To: kenanddavida@starpower.net

From: "Howard W. Hallman" <mupj@igc.org>

Subject: Letter on de-alerting

Cc: Bcc:

X-Attachments: A:\icnd.045.doc;

In-Reply-To: References:

Dear Colleagues,

Please note the following message from Lydia Milnes of FCNL and respond as she requests.

#### Howard

>From: Lydia Milnes <lydia@fcnl.org>
>To: "'Howard W. Hallman'" <mupj@igc.org>
>Subject: RE: Deadline for Comments on De-Alerting Sign on Letter
>Date: Tue, 26 Sep 2000 10:34:24 -0400
>X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2448.0)
>
>Dear Howard,
>I am sending the most recent draft of the De-Alerting sign on letter. Can
>you please send it out to the Interfaith Coalition with a note telling
>people that it is an updated version of the letter, as well as with my
>message from last week? Thank you so much for your help.

>Sincerely, >Lydia

The Message:

Dear Friends,

If you are interested in making comments about the Dear president-elect sign on letter regarding de-alerting, please do so by Oct. 6, 2000. This letter was drafted by the Friends Committee on National Legislation, and was passed out at the Sept. 19 Interfaith Coalition meeting. If you need a copy of the letter, or have comments, please contact me, Lydia Milnes, at FCNL. All feedback will be carefully considered, and greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

Lydia Milnes
Legislative Intern
Friends Committee on National Legislation (Quakers)
245 Second Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002 - 5795
Phone: 202-547-6000 ext. 121

Toll Free: 1-800-630-1330 Fax: 202-547-6019

website: http://www.fcnl.org

May 23, 2000

Mr. Wade Green Rockefeller Financial Services 30 Rockefeller Plaza, Room 5600 New York, NY 10012

Dear Mr. Green:

Yesterday we had a three-hour planning meeting of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament. Notes from the meeting are enclosed.

Discussion revealed a renewed enthusiasm to work on issues of nuclear disarmament. We intend to take seriously the commitment of United States and other nuclear-weapon states to "an unequivocal undertaking...to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals", as made in the report of the 2000 Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). Building upon our CTBT experience, we have started the process of developing a strong interfaith infrastructure in states and localities so that we can press for steps leading to nuclear disarmament. We will also oppose steps that go in the opposite direction, especially National Missile Defense.

Therefore, we hope that you will look favorably upon our request for financial assistance. Please let me know if you need further information,

Shalom,

Howard W. Hallman Chair

P.S. I'm also enclosing a copy of the revised resolution on Nuclear Abolition that my organization successfully shepherded through the United Methodist General Conference in Cleveland earlier this month.

May 23, 2000

Jan Fellenbaum, Grants Administrator Unitarian Universalist Veatch Program 48 Shelter Rock Road Manhasset, NY 11030

Dear Jan Fellenbaum:

Yesterday we had a three-hour planning meeting of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament. Notes from the meeting are enclosed. They provide further background for you as you review our request for financial support.

Discussion revealed a renewed enthusiasm to work on issues of nuclear disarmament. We intend to take seriously the commitment of United States and other nuclear-weapon states to "an unequivocal undertaking...to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals", as made in the report of the 2000 Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). Building upon our CTBT experience, we have started the process of developing a strong interfaith infrastructure in states and localities so that we can press for steps leading to nuclear disarmament. We will also oppose steps that go in the opposite direction, especially National Missile Defense.

Therefore, we hope that you will look favorably upon our grant request. Please let me know if you need further information,

Shalom,

Howard W. Hallman Chair

P.S. I'm also enclosing a copy of the revised resolution on Nuclear Abolition that my organization successfully shepherded through the United Methodist General Conference in Cleveland earlier this month.

### Dear Colleagues:

Since the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament met on May 22, nuclear weapons has become a campaign issue. George W. Bush's speech and news conference on nuclear weapons was good-news/bad-news. He advocated reducing the nuclear arsenal, including possible unilateral action, but he proposed a vastly expanded national ballistic defense that would protect not only all 50 states but also all U.S. allies. In their news coverage some major newspapers put nuclear reduction in the headline, others put expanded NMD. In response Al Gore dismissed both Bush proposals: expanded NMD and reduction of the U.S. arsenal. This is not the end of the debate, so we have an opportunity to get our views into the discussion.

At our May 22 meeting we agreed that we need to specify our objectives and place them in the broader context of a vision statement. While traveling to Phoenix last week to attend a conference, I drafted a set of objectives to reflect our discussion on immediate priorities and to indicate how we might respond to the report of the NPT Review Conference and the commitment of the nuclear-weapon states to "an unequivocal undertaking to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals." The first part emphasizes action to oppose NMD and be ready to work for ratification of CTBT and other treaties. Our role would be to develop grassroots support for these actions. The second part suggests that the possessors of nuclear weapons get on with the task of eliminating their arsenal. Our role would be to help develop the political will.

The draft statement of objectives is attached. Your comments are requested.

Shalom, Howard

###

# Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament Statement of Objectives

The Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament brings together representatives of faith-based organizations to work together for the elimination of nuclear weapons. We will conduct educational activities and engage in public advocacy for steps leading to this goal. We will oppose measures that lead in the opposite direction

### Immediate Objectives

- 1. At this time we intend to give particular attention to termination of the U.S. national missile defense (NMD) program. Although national missile defense has a seemingly worthy objective of protecting U.S. residents from nuclear attack, its development by the United States runs the grave risk of refueling the nuclear arms race. Moreover, numerous experts question the technical feasibility of NMD. Its extravagant cost distorts federal budget priorities.
- 2. We stand ready to develop public support for arms control treaties as they come before the U.S. Senate, including the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), START II protocol, a future START III agreement, and other treaties of this nature.

