religious leaders to focus on the next meeting of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Preparatory Committee (NPT PrepCom), which meets next in Geneva on April 27 to May 8, 1998. We are drafting a statement for religious leaders to send to heads of states and foreign ministers a couple of months before the PrepCom, urging them to instruct their delegates to support the establishment of a working group to start developing a nuclear weapons convention. On the opening day of the PrepCom we are planning a reception for religious leaders and delegates.

Through a contact at the World Council of Churches I have gained the participation of Dr. Konrad Raiser, general secretary. Dave Robinson of Pax Christi USA has obtained the participation of Cardinal Danneels, president of Pax Christi International, who in turn will try to gain participation of a top official of the Holy See. We are seeking similar participation from world leaders of other major faiths. WCC persons in Geneva involved in ecumenical dialogue are supposed to offer us ideas, but we need other sources of information and contact.

Therefore, I would appreciate your suggestions of world Jewish leaders or organizations with a commitment to nuclear abolition. Also, I am interested in obtaining statements from Jewish sources, in the United States and abroad, favoring nuclear abolition. This will help me in drafting a statement that encompasses the beliefs and expressions of different faiths.

Thanks for your assistance.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Dear Colleagues:

I am looking forward to working closely with you as we approach the 1998 session of the NPT PrepCom

Methodists United for Peace with Justice
1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036
Phone/fax: 301 896-0013 E-mail: mupj@igc.apc.org

January 9, 1998

To: Ivo Spalatin

Fax: 202 647-3612

No. of pages: 3

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Re: Religious Supporters of CTBT

Dear Ivo:

Following up our conversation at Coolfont, I am sending you a contact list for organizations within the religious community which are working together for ratification of the CTBT. We are particularly concentrating on building grassroots support in the 24 states with senators considered swing votes on the treaty. This is integrated with the broad campaign that is guided by the CTBT Working Group of the Coalition to Reduce Nuclear Dangers.

You may want to put these contacts on the "fax blast" list if they are not already on it.

We have been meeting every six weeks since last June. Likely we will start holding monthly meetings as the pace picks up in the Senate. Perhaps you or some one else from the Administration would like to come to our next meeting and share with us the Administration's perspective on CTBT ratification. The meeting will take place from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 28 at the Methodist Building, 100 Maryland Avenue. We could schedule a time slot on the agenda for the Administration's representative.

An alternative would be to arrange a meeting at the Executive Office Building with Bob Bell for an interchange, telling what we are doing and gaining the Administration's perspective.

With appropriate notice we could help set up a highly visible meeting with heads of communion (bishops, denominational presidents) and President Clinton to demonstrate the solid support of the religious community for CTBT ratification.

As I recall Joe Volk at the Friends Committee on National Legislation prepared for you an extensive list of religious leaders last year on the CWC campaign. FCNL has also compiled denominational statements on the CTBT and has provided it to all senators. I'll have them send you a copy.

I am beginning to reach out to black denominations and evangelicals to broaden the base of support for the CTBT.

With best regards,

Methodists United for Peace with Justice
1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036
Phone/fax: 301 896-0013 E-mail: mupj@igc.apc.org

January 9, 1998

To: Tom Collina

Fax: 202 332-0905

No. of pages: 1

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Re: Draft of CTBT Flyer

Dear Tom:

Thanks for sending me the draft on "The Test Ban Treaty and A Safer America." It will be a very useful flyer, which we and others in the religious community will be able to use in our grassroots outreach. I have a few suggestions to make.

In the section on "make America safer" you might mention that it will make a safer future for our children and grandchildren. Among other reasons, Celinda Lake says that concern for children registers a high return on opinion polls. In his second inaugural address President Clinton spoke of a land of new promise where "our children will sleep free from the threat of nuclear, chemical or biological weapons."

What happens if the Senate doesn't ratify? Another reason is that it will block the treaty from going into force worldwide because the U.S. is one of 44 states that must ratify. You get to that provision later regarding India, but why not up front to show U.S. responsibility?

Who supports the treaty? I suggest you add "major religious denominations". Bridget Moix at FCNL has a compilation of official denomination policies on the CTBT. You might find some suitable quotes from that source. Last year Pope John Paul II made a strong statement in support of a comprehensive test ban.

When this pamphlet is ready, will it be available in quantity to supporting organizations? What will be the process for ordering copies? Any cost to recipients? I believe that a number of the 20+ religious organizations working for CTBT ratification would like to have copies for distribution.

Thanks for your efforts.

January 9, 1998

Bishop C. Dale White
117 Eustis Avenue
Newport, RI 02840

Dear Dale:

Here is some background information on the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty in the form of a postcard alert and sets of questions and answers provided by advocates. The one marked draft is still in the works, but you can certainly borrow ideas from it.