# Longer-range Objectives

At the 2000 Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) the five nuclear-weapon states -- United States, Russia, United Kingdom, France, and China --committed themselves to "an unequivocal undertaking to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals." We applaud this commitment and urge that its fulfillment occur sooner rather than later.

The boldest approach would be for the United States and other possessors of nuclear weapons to mutually take the following actions.

- a) Declare a policy of no use of nuclear weapons against any adversary under any circumstance.
- b) Promptly take all nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert.
- c) Remove all deployed nuclear weapons from active service as rapidly as possible and place them in secure storage under mutual and international inspection.
- d) Dismantle all nuclear weapons on a schedule that is expeditious and balanced so that no nation would have an advantage or feel insecure during the dismantlement process.
- e) Implement an international system of fissile material control with effective accounting, monitoring, and safeguards.

There could be other scenarios for the elimination of nuclear weapons. Human intelligence can figure out effective ways to proceed. The challenge is to develop the strong will to achieve this goal. The Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament will help create the necessary political will for decisive action.

Drafted by Howard W. Hallman, May 30, 2000

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

July 6, 2000

To: Hop Pham-Thi

Fax: 202 833-5397 No. of pages: 4

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Re: Contact list

Dear Hop:

Here is the contact list for the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament. All persons on this list received the e-mail transmission of the 20/20-interfaith postcard on NMD.

I've marked with an "H" the persons I will contact. Some are marked "skip" because we need only one contact per organization. If you want to try the others, please do.

Thanks for your efforts.

July 11, 2000

Ms. Christine B. Wing The Ford Foundation 320 East 43<sup>rd</sup> Street New York, NY 10017

### Dear Chris:

The Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, which I chair, is now functioning. I would like to tell you where we are and where we are going, and to inquire whether you would consider financial support in your next fiscal year.

We began on May 22 with a half-day planning meeting. This provided the basis for developing the enclosed Statement of Objectives. At the June meeting there was a consensus that this statement should be considered "a work in process" rather than a fixed charter. This reflects the nature of the Interfaith Committee, which as an unincorporated coalition will serve as a framework for interfaith cooperation on issues of nuclear disarmament rather than a rigid structure. Rather than having the Interfaith Committee be the principal operating vehicle, different faith-based organizations will take the lead for specific activities. The Interfaith Committee will also serve as a means for carrying out cooperative activities with civic-sector organizations.

This philosophy is illustrated by our approach to our initial priority issue: national missile defense (NMD). First, the Friends Committee on National Legislation produced an interfaith letter to President Clinton opposing deployment of NMD. Second, we are working with 20/20 Vision on an interfaith postcard alert on NMD that will have 15 to 20 sponsors. This is mutually beneficial, for we can tap into 20/20's expertise on postcard alerts and 20/20, which has funding for grassroots NMD action, can reach out to the broad interfaith network in ways they couldn't on their own.

At the June meeting of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament we developed a set of nonpartisan questions to congressional candidates on such issues as NMD, CTBT, START, and NPT. Member organizations can adapt these questions to their own use in contacting candidates and providing information to their grassroots networks. This process will tie into established practices of denominations on raising electoral issues.

Ms. Christine B. Wing July 11, 2000 Page two.

In a separate though related activity, I am working with Dave Robinson of Pax Christi USA on a set of questions to be addressed to the presidential nominees of the Democratic, Republican, Reform, and Green parties. Signers of the letters to candidates will be bishops and other prominent religious leaders acting individually and not as denominational representatives. The letter will go out after the last nominating convention is completed. We will release responses at a news conference shortly after Labor Day. Expenses for this effort will come from 501(c)(4) funds of our sponsoring organizations.

We are preparing for an effort this fall to encourage and assist state and local interfaith coalitions to prepare for post-election contact with senators and representatives who will serve in the next Congress. After the election interfaith delegations will meet with re-elected and newly elected members of Congress and begin a dialogue on our issues that will continue after Congress convenes. This steady contact will come into sharp focus through grassroots mobilization prior to votes on key legislation. Our organizing priority will be upon members who are in leadership positions or who are considered to be swing votes.

We are sometimes asked how we compare with the Nuclear Reduction/Disarmament Initiative of the Washington National Cathedral. We fully support the release of the statement of religious and military leaders; indeed most of the denominations participating in the Interfaith Committee were among the signers. One difference is that the Cathedral project is short term and will end in December while the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament has a long-term commitment. A second difference is the Cathedral's focus solely on educational activities while our primary focus is upon public policy advocacy. That, for instance, is why 20/20 Vision is working with us rather than Cathedral project staff in grassroots mobilization on NMD.

As to funding, through Wade Green I recently received a \$15,000 contribution from an anonymous Rockefeller family member in support of my work with the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament. I am raising money in United Methodist circles for creation of a web site (as a start my own local church has contributed \$500). I have a request for seed money pending with the Unitarian Universalist Veatch Program. However, I am still seeking long-term support for this endeavor.