An excellent source of information is the website for the CTBT Working Group:
<http://www.clw.org/pub/clw/coalition/ctindex.html>

Another source is the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency:
<http://www.acda.gov/>

ACDA has a list of signers and ratifiers of the CTBT. The latter totaled eight on November 17, the latest update. You can bring this up-to-date in your final draft, and Lee Ranck could make a final update before publication.

For information on Abolition 2000 you can access the following homepage:
<http://www.wagingpeace.org/abolition2000.html>

As I mentioned, you can be part of the Abolition 2000 list-serve for daily messages by sending an e-mail message to majordomo@igc.org and in the body of the text indicate: subscribe abolition-caucus. You'll receive 15-20 messages a day, some of them irrelevant, but many very useful.

There are other websites and list-serves on nuclear disarmament issues, which I could provide you, but I don't know how deeply you want to get involved in the wealth of electronic information now available. It can be overwhelming.

If you need further information on the CTBT, please let me know.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman

January 9, 1998

Mr. Duane Shank
Sojourners
2401 15h Street, NW
Washington, DC 20009

Dear Duane:

As I mentioned in our telephone conversation, the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) is now before the Senate for ratification. Advocates are pushing the Foreign Relations Committee to hold hearings as soon as possible and then report the treaty for floor consideration by late spring or early summer. Both the Clinton Administration and the Senate leadership are giving priority to NATO expansion. The Administration says it wants CTBT next, but then there may be START II related actions coming up if the Russian Duma ratifies START II. Thus, there is a need to keep pressure on the Administration on CTBT and also on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and Senator Lott.

Knowing that Sojourners has long supported nuclear disarmament and the CTBT, I hope that this subject might be taken up in the next issue of your magazine. As a starter for information, I am enclosing an Q & A on the CTBT. I can provide you other information and website sources.

All the mainline Protestant denominations, the peace churches, the U.S. Catholic Conference, and several other Catholic organizations are building grassroots support for the CTBT. We want to add support from the evangelical community. Can you and Jim Wallis offer guidance? I'm already in touch with Evangelicals for Social Action. I would like to do some missionary work with evangelicals who identify with the Christian Coalition. After all, the halt of nuclear testing and nuclear abolition is good for children, families, and other persons. There is no longer a "red menace" to defend against. So why shouldn't all Christians concerned with human values favor these measures? So, can you and Jim suggest any "bridge" persons who might be receptive and who can lead me deeper into the leadership of the so-called "Christian right"?

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman

January 10, 1998

His Excellency Eugeniusz Wyzner
Permanent Mission of the Republic of
Poland to the United Nations
9 E. 66th Street
New York, NY 10021

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

I have the privilege of serving as a co-convenor of the Religious Working Group for Nuclear Abolition, which is a component of the Abolition 2000 movement. We are working with the World Council of Churches, Pax Christi International, and other world religious organizations on plans for a reception to honor delegates to the next session of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Preparatory Committee (NPT PrepCom) in Geneva. We cordially invite you and the other delegates to be our guest at this event.

We have tentatively scheduled the reception for Monday, April 27 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. It will be held either at the Ecumenical Centre or at the Palais des Nations if suitable space is available. However, we have heard that the chair of the PrepCom sometimes holds a reception for delegates, and we would not want to conflict with any event you may be scheduling. If that is the case, would you please let us know? If you need further information about our plans, please have one of your aides get in touch with me.

We have a commitment from Dr. Konrad Raiser, general secretary of the World Council of Churches, and Cardinal Danneels, president of Pax Christi International, to serve as hosts of the reception and make welcoming remarks. We are also inviting the representative of the Holy See and other world religious leaders to participate. They would share the concern of the world religious community that the time is ripe to move decisively toward nuclear disarmament.

We see the upcoming PrepCom meeting as a significant session and wish you and the other delegates success in preserving the non-proliferation regime and advancing the course of nuclear disarmament.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman, Chair

January 10, 1998

Ambassador Jonathan Dean
Union of Concerned Scientists
1616 P Street, NW, Suite 310
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Jonathan:

At Coolfont I mentioned to you our plans to hold a reception hosted by world religious leaders for delegates of the NTP PrepCom in Geneva. We have tentatively scheduled this event for Monday evening, April 27, a date cleared by the NGO network. However, before we make final plans, we want to be sure that Ambassador Wyzner, as chair of the PrepCom, has no plans for his own reception on that evening. Accordingly, I have written him on this matter. A copy of my letter is enclosed.

When you and other NGO representatives meet with Ambassador Wyzner, perhaps you can help us clarify this situation so that we can go on with our plans.

If you succeed in getting a commitment from Ambassador Wyzner for NGO representatives to address the PrepCom, our Religious Working Group for Nuclear Abolition would like to help identify one or more persons to represent the world religious community.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman

To: Organizations in religious community working for CTBT ratification

Last week the Monday Lobby held its annual retreat at Coolfont, West Virginia. Speakers and discussion provided background information relevant to our campaign to achieve Senate ratification of the CTBT.