The annual budget has three components: \$50,000 for my part-time services as chair, to be paid through the Methodists United Peace/Justice Education Fund (a 501(c)(3) entity); \$24,000 for operation of a web site, mostly by contracting out; and \$66,000 for a field coordinator, to be contracted to one of the member organizations. The annual total is \$140,000. Would you consider a grant from the Ford Foundation to cover all or a major part of this budget? Preferably we would like a four-year commitment for support. If you are interested, I would like to talk with you in greater detail about the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament.

Shalom,

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

July 13, 2000

To: Hop Pham-Thi

Fax: 202 833-5307 No. of pages: 2

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Нор,

Here is the schedule for events of the People's Campaign for Nonviolence. I'm mailing the brochure to you.

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

July 13, 2000

To: Jere Skipper

Fax: 202 547-4457 No. of pages: 2

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

### Dear Jere:

Here is the text of the interfaith postcard on national missile defense. 20/20 Vision is producing it. We have 23 sponsors from the faith community. We would like to add your office. Deadline is 5:00 p.m. today, Thursday, June 13.

If you can be a sponsor, please let me know, and indicate how many cards you can use. 20/20 will supply the cards, but you will have to handle the mailing and postage at first class rate.

I'll be at 301 896-0013 until 2:30. If you don't reach me before then, please call Ms. Hop Tham-Thi at 20/20 - 202 833-2020.

Shalom,

July 26, 2000

Jan Fellenbaum, Grants Administrator Unitarian Universalist Veatch Program 48 Shelter Rock Road Manhasset, NY 11030

Dear Jan Fellenbaum:

As you consider our grant request, I would like to report on the progress we are making in our work with the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, which I serve as a chair.

At our May 22 planning meeting we decided to focus on national missile defense and build grassroots support in opposition. To help faith groups better understand this issue, I circulated background material obtained from the Coalition to Reduce Nuclear Dangers. To help us develop a grassroots educational campaign, I invited staff of 20/20 Vision to come to our June 22 meeting. (We had a close working relationship with 20/20 during the CTBT ratification campaign.) As a result we jointly developed the enclosed postcard alert, which is sponsored by 28 faith-based organizations. 20/20 got it printed and supplied copies to sponsoring organizations for mailing to their membership. Initial printing was 20,000. And a number of organizations will send the message electronically to many more.

Thus, the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament provided the framework for cooperative action with civic-sector organizations. In the process we brought in Muslin and Buddhist groups who hadn't previously been involved in our activities.

A grant from the Veatch Program would help us to continue and expand interfaith mobilization on the important issue of nuclear disarmament. Therefore, we hope that you respond favorably to our request for financial support.

Shalom,

August 28, 2000

Mr. Wade Greene Room 5600 30 66Rockefeller Plaza New York, NY 10112

Dear Mr. Greene:

I am following up my e-mail communcation to you and telephone conversation with your associate. It is my understanding that the \$15,000 contribution from an anonymous member of the Rockefeller Foundation to Methodists United for Peace with Justice may be allocated as follows: \$10,000 to our General Fund, which has 501(c)(4) status with IRS, and \$5,000 to our Peace/Justice Education Fund, which is a 501(c)(3) entity.

We appreciate your consent to this arrangement

Sincerely yours,

### Dear Friends:

I would like to inquire whether you would consider a proposal from Methodists United for Peace with Justice for a grant of \$25,000 to support the leadership role we are playing in mobilizing interfaith action for nuclear disarmament. This occurs through my position as chair of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, an informal coalition that involves more than 30 faith-based organizations, both denominational offices and unofficial religious associations.

This activity began three years ago when I convened a meeting of representatives from faith-based organizations to developed support for Senate ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). For the next two years the Interfaith Group for the CTBT, which I chaired, met monthly. We linked our efforts to activities of civil-sector organizations by engaging in some joint activities and by having representatives of such groups as the Coalition to Reduce Nuclear Dangers, Physicians for Social Responsibility, Peace Action, Women's Action for New Direction, and 20/20 Vision attend our meetings. Our part of the CTBT ratification campaign involved interfaith mobilization in 25+ swing states, a petition drive, postcard alerts (with 20/20), grassroots delegations meeting with Senate staff, numerous letters to senators, contact by top religious leaders with their senators. Although the CTBT was defeated for political reasons beyond our influence, we gained the attention of senators. That was shown when 20 Republicans who eventually voted against the treaty signed a letter originated by Senators Warner and Moynihan asking for postponement of the vote. Nineteen came from states where we mobilized grassroots support for the CTBT. Informed persons on Capitol Hill said this reflected their nervousness of following the party line to vote against the treaty.

Subsequently we have reshaped our coalition into the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament with a broader agenda to encompass support for de-alerting, deep cuts in the nuclear arsenal, eventual elimination of all nuclear weapons, and ratification of the CTBT, and also opposition to national missile defense (NMD). Our approach is illustrated by how we are dealing with the latter issue.

The Interfaith Committee held an all-afternoon planning meeting on May 22. We decided to give priority attention to national missile defense. The Friends Committee on National Legislation took the lead in developing a sign-on letter to President Clinton, opposing NMD deployment. Because most faith-based groups have not worked on this issue, I obtained from the Coalition to Reduce Nuclear Dangers a three-page briefing paper on NMD and circulated it among our participating organizations. Because we had worked closely with 20/20 Vision during the CTBT campaign, I invited 20/20 representatives to attend our June 22 meeting. Out of this session came an agreement to develop a joint postcard alert on NMD. Two of our group worked with 20/20 staff to develop the text. I sent it via e-mail to our participating organizations, inviting them to cosponsor the card and send it to their grassroots activists. I made some follow-up calls, but most of the follow-up contact was handled by 20/20 staff. We obtained 28 cosponsors. 20/20 took care of production and printing (in part supported by a grant from the Town Creek Foundation, I believe). Over 30,000 cards were printed and distributed, and some organizations put out the text via e-mail. This was an effective partnership. 20/20 provided its know-how, and we mobilized the faith-based organizations. We couldn't have done this by ourselves, and 20/20 wouldn't have been able to get that many faith-based organizations involved by itself.

Now the Back-from-the-Brink Campaign has approached us about joining that initiative to promote de-alerting the nuclear arsenal. This will be on our agenda for our September meeting. We will also discuss how we can provide assistance to interfaith groups at the state and local levels so that they can prepare for making contacts with their senators and representatives in the next Congress. In that session we will once again work closely with civil-sector organizations to renew the campaign for CTBT ratification.

As I perform my role as chair of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, I serve as a catalyst to bring faith-based organizations together and to link them with civil-sector organizations. Rather than serving as a coordinator or attempting hierarchical command, I encourage various organizations to take the lead on specific activities and I promote horizontal relations among the faith groups and between them and civic-sector organizations. However, sometimes I give a nudge here and there, and I seek ways to feel gaps. My role is carried out mostly in the background with very little publicity. Some have told me that my role is indispensable for getting faith-based organizations to work together on nuclear disarmament and to carry out linkages with civil-sector organizations. If you want, you can get a reading on this by talking with some of your grantees, such as John Isaacs, Daryl Kimbal, Bob Musial, Jim Wyerman, Gordon Clark, Kimberly Robson.

If you are interested in a full proposal, I will further develop the contribution that Methodists United for Peace with Justice makes to interfaith mobilization for nuclear disarmament and will describe the activities to be undertaken in 2001. The \$25,000 mentioned earlier as a suggested grant amount is half the budget for my work with the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament.

I look forward to hearing from you.

With best regards, Howard W. Hallman, Chair September 13, 2000

Ms. Christine B. Shelton, Executive Director Town Creek Foundation P.O. Box 159 Oxford, MD 21654

Dear Ms. Shelton:

We would like to apply for a grant of \$25,000 in partial support of the leadership role that Methodists United for Peace with Justice plays in mobilizing the faith community to work together on issues of nuclear disarmament. This occurs through my role as chair of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, a cooperative endeavor that now involves more than 30 faith-based organizations. Some of them are denominational offices, others are peace fellowships and other unofficial associations. They work together and also collaborate with civil-sector organizations working on peace and disarmament issues.

Our planned activities are described in the enclosed grant proposal. In brief we will work together in grassroots mobilization of faith-based organizations around the United States and will also engage in public policy advocacy in Washington. My role as chair is to serve as a catalyst and facilitator of interfaith cooperation. In this manner we will engage numerous personnel and a broad array of grassroots networks in cooperative action. Thus, a grant from the Town Creek Foundation would act as a multiplier in mobilizing substantial resources.

The grant would go to the Methodists United Peace/Justice Education Fund, an entity that has 501(c)(3) status from the Internal Revenue Service. Funds will be used in accordance with IRS regulations. Activities that might be deemed lobbying will be funded by participating organizations from their own resources.

If you need further information, please let me know.

With best regards,

September 13, 2000

Ms. Edith T. Eddy, Executive Director Compton Foundation 545 Middlefield Road, Suite 178 Menlo Park, CA 94025

Dear Ms. Eddy:

We would like to apply for a grant of \$25,000 in partial support of the leadership role that Methodists United for Peace with Justice plays in mobilizing the faith community to work together on issues of nuclear disarmament. This occurs through my role as chair of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, a cooperative endeavor that now involves more than 30 faith-based organizations. Some of them are denominational offices, others are peace fellowships and other unofficial associations. They work together and also collaborate with civil-sector organizations working on peace and disarmament issues.

Our planned activities are described in the enclosed grant proposal. In brief we will work together in grassroots mobilization of faith-based organizations around the United States and will also engage in public policy advocacy in Washington. My role as chair is to serve as a catalyst and facilitator of interfaith cooperation. In this manner we will engage numerous personnel and a broad array of grassroots networks in cooperative action. Thus, a grant from the Compton Foundation would act as a multiplier in mobilizing substantial resources.

The grant would go to the Methodists United Peace/Justice Education Fund, an entity that has 501(c)(3) status from the Internal Revenue Service. Funds will be used in accordance with IRS regulations. Activities that might be deemed lobbying will be funded by participating organizations from their own resources.

If you need further information, please let me know.

With best regards,

September 14, 2000

Jan Fellenbaum, Grants Administrator Unitarian Universalist Veatch Program 48 Shelter Rock Road Manhasset, NY 11030

### Dear Jan Fellenbaum:

On March 15, 2000 we applied for a grant of \$25,000 from the Unitarian Universalist Veatch Program in support of the leadership role we are playing with the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament. We hope you will soon come to a favorable decision because we have reached a point where we need financial assistance to sustain our initiative.

To show you our progress in May I sent you a copy of the minutes of our planning meeting. In July I sent a copy of a postcard action alert on national missile defense (NMD), developed in cooperation with 20/20 Vision with 28 faith-based cosponsors, which distributed 40,000 copies. By joining the opposition to deployment of NMD, we contributed to the public pressure that influenced President Clinton to decide against the start of deployment.

The Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament how has 34 participating faith-based organizations, and we expect others to join us (see attachment). Where we are going is shown on the attached time line, which comes out of a recent foundation proposal.

In June Methodists United for Peace with Justice received a \$15,000 contribution from an anonymous member of the Rockefeller Family in support of our interfaith work. \$10,000 of this amount was in the form of a 501(c)(4) contribution to our General Fund, and \$5,000 to our 501(c)(3) Education Fund. We used the former to support a project seeking answers from presidential candidates on ten questions on nuclear disarmament issues posed by 48 religious leaders. Because of the political nature of the project (though wholly nonpartisan), it was done through an hoc arrangement rather than through the Interfaith Committee. The candidates' answers were incomplete, so the project is still underway. Attached are three documents connected with the project.

By the end of September we will have expended the Rockefeller contribution. Therefore, we hope that the Veatch Program will decide soon to give us a grant. We have just submitted applications to the Town Creek Foundation and

Jan Fellenbaum September 14, 2000 Page two.

the Compton Foundation for grants of \$25,000 each. It will take them four to six months to process the applications. Therefore, a Veatch grant at this time would help us sustain our efforts for the next six months.

If you need further information, please let me know.

Shalom,

September 28, 2000

Ms. Ruth G. Henning, Administrator The John Merck Fund 11 Beacon Street, Suite 1230 Boston, MA 02108

Dear Ms. Henning:

I would like to inquire whether the John Merck Fund would consider a grant to Methodists United for Peace with Justice in support of the leadership role we play in interfaith mobilization on nuclear disarmament issues. This occurs primarily through my service as chair of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, a coalition that now involves more than 30 faith-based organization and is growing.

As described more fully in the enclosed material, the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament combines grassroots mobilization of state and local faith-based organizations and public policy advocacy in Washington D. C. by national organizations. It has evolved from the Interfaith Group for the CTBT. Our active issues now include opposition to national missile defense and support for de-alerting and deep cuts in the strategic arsenal. In the next Congress we will renew our support for ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and other arms control agreement. We will push the next presidential administration to fulfill the U.S. obligations under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty for an "unequivocal undertaking" to eliminate nuclear weapons.

Because you are providing financial support to the Nuclear Reduction/ Disarmament Initiative of the Washington National Cathedral (soon to be transferred to another institution), you may wonder how the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament differs from this project. First, let me say that I support the Cathedral's initiative and have been publicizing and distributing the Joint Statement of Military Professionals and Religious Leaders. Second, the main difference is that the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament seeks to directly influence public policy through grassroots mobilization and public advocacy in Washington, D.C. while the Cathedral project is strictly educational and eschews advocacy activities. We meet on Capitol Hill and are involved with Congress and the Executive Branch while they work from the National Cathedral and will soon move to a seminary.

Ms. Ruth G. Henning September 28, 2000 Page two.

Third, the Interfaith Committee functions as a working group in which participating organizations determine policy and are fully involved in implementation through their grassroots networks and their operations in Washington. As a partnership organization, we function through a division of labor with different organizations taking the lead for different tasks.

Fourth, we have a close and active working relationship with civil-sector organizations dealing with peace and disarmament issues. When they seek an interfaith connection, they turn to the Interfaith Committee, as has happened in recent months with 20/20 Vision on national missile defense and the Bank from the Brink Campaign on de-alerting.

The funds we are seeking for the leadership role with the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament would be handled by our Methodist United Peace/Justice Education Fund, a 501(c)(3) entity and a public foundation under 509(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code. Activities so funded would be educational in nature. Activities that might be considered lobbying will occur through participating organizations with their own resources. To the extent that Methodists United for Peace with Justice is involved in direct and grassroots lobbying, it is financed through our General Fund, which has 501(c)(4) status.

I would welcome an opportunity to have a telephone conversation with you about this inquiry. If you need further information, please let me know.

With best regards,

# Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament Statement of Purpose

In the United States numerous religious bodies and religious leaders have called for the elimination of nuclear weapons. The Interfaith Committee for Nuclear disarmament has formed so that participating faith-based organizations can work together for the fulfillment of this goal.

We note that at the 2000 Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty the United States joined with Russia, the United Kingdom, France, and China to commit themselves to "an unequivocal undertaking...to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals."

We applaud this commitment. We will work diligently to build public support in the United States for steps that lead to nuclear disarmament. We will oppose actions that lead away from this goal.

Specifically we will support the following actions:

Ratification of the Comprehensive Test BanTreaty.

Termination of research and development of new nuclear weapons.

De-alerting measures to remove nuclear weapons from hair-trigger alert.

Reductions in the U.S. and Russian strategic arsenals through treaties.

Dismantlement of nuclear weapons taken out of service.

Multilateral negotiations of a nuclear weapons convention to ban and eliminate nuclear weapons.

Achievement of an international system of fissile material control.

We will oppose the following actions:

Development and deployment of national missile defense.

Research and subcritical tests for the design of new nuclear weapons.