It is clear that NATO enlargement will be the first major foreign policy issue to reach the Senate floor this year. It appears that the Clinton administration wants CTBT to come next but so far there is no commitment from Senate Republican leadership that this will occur. Nor has Senator Helms made a commitment to hold prompt hearings and report the CTBT to the floor.

In the wings is a package of treaties and protocols related to START II, the ABM Treaty, and theatre missile defense. If the Russian Duma ratifies START II by March, this package might compete with CTBT for attention. Also, action must be taken on most favored nation legislation by June. With the Senate starting late and adjourning by mid-October, it is possible that the CTBT will be put off until 1999. The main deadline is 180 days before September 1, 1999 when ratifiers will meet to consider what to do if all 44 nations required to ratify before the treaty can enter into force have not done so.

From our point of view, we don't want consideration put off. Accordingly, we will follow through with the decision made when we met on December 3 to give attention to five members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee -- Frist, Lugar, Hagel, Brownback, and Thomas --and urge them to work for prompt hearings. As agreed, Jim Wetekam has drafted a postcard alert, which he is mailing to you. I suggest that we also give attention to Senator Helms directly by getting people in North Carolina to contact him. I believe that we might also begin some grassroots work in Mississippi to urge Senator Lott to schedule the CTBT for Senate action.

There was considerable discussion of lessons learned from the land mines campaign. One lesson was to look for non-traditional support. This thought along with discussion by a pollster who said that seniors will constitute one-third of the vote in 1998 has led me to start exploring how to get seniors involved, including a concern for our (for I'm one of them) grandchildren. The pollster also indicated that concern for children receives high marks across the whole political spectrum. So perhaps children-oriented organizations could be enlisted.

There is an emerging consensus that by increasing the intensity of our grassroots campaign we can achieve CTBT ratification if the treaty comes to a vote on the floor but that we will have to work hard to get it through committee and scheduled for floor action.

Reminder: The next meeting on the CTBT grassroots campaign will take place from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 28 at the Methodist Building, Room 3.

Shalom,

Howard W. Hallman

Methodists United for Peace with Justice
1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036
Phone/fax: 301 896-0013 E-mail: mupj@igc.apc.org

January 12, 1998

To: Robin Ringler

Fax: 202 488-5639

No. of pages: 2

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Re: Coolfont discussion on CTBT

Dear Robin:

Last week the Monday Lobby held its annual retreat at Coolfont, West Virginia. Speakers and discussion provided background information relevant to our campaign to achieve Senate ratification of the CTBT.

It is clear that NATO enlargement will be the first major foreign policy issue to reach the Senate floor this year. It appears that the Clinton administration wants CTBT to come next but so far there is no commitment from Senate Republican leadership that this will occur. Nor has Senator Helms made a commitment to hold prompt hearings and report the CTBT to the floor.

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get seniors involved, including a concern for our (for I'm one of them) grandchildren. The pollster also indicated that concern for children receives high marks across the whole political spectrum. So perhaps children-oriented organizations could be enlisted.

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Reminder: The next meeting on the CTBT grassroots campaign will take place from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 28 at the Methodist Building, Room 3.

Shalom,

Methodists United for Peace with Justice
1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036
Phone/fax: 301 896-0013 E-mail: mupj@igc.apc.org

January 12, 1998

To: Douglas Roche

Fax: 403 469-4732

No. of pages: 1

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Re: NPT PrepCom

Dear Mr. Roche:

I have heard about your middle power initiative for nuclear disarmament and have ordered a copy of your book. I am engaged in a complementary activity related to the forthcoming meeting of the NPT PrepCom. I want to describe our initiative and then call you to discuss our mutual interests.

I serve as a co-convener of the Religious Working Group for Nuclear Abolition, a component of the Abolition 2000 network. The Religious Working Group is organizing a reception for delegates to the NPT PrepCom meeting in Geneva, to be co-hosted by world religious leaders. Two months before the PrepCom convenes we hope to send a statement signed by world religious leaders to heads of states and foreign ministers, urging them to instruct their PrepCom delegates to support measures that will advance the course of nuclear disarmament. The current draft of this statement emphasizes stewardship of Earth, for which all nations and all peoples have a responsibility. Therefore, it is appropriate and necessary for non-nuclear weapons states to press for nuclear disarmament, including setting up an intersessional working group of the NPT PrepCom to start drafting a nuclear weapons convention, even if the nuclear weapons states are not yet ready to participate.

So far we have obtained consent of Dr. Konrad Raiser, general secretary of the World Council of Churches, and Cardinal Danneels, president of Pax Christi International, to be co-hosts at the reception and sign the advance statement. It is my understanding that Cardinal Danneels is seeking official representation from the Holy See. We are also seeking participation of world religious leaders of other faiths.