# Notes from Meeting of Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament May 22, 2000 Written by Howard W. Hallman

The following persons were in attendance:

Carol Blythe, Alliance of Baptists

Bob Tiller, Baptist Peace Fellowship

Greg Laszakovits, Church of the Brethren, Washington Office

David Radcliff, Church of the Brethren, Brethren Witness Office (Elgin, IL)

Carol Q. Cosby, Disciples Peace Fellowship (Indianapolis, IN)

Tom Hart, Episcopal Church, Washington Office

Mary Miller, Episcopal Peace Fellowship

Kathy Guthrie, Friends Committee on National Legislation

Judy Coode, Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns

Daryl Byler, Mennonite Central Committee

Howard Hallman, Methodists United for Peace with Justice

Jim Watkins, Presbyterian Peacemaking Program (Atlanta, GA)

Lawrence Egbert, Unitarian Universalist Association, Washington Office

Robin Ringler, United Methodist General Board of Church and Society

Bill Price, World Peacemakers

Daryl Kimball, Coalition to Reduce Nuclear Dangers

Marie Rietmann, Office of Rep. Blumenauer

Howard Hallman, chair, opened the meeting by recalling how religious organizations worked together to build support for Senate ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). The purpose of this meeting is to build upon this experience, to establish goals and objectives for 2001 with a new president and a new Congress, and to develop plans for working together to achieve these goals. He noted that additional organizations are interested in participating but could not be presented at this meeting.

As a sign of hope, Hallman pointed out that at the recently completed 2000 Review Conference under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) the United States and the other nuclear-weapon states had made an unequivocal commitment to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenal. Although they specified no timetable, this commitment was something to build upon.

Daryl Kimball indicated that we have opportunities but also face difficulties. The NPT conference report is an opportunity. So are series of summit meetings that President Clinton and Russian President Putin will have in the next six months. The difficulties include Senate opposition to arms reduction treaties, the continued hair-trigger alert status of the U.S. and Russian strategic arsenals, opposition by the Joint Chiefs of Staff to strategic reductions below 2,500 warheads, and the development of National Missile Defense (NMD) by the United States. The challenge is to remind policy makers and the general public of the dangers of hair-trigger alert, to expose NMD's harmful side effects on arms control, to promote reciprocal unilateral initiatives for de-alerting and retirement of nuclear weapons, and to renew momentum for CTBT ratification.

Jim Watkins stressed the need to educate Congress and church people on these issues, which now aren't on the public radar screen. He suggested focusing on one issue, such as National Missile Defense. Bob Tiller agreed that NMD should be the current focus if we choose only one issue but that we also need to see the whole range of nuclear issues. Bill Price supported an emphasis on NMD but said it should be in the context of nuclear abolition. Others express an interest in working on NMD.

Greg Laszakovits suggested that even if we focus primarily on one issue there is a need for an overarching vision. Kathy Guthrie agreed on the need to articulate a vision. She indicated that the Friends Committee on National Legislation is dealing with several issues related to nuclear disarmament and is willing to develop a religious leaders' letter on NMD.

There was agreement that the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament should have a vision statement so that our focus on particular issues will be set in a broader context. Hallman said that he would facilitate development of such a statement.

Turning to grassroots mobilization, Marie Rietmann recalled the activities of the faith community in the CTBT ratification campaign when she worked with us from her job at 20/20 Vision: conference calls, joint alerts, grassroots organizing, contacts with Senate staff, lobby days, speaking engagements, petitions hand delivered to senators' offices, editorials and op-ed pieces in regional newspapers, sign-on letters. Kathy Guthrie elaborated on the petition drive and grassroots organizing in key states. These efforts built an infrastructure and a bank of people that we used when the treaty suddenly came before the Senate.

Jim Watkins noted that building an infrastructure is a key. Also, what takes the greatest time to do (such as organizing delegations of influential persons) makes the greatest impact. Marie shared a list of activities organized along those lines.

Larry Egbert spoke of the need to get senators to stand up to Senator Helms. Hallman suggested that we need to get Democrats to speak out more on broader issues of nuclear disarmament. Mary Miller suggested that we talk with chaplains and other military leaders. Jim suggested that we all make a list of potential allies "outside the box" in order to broaden support.

Marie reminded us how floor votes in Congress help to focus the mind. She cited votes on restrictions on arms reduction and BMD appropriations.

Discussion turned to developing an interfaith infrastructure. Among others Kathy described the FCNL network, Robin Ringler spoke of the United Methodist peace with justice coordinators in 66 conferences, Bill Price described World Peacemakers, and Jim told about the Presbyterian peacemakers network. He suggested that as we work together on a common theme we can draw on our differing strengths in various regions and localities.

David Radcliff mentioned again the need for an overarching theme that would enable grassroots activists to feel a part of a larger movement. Carol Cosby said that the Disciples would welcome an interfaith approach. She also stressed the importance of lead time for grassroots mobilization.

Daryl Byler wondered if the August 6 anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima could be a day to launch a new effort. Bill Price mentioned plans of the Fellowship of Reconciliation to have ongoing events in Washington during the summer.

There was a clear consensus that we want to work together on nuclear disarmament within the context of a broad vision but with specificity of focus. We agreed to meet again on Thursday, June 22 from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. in the Methodist Building.

Ten persons stayed for the third part of the meeting to discuss involvement in the 2000 election. Several described the ways their offices pose non-partisan questions to candidates and publish the results. Others indicate that they publish voting records of incumbents on key issues. Some have no involvement in elections.

Hallman described an initiative to have a number of top religious leaders write to the top presidential candidates and ask them a series of questions related to nuclear disarmament. He is working on this with Dave Robinson of Pax Christi

Jim suggested that we develop a series of common questions to submit to candidates and their staff. Hallman indicated that these questions could be taken to candidates' public meetings and given to journalists who ask questions at public debates. Jim agreed to draft a set of questions and circulate them amongst us.