If we can get the statement out by the end of February or early March, we will work through international religious networks to get religious leaders and religious organizations in various nations to lobby their governments to support creation of the intersessional working group and other measures that advance the cause of nuclear disarmament. We hope that this can be related to your middle power initiative. For instance, we might concentrate particularly on governments you are dealing with.

I'll call you in few days to discuss this possibility in greater detail.

Methodists United for Peace with Justice
1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036
Phone/fax: 301 896-0013 E-mail: mupj@igc.apc.org

January 14, 1998

To: Maureen Eldredge

Fax: 202 234-9536

No. of pages: 4

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Re: NWWP Survey

Attach is my response to the Nuclear Weapons Working Group survey.

Thanks for undertaking this task.

Methodists United for Peace with Justice
1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036
Phone/fax: 301 896-0013 E-mail: mupj@igc.apc.org

January 16, 1998

To: Ms. Mary Page
The MacArthur Foundation

Fax: 312 917-0034

No. of pages: 3

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Re: Supplemental information on grant request

Dear Ms. Page:

Plans are proceeding for NGO participation at the NPT PrepCom. Attached is the latest schedule of NGO events developed by the Working Group for the NPT PrepCom. You will note that the reception to be hosted by world religious leaders for PrepCom delegates is scheduled for the first evening. That is the event for which I am providing leadership. On Wednesday when NGOs make presentations to the PrepCom, the Religious Working Group will be represented. Last year in New York, Clayton Ramey of the FOR, a co-convenor of the Religious Working Group, filled this role. I might take on this responsibility in Geneva, though this hasn't been decided yet.

Much of the work for which we have requested a MacArthur Foundation grant will occur before the PrepCom convenes: developing a statement by world religious leaders, getting signers, sending it to heads of states and foreign ministers prior to the PrepCom, making contact with religious organizations in various nations and encouraging them to lobby their delegations in advance. For the latter I am working through the Abolition 2000 network to identify "swing votes", that is, nations which have been reluctant to split with the United States on creating a process for drafting a nuclear weapons convention but which might be persuaded to support acceleration of the disarmament process for the good of Earth, for which we are all stewards. We will also be organizing U.S. religious leaders to urge the Clinton administration to be more open to a multilateral process.

Although our grant request of December 17 and my supplemental request of December 22 entails travel, this will occur in the context of the broader purpose, which is to mobilize world religious leaders before and at the 1998 NPT PrepCom session.

With best regards,

January 22, 1998

Betty J. Nelson
4100 Munson Avenue
Topeka, KS 66604-1817

Dear Betty:

Now that Congress is about to reconvene, we are stepping up the campaign to achieve ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). The next crucial step is to get prompt hearings by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and then to have the Committee report the bill with a favorable recommendation. A possible obstacle is the reluctance of the Committee's chair, Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina, to schedule hearings and bring the treaty to a committee vote.

Senator Sam Brownback of Kansas is a member of the Foreign Relations Committee. Therefore, we want to encourage his constituents to get in touch with him and ask him to lend his support to prompt hearings for the CTBT and to assure that the treaty is reported out of committee for floor action as soon as possible. We ask you to reach out to United Methodists in the Kansas East Conference and have them contact Senator Brownback.

To help with this effort, we are joining others in the religious community in the production of a postcard alert, as shown on the enclosed sample copy. Final copy for your use will be tailored to Kansas, will mention Senator Brownback by name, and will provide his mailing address, telephone and fax number, and e-mail address. The text will appear on two sides of the postcard. We will provide without charge as many copies as you can use. You will need to pay the postage of 32¢.

Please let me know as soon possible by phone, fax, or mail whether you would like a supply of postcards and the quantity you need.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman, Chair

January 22, 1998

Rev. Duane Harms
2221 Bramblewood, #201
Wichita, KS 67226-1051

Dear Duane:

Now that Congress is about to reconvene, we are stepping up the campaign to achieve ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). The next crucial step is to get prompt hearings by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and then to have the Committee report the bill with a favorable recommendation. A possible obstacle is the reluctance of the Committee's chair, Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina, to schedule hearings and bring the treaty to a committee vote.

Senator Sam Brownback of Kansas is a member of the Foreign Relations Committee. Therefore, we want to encourage his constituents to get in touch with him and ask him to lend his support to prompt hearings for the CTBT and to assure that the treaty is reported out of committee for floor action as soon as possible. We ask you to reach out to United Methodists in the Kansas West Conference and have them contact Senator Brownback.

To help with this effort, we are joining others in the religious community in the production of a postcard alert, as shown on the enclosed sample copy. Final copy for your use will be tailored to Kansas, will mention Senator Brownback by name, and will provide his mailing address, telephone and fax number, and e-mail address. The text will appear on two sides of the postcard. We will provide without charge as many copies as you can use. You will need to pay the postage of 32¢.

Please let me know as soon possible by phone, fax, or mail whether you would like a supply of postcards and the quantity you need.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman, Chair

January 22, 1998

Carol E. Green
411 Belle Meade Drive
Maryville, TN 37801

Dear Carol:

Now that Congress is about to reconvene, we are stepping up the campaign to achieve ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). The next crucial step is to get prompt hearings by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and then to have the Committee report the bill with a favorable recommendation. A possible obstacle is the reluctance of the Committee's chair, Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina, to schedule hearings and bring the treaty to a committee vote.

Senator Bill Frist of Tennessee is a member of the Foreign Relations Committee. Therefore, we want to encourage his constituents to get in touch with him and ask him to lend his support to prompt hearings for the CTBT and to assure that the treaty is reported out of committee for floor action as soon as possible. We ask you to reach out to United Methodists in the Holston Conference and have them contact Senator Frist.

To help with this effort, we are joining others in the religious community in the production of a postcard alert, as shown on the enclosed sample copy. Final copy for your use will be tailored to Tennessee, will mention Senator Frist by name, and will provide his mailing address, telephone and fax number, and e-mail address. The text will appear on two sides of the postcard. We will provide without charge as many copies as you can use. You will need to pay the postage of 32¢.

Please let me know as soon possible by phone, fax, or mail whether you would like a supply of postcards and the quantity you need. If this is too similar to the postcard you already used, perhaps you can send your own alert.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman, Chair

January 22, 1998

Ray Conaster
405 Coventry Drive
Nashville, TN 37211

Dear Ray:

Now that Congress is about to reconvene, we are stepping up the campaign to achieve ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). The next crucial step is to get prompt hearings by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and then to have the Committee report the bill with a favorable recommendation. A possible obstacle is the reluctance of the Committee's chair, Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina, to schedule hearings and bring the treaty to a committee vote.

Senator Bill Frist of Tennessee is a member of the Foreign Relations Committee. Therefore, we want to encourage his constituents to get in touch with him and ask him to lend his support to prompt hearings for the CTBT and to assure that the treaty is reported out of committee for floor action as soon as possible. We ask you to reach out to United Methodists in the Tennessee Conference and have them contact Senator Frist.

To help with this effort, we are joining others with in the religious community in the production of a postcard alert, as shown on the enclosed sample copy. Final copy for your use will be tailored to Tennessee, will mention Senator Frist by name, and will provide his mailing address, telephone and fax number, and e-mail address. The text will appear on two sides of the postcard. We will provide without charge as many copies as you can use. You will need to pay the postage of 32¢.

Please let me know as soon possible by phone, fax, or mail whether you would like a supply of postcards and the quantity you need.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman, Chair

January 22, 1998

Rev. Steve Mischke
316 N. McTyiere Street
McKenzie, TN 38201-2118

Dear Steve:

Now that Congress is about to reconvene, we are stepping up the campaign to achieve ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). The next crucial step is to get prompt hearings by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and then to have the Committee report the bill with a favorable recommendation. A possible obstacle is the reluctance of the Committee's chair, Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina, to schedule hearings and bring the treaty to a committee vote.

Senator Bill Frist of Tennessee is a member of the Foreign Relations Committee. Therefore, we want to encourage his constituents to get in touch with him and ask him to lend his support to prompt hearings for the CTBT and to assure that the treaty is reported out of committee for floor action as soon as possible. We ask you to reach out to United Methodists in the Holston Conference and have them contact Senator Frist.

To help with this effort, we are joining others in the religious community in the production of a postcard alert, as shown on the enclosed sample copy. Final copy for your use will be tailored to Tennessee, will mention Senator Frist by name, and will provide his mailing address, telephone and fax number, and e-mail address. The text will appear on two sides of the postcard. We will provide without charge as many copies as you can use. You will need to pay the postage of 32¢.

Please let me know as soon possible by phone, fax, or mail whether you would like a supply of postcards and the quantity you need.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman, Chair

January 22, 1998

Carol Windrum
3735 North 39th Street
Omaha, NE 68111

Dear Carol:

Now that Congress is about to reconvene, we are stepping up the campaign to achieve ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). The next crucial step is to get prompt hearings by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and then to have the Committee report the bill with a favorable recommendation. A possible obstacle is the reluctance of the Committee's chair, Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina, to schedule hearings and bring the treaty to a committee vote.

Senator Chuck Hagel of Nebraska is a member of the Foreign Relations Committee. Therefore, we want to encourage his constituents to get in touch with him and ask him to lend his support to prompt hearings for the CTBT and to assure that the treaty is reported out of committee for floor action as soon as possible. We ask you to reach out to United Methodists in Nebraska and have them contact Senator Hagel.

To help with this effort, we are joining with others in the religious community in the production of a postcard alert, as shown on the enclosed sample copy. Final copy for your use will be tailored to Nebraska, will mention Senator Hagel by name, and will provide his mailing address, telephone and fax number, and e-mail address. The text will appear on two sides of the postcard. We will provide without charge as many copies as you can use. You will need to pay the postage of 32¢.