Jim also stressed the importance of having grassroots activists and religious leaders call upon the successful candidates soon after the election to lay out their positions on public policy issues and to establish relationships with them and their staff.

We agreed to discuss election involvement further at our June meeting.

The meeting adjourned.

\*\*\*

Postscript: Other interested organizations.

In addition to the organizations represented at the May 22 meeting, the following organizations have indicated an interested in being involved in the work of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament.

African Methodist Episcopal Church
American Friends Service Committee
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
Conference of Major Superiors of Men
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Office of Governmental Affairs
Muslim Peace Fellowship
National Council of Churches
Pax Christi, USA
Presbyterian Church, USA, Washington Office
Presbyterian Peace Fellowship

Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism United Church of Christi U.S. Catholic Conference

Invitations are out to other denominations and religious associations to become involved in the work of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament.

May 23, 2000

# Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament Statement of Objectives

The Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament brings together representatives of faith-based organizations to work together for the elimination of nuclear weapons. We will conduct educational activities and engage in public advocacy for steps leading to this goal. We will oppose measures that lead in the opposite direction

### **Immediate Objectives**

- 1. At this time we intend to give particular attention to termination of the U.S. national missile defense (NMD) program. Although national missile defense has a seemingly worthy objective of protecting U.S. residents from nuclear attack, its development by the United States runs the grave risk of refueling the nuclear arms race. Moreover, numerous experts question the technical feasibility of NMD. Its extravagant cost distorts federal budget priorities.
- 2. We stand ready to develop public support for arms control treaties as they come before the U.S. Senate, including the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), START II protocol, a future START III agreement, and other treaties of this nature.

## **Longer-range Objectives**

At the 2000 Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) the five nuclear-weapon states -- United States, Russia, United Kingdom, France, and China --committed themselves to "an unequivocal undertaking to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals." We applaud this commitment and urge that its fulfillment occur sooner rather than later.

The boldest approach would be for the United States and other possessors of nuclear weapons to mutually take the following actions.

- a) Declare a policy of no use of nuclear weapons against any adversary at any time under any circumstance.
- b) Promptly take all nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert.
- c) Remove all deployed nuclear weapons from active service as rapidly as possible and place them in secure storage under mutual and international inspection.
- d) Dismantle all nuclear weapons on a schedule that is expeditious and balanced so that no nation would have an advantage or feel insecure during the dismantlement process.
- e) Implement an international system of fissile material control with effective accounting, monitoring, and safeguards.

There could be other scenarios for the elimination of nuclear weapons. Human intelligence can figure out effective ways to proceed. The challenge is to develop the strong will to achieve this goal. The Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament will help create the necessary political will for decisive action and will build public support for policies that contribute to nuclear disarmament.

Drafted by Howard W. Hallman, revised June 20, 2000.

# Meeting of Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.. Thursday, June 22, 2000 Conference Room 4, Methodist Building 100 Maryland Avenue, NE, Washington, D.C.

# Agenda

- 1. Introductions
- 2. Statement of objectives
  - a. Immediate
  - b. Longer range
- 3. National Missile Defense
- 4. Hiroshima Day
- 5. 2000 Election
  - a. Questions for congressional candidates
  - b. Letter to presidential candidates
  - c. Grassroots involvement
- 6. Developing a grassroots action network
  - a. Use of existing networks
  - b. Interfaith coordination
  - c. Geographic priorities
  - d. Activities
- 7. Next meeting

June 19, 2000

To: Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Re: Developing a Grassroots Action Network

Dear Colleagues:

At the upcoming June 22 meeting of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, we will discuss the development of a grassroots action network. I offer some background ideas to stimulate discussion.

(A) The building blocks are the existing outreach networks of denominational offices and religious associations (my generic term for peace fellowships and other non-official organizations). For dissemination of information these networks rely upon periodicals, regular mail, e-mail, phone banks, and web sites. These mechanisms can be used to provide timely information on the issues we are dealing with. For sources of information we can draw upon the expertise of civic-sector organizations.

Questions to consider are who does what to maximize the use of these existing arrangements. This involves a commitment of various offices to participate and arrangements with civic-sector organizations to feed in timely information.

(B) We know from the CTBT ratification campaign and campaigns on other issues that we can increase our effectiveness by demonstrating interfaith support. It is sometimes easier for interfaith delegations to get appointments with senators, and to some extent with representatives, than each denomination going alone. We can increase the impact of letter writing and phone calls if they come from persons representing diverse groups located in all parts of the state or congressional district.

Some states have interfaith organizations we can relate to. In others we will have to stimulate interfaith cooperation on nuclear disarmament issues. Perhaps we can have a division of responsibility so that particular denominational offices and religious associations take the lead in different states to organize interfaith network on our issues. Who will agree to take the lead in particular states? Which ones?

(C) We can't expect to be active in all states immediately. Therefore, we need to prioritize. We might start with the Senate and identify (1) swing vote members and (2) proponents of aspects of nuclear disarmament who could do more. The first category has some senators up for re-election and some who are holdovers. We can rank states according to these categories and undertake our initial interfaith activities in those states. Later we can engage in a similar process for the House of Representatives.

I have asked some civic-sector contacts for suggestions on which senators to focus on initially. We can use their suggestions to develop our own list of priorities.