Please let me know as soon possible by phone, fax, or mail whether you would like a supply of postcards and the quantity you need. Or you might want to use your own alert system to have people contact Senator Hagel once again on this phase of the CTBT ratification process.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman, Chair

January 22, 1998

Ms. Janet Lawrence
7318 Ridge Road
Lexington, NC 27295

Dear Ms. Lawrence:

Now that Congress is about to reconvene, we are stepping up the campaign to achieve ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). The next crucial step is to get prompt hearings by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and then to have the Committee report the bill with a favorable recommendation.

At this point the Committee's chair, Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina, seems to be unwilling to schedule hearings and make a commitment to bring the treaty to a committee vote. Therefore, we want to encourage Senator Helm's constituents to get in touch with him and ask him to promptly schedule hearings for the CTBT and to assure that the treaty will be reported out of committee for floor action as soon as possible. We ask you to reach out to United Methodists in the Western North Carolina Conference and have them contact Senator Helms..

To help with this effort, we are joining with others in the religious community in the production of a postcard alert, as shown on the enclosed sample copy. Final copy for your use will be rewritten as it relates to approaching Senator Helms and North Carolina. It will provide his mailing address, telephone and fax number, and e-mail address. The text will appear on two sides of the postcard. We will provide without charge as many copies as you can use. You will need to pay the postage of 32¢.

Please let me know as soon possible by phone, fax, or mail whether you would like a supply of postcards and the quantity you need.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman, Chair

January 22, 1998

Dr. William L. Bingham
3117 Leonard Street
Raleigh, NC 27606

Dear Dr. Bingham:

Now that Congress is about to reconvene, we are stepping up the campaign to achieve ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). The next crucial step is to get prompt hearings by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and then to have the Committee report the bill with a favorable recommendation.

At this point the Committee's chair, Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina, seems to be unwilling to schedule hearings and make a commitment to bring the treaty to a committee vote. Therefore, we want to encourage Senator Helm's constituents to get in touch with him and ask him to promptly schedule hearings for the CTBT and to assure that the treaty will be reported out of committee for floor action as soon as possible. We ask you to reach out to United Methodists in the North Carolina Conference and have them contact Senator Helms.

To help with this effort, we are joining with others in the religious community in the production of a postcard alert, as shown on the enclosed sample copy. Final copy for your use will be rewritten as it relates to approaching Senator Helms and North Carolina. It will provide his mailing address, telephone and fax number, and e-mail address. The text will appear on two sides of the postcard. We will provide without charge as many copies as you can use. You will need to pay the postage of 32¢.

Please let me know as soon possible by phone, fax, or mail whether you would like a supply of postcards and the quantity you need.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman, Chair

January 22, 1998

Rev. J. Steven Burris, Director
North Indiana United Methodist Conference
1105 N. Western Avenue
P.O. Box 869
Marion, IN 46952

Dear Rev. Burris:

Now that Congress is about to reconvene, we are stepping up the campaign to achieve ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). The next crucial step is to get prompt hearings by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and then to have the Committee report the bill with a favorable recommendation. A possible obstacle is the reluctance of the Committee's chair, Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina, to schedule hearings and bring the treaty to a committee vote.

Senator Richard Lugar of Indiana is a member of the Foreign Relations Committee. Therefore, we want to encourage his constituents to get in touch with him and ask him to lend his support to prompt hearings for the CTBT and to assure that the treaty is reported out of committee for floor action as soon as possible. We ask you to reach out to United Methodists in the North Indiana Conference and have them contact Senator Lugar.

To help with this effort, we are joining others with in the religious community in the production of a postcard alert, as shown on the enclosed sample copy. Final copy for your use will be tailored to Indiana and will insert the draft text applicable to Senator Lugar. It and will provide his mailing address, telephone and fax number, and e-mail address. The text will appear on two sides of the postcard. We will provide without charge as many copies as you can use. You will need to pay the postage of 32¢.

Please let me know as soon possible by phone, fax, or mail whether you would like a supply of postcards and the quantity you need.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman, Chair

January 22, 1998

Rev. Susan W.N. Ruach, Director
South Indiana United Methodist Conference
2427 E. 2nd Street
P.O. Box 5008
Bloomington, IN 47407

Dear Rev. Ruach:

Now that Congress is about to reconvene, we are stepping up the campaign to achieve ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). The next crucial step is to get prompt hearings by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and then to have the Committee report the bill with a favorable recommendation. A possible obstacle is the reluctance of the Committee's chair, Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina, to schedule hearings and bring the treaty to a committee vote.

Senator Richard Lugar of Indiana is a member of the Foreign Relations Committee. Therefore, we want to encourage his constituents to get in touch with him and ask him to lend his support to prompt hearings for the CTBT and to assure that the treaty is reported out of committee for floor action as soon as possible. We ask you to reach out to United Methodists in the South Indiana Conference and have them contact Senator Lugar.

To help with this effort, we are joining others with in the religious community in the production of a postcard alert, as shown on the enclosed sample copy. Final copy for your use will be tailored to Indiana and will insert the draft text applicable to Senator Lugar. It and will provide his mailing address, telephone and fax number, and e-mail address. The text will appear on two sides of the postcard. We will provide without charge as many copies as you can use. You will need to pay the postage of 32¢.

Please let me know as soon possible by phone, fax, or mail whether you would like a supply of postcards and the quantity you need.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman, Chair

January 22, 1998

Rev. Jonathan E. Baker, Director
Peninsula-Delaware United Methodist Conference
139 N. State Street
Dover, DE 19901

Dear Rev. Baker:

Now that Congress is about to reconvene, we are stepping up the campaign to achieve ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). The next crucial step is to get prompt hearings by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and then to have the Committee report the bill with a favorable recommendation. A possible obstacle is the reluctance of the Committee's chair, Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina, to schedule hearings and bring the treaty to a committee vote.

Senator Joseph Biden of Delaware plays a key role on the Foreign Relations Committee as ranking minority member. Therefore, we want to encourage his constituents to get in touch with him and urge him work for prompt hearings for the CTBT and reporting out of committee for floor action as soon as possible. We ask you to reach out to United Methodists in the Delaware portion of your conference and have them contact Senator Biden.

To help with this effort, we are joining others with in the religious community in the production of a postcard alert, as shown on the enclosed sample copy. Final copy for your use will be tailored to Delaware and will insert the draft text applicable to Senator Biden. It and will provide his mailing address, telephone and fax number, and e-mail address. The text will appear on two sides of the postcard. We will provide without charge as many copies as you can use. You will need to pay the postage of 32¢.

Please let me know as soon possible by phone, fax, or mail whether you would like a supply of postcards and the quantity you need.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Methodists United for Peace with Justice
1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036
Phone/fax: 301 896-0013 E-mail: mupj@igc.apc.org

January 23, 1998

To: Jim Garrison
State of the World Forum

Fax: 415 561-2323

No. of pages: 1

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Re: Request for information

Dear Jim Garrison:

I am writing you at the suggestion of Ambassador Jonathan Dean of the Union of Concerned Scientists.

I serve as a co-convener of the Religious Working Group for Nuclear Abolition. As such, I am organizing a reception to be hosted by world religious leaders for delegates of the NPT Preparatory Committee when they convene in Geneva on April 27. The religious leaders will welcome the delegates to Geneva and make brief remarks on the necessity of moving ahead on nuclear disarmament. We hope also to have an advance statement, signed by religious leaders and sent to foreign ministers, urging that delegates come to Geneva prepared to take significant action.

From the religious community we have commitments from Dr. Konrad Raiser, general secretary of the World Council of Churches, and Cardinal Danneels, president of Pax Christi International, who will seek official representation from the Holy See. We want to broaden this participation to other faiths, such as Jewish, Islamic, Buddhist, and others. We are seeking suggestions on recognized leaders of these faiths who have spoken of the need for nuclear disarmament or who represent religious bodies with such commitment.

Ambassador Dean says that you are in touch with such persons through the State of the World Forum. Therefore, we would be grateful for your suggestions. Please call or write me at your convenience.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman

January 24, 1998

Mr. Fred Clark
Evangelicals for Social Action
10 E. Lancaster Avenue
Wynnewood, PA 19096

Dear Fred:

As promised in our telephone conversation, I am sending background information on the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), which is now pending for ratification by the U.S. Senate. Senator Jesse Helms has embarked upon his typical delaying tactics, so we have our work cut out for us to build widespread grassroots support.

I hope that you can have an article in your bimonthly magazine and urge your readers to contact their senators in behalf of the treaty. At best, committee hearings will commence in March and floor action will come in May or June, but action might be delayed beyond that. Thus, an article some time this spring would be timely.

A number of Washington-based religious organizations, plus the FOR and Pax Christi USA based elsewhere, are working together to build grassroots support in 24 states with one or more senators considered swing votes. We invite you to join us. At the moment we are focusing on five Republican members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee: Frist of Tennessee, Lugar of Indiana, Hagel of Nebraska, Brownback of Kansas, and Thomas of Indiana, and also the chair, Helms of North Carolina, and the ranking minority member, Biden of Delaware (who supports the treaty). We are joining together to send out the enclosed postcard alert with language tailored to each state. Is this something you would be willing to send out to your members in these states? If so, please let me know by Friday, January 30 how many cards you could use for each state. The cards are free but you would pay the postage of 32¢ each. Even if you are not interested, the text provides further information for your article.

Mr. Fred Clark
January 24, 1998
Page two.

Finally I will greatly appreciate your helping me make contact with persons in the National Association of Evangelicals and the Family Research Council to seek their support for the CTBT and for other measures of nuclear disarmament.

Shalom,

Howard W. Hallman

January 24, 1998

Mr. Doug Stone, Policy Director
National Gray Panthers
2025 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Mr. Stone:

We are working for Senate ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) and other measures of nuclear disarmament and are constantly looking for allies. Knowing that the Gray Panthers historically have had this concern, I talked with John Steinbach, who has been active in the Abolition 2000 movement. He referred me to your national office, and I had a telephone conversation with George Neighbors. He indicated that your top national priorities are jobs, health care, and family security but that your national newsletter deals with other topics. He suggested that I talk to you about the possibility about getting information on CTBT ratification into your newsletter.

Therefore, I am sending you a couple of items on the CTBT: a fact sheet and a draft postcard alert containing some useful background information.

Also in the works is a request for a wide number of organizations to endorse a call for CTBT ratification. When it is ready, I'll send it to you.

I'll call you in a few days for a follow-up conversation.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman

Draft Letter for Religious Organizations

The Honorable Jesse Helms, Chairman
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations
450 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-6225

Dear Mr. Chairman:

For the sake of the children of the United States and other parts of the globe, we request you to reverse your position that you will not schedule committee consideration of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) until the Senate has voted on the Kyoto Protocol and amendments to the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty. The CTBT is an important instrument in the quest to achieve a world in which our children and grandchildren can live free from the threat of nuclear weapons. It is too important a treaty to hold hostage to other legislative agendas.

The CTBT makes important contributions to the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. First, it prevents non-nuclear weapon states from carrying out tests required to field a nuclear arsenal. Second, by prohibiting any nuclear weapon test explosions and all other nuclear explosions, the treaty limits the ability of nuclear weapon states, including the Russian Federation and China, to build new nuclear weapons.

The United States is one of 44 nations which must ratify the CTBT before it can enter into force. Therefore, it is important that the U.S. Senate not become an obstacle to making the treaty an effective instrument of nuclear non-proliferation and world peace. Although you may speculate about whether India or North Korea will ratify the CTBT, your responsibility lies with the U.S. ratification process. That is something you can effect directly and positively if you choose.

The other measures you are interested in -- the Kyoto Protocol and amendments to the ABM treaty -- have not been submitted to the Senate and will not be until the Administration completes its preparations for submission. In contrast, the CTBT is already before the Senate, and other committees have started hearings. Therefore, waiting for these other treaties would cause unnecessary delay in the global halt of nuclear weapons testing.

Therefore, we urge you to promptly schedule committee hearings on the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and to bring treaty to a vote by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee as soon as possible. This will give the whole Senate, representing the American people, an opportunity to vote on this important treaty.

Sincerely yours,

Signers from the religious community

Draft Letter for Religious Organizations

To Members of Senate Foreign Relations Committee, individually

Dear Senator _____:

We notice that Senator Jesse Helms, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, has laid down the gauntlet to President Clinton, saying that he will not schedule consideration of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) until the Senate has considered and voted on the Kyoto Protocol and amendments to the ABM Treaty. Since neither of these measures have been submitted to the Senate, Senator Helms is saying in effect that he will not allow the Foreign Relations Committee to consider the important Test Ban Treaty until 1999 or later. We believe that this is a grievous error and urge you to exercise your responsibility as a member of the committee to assure that the CTBT is given prompt consideration.

Major beneficiaries of the CTBT are the children of the United States and the rest of the world. That's because the CTBT is an important instrument for the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. It is a major step in the quest to achieve a world in which our children and grandchildren can live free from threat of nuclear weapons.

The CTBT contributes to the nuclear non-proliferation in two ways. First, it prevents non-nuclear weapon states from carrying out tests required to field a nuclear arsenal. Second, by prohibiting any nuclear weapon test explosions and all other nuclear explosions, the treaty limits the ability of nuclear weapon states, including the Russian Federation and China, to build new nuclear weapons.

The United States is one of 44 nations which must ratify the CTBT before it can enter into force. Therefore, it is important that the U.S. Senate not become an obstacle to making the treaty an effective instrument of nuclear non-proliferation and world peace. Although Senator Helms and others have doubts about whether India or North Korea will ratify the CTBT, the responsibility of the U.S. Senate lies first and foremost with the U.S. ratification process. That is something you and your colleagues can effect directly and positively if you choose.

A 1997 Mellman Group public opinion survey found that 70 percent of the American public believes that the Senate should ratify the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. Only 13 percent opposed. We don't want to see public desires once again thwarted by a committee chairman who won't even provide for a fair hearing and a vote on a measure that has overwhelming public support. That's bad for the reputation of the U.S. Senate and is bad for American democracy.

Therefore, we ask you to assure that the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty receives prompt hearings and a committee vote as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

Signers from religious organizations.