- (D) As we work with our contacts in various states, we can suggest activities they might undertake. One listing in descending order of effectiveness (borrowed from Marie Rietmann) is as follows:
- (1) Organize citizen and high-level delegation visits to senators, or staff, in their field offices.
- (2) Attend senators' public meetings and ask questions.
- (3) Develop a telephone relationship with staff in D.C. who handles nuclear disarmament issues; get to know field staff who follows this issue.
- (4) Organize letters signed by non-traditional allies; hand deliver the letter and take along a couple of the signers.
- (5) Write letters to editors of newspapers; try to place op-ed articles.
- (6) Generate letters to senators from all regions of the state.
- (7) Promote calls to senators' D.C. office on designated call-in days.

Does this list make sense? Are there other activities to encourage? What are our priorities? How will we convey these suggestions to grassroots contacts? Should we produce a common body of how-to material?

Please offer your own ideas on how we can best develop grassroots activities for nuclear disarmament.

Shalom, Howard

Addedum by James Watkins, Presbyterian Peacemaking Program

Would add general concepts:

- 1. That which is most effective in communicating is that which takes the most time to do.
- 2. Don't go away most public officials expect advocates for this or that to go away
- 3. Assume an educating stance remember all public officials and their staff are educated beyond their intelligence.
- 4. Take time to build a constituency that is not easily pigeon holed as "liberal activists".

Specifics - I would set a goal of so many personal letters from opinion leaders in each state.

### Suggested questions to candidates for U.S. Senate on CTBT

### For candidates who voted against CTBT

- (1) On October 13, 1999 you vote against ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), which would ban nuclear weapon testing throughout the world. What is your reason for this negative vote?
- (2) If you are re-elected, how will you vote when the CTBT comes up again?
- (3) If leaning toward a "no" vote, what would it take to get you to vote "yes"?

### For challengers and candidates for open seats

(1) In October 1999 the U.S. Senate refused to ratify the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), which would ban nuclear weapon testing throughout the world. If elected, will you vote to ratify the CTBT when it comes before the Senate again?

### For candidates who voted for the CTBT

- (1) In 1999 you voted to ratify the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). If re-elected, will you vote for the CTBT when it comes up again?
- (2) There are other important nuclear disarmament issues to consider, such as de-alerting and deep cuts in strategic weapons. If re-elected, what will you do to promote action on these matters?

### Senators running for re-election

Voted against CTBT: Abraham (MI), Ashcroft (MO), Burns (MT), DeWine (OH), Frist (TN), Gorton (WA), Grams (MN), Hatch (UT), Hutchison (TX), Kyl (AZ), Lott (MS), Lugar (IN), Roth (DE), Santorum (PA), Snowe (ME), Thomas (WY)

Voted for CTBT: Akaka (HI), Bingaman (NM), Conrad (ND), Feinstein (CA), Jeffords (VT), Kennedy (MA), Kohl (WI), Lieberman (CT), Robb (VA), Sarbanes (MD)

Succeeded senator who voted for CTBT: Chafee (RI)

Voted present: Byrd (WV)

# **Open Seats**

Florida, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New York

### **Ouestions for Presidential Candidates**

- (1) There is a broad consensus with the faith community on the inherent immorality of nuclear weapons. For instance: (quote from your faith's statement). What are your views on the morality of possession, threatened use, and actual use of nuclear weapons?
- (2) In the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) the United States joined with Russia, United Kingdom, France, and China in making a commitment to "an unequivocal undertaking to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals." Given this commitment, a useful first step would be for all possessors of nuclear weapons to mutually pledge never to use nuclear weapons against any adversary at any time under any circumstance. As president would you be willing to work to achieve such a nouse pledge by the nuclear weapon states and other possessors?
- (3) If you do not favor a no-use policy, please tell us the categories of targets you as commander-in-chief would consider legitimate to strike with nuclear weapons.
- (4) The Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) provides a means of controlling the spread of nuclear weapons. If elected president, will you seek ratification of the CTBT by the United States Senate?
- (5) Many experts have pointed out the inherent danger of keeping U.S. and Russian strategic nuclear weapons on hair-trigger alert. If elected president, will you embark upon a de-alerting initiative to take strategic weapons off hair-trigger alert? If so, please provide specifics.
- (6) During the past fifteen years progress has been made in reduction of nuclear weapons through treaties between the United States and the Soviet Union, then Russia. If elected president, will you pursue additional agreements with Russia to achieve further cuts in the strategic arsenal? If so, what are your specific objectives?
- (7) An alternative approach to nuclear arms reduction through treaties is to undertake a series of reciprocal initiatives through executive action. Would you as president seek deep cuts in the nuclear arsenal through reciprocal initiatives? If so, please provide specifics.
- (8) For two other weapons of mass destruction, biological and chemical, the nations of the world have entered into international conventions providing for their elimination with adequate safeguards. Do you favor multilateral negotiations to achieve a global nuclear weapons convention?
- (9) What other initiatives do you plan to take for the elimination of nuclear weapons?

Dear Colleagues,

Here are my notes from the June 22 meeting of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament. I call you attention to two things in particular:

- (1) We will work with 20/20 Vision to get out an interfaith postcard alert on National Missile Defense. Kathy Guthrie and Greg Laszakovits will provide you a draft text and will ask whether you want to participate.
- (2) The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 19 from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. at the Methodist Building. Please put this on your calendar.

Shalom, Howard

###

Notes on meeting of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament Thursday. June22, 2000 at Methodist Building, Washington, D.C.

In attendance were Tim Barner, Kathy Guthrie, Howard Hallman, Carroll Houle, Greg Laszakovits, Mary Miller, Bill Price, Wendy Starman, Hop Phom The, Bob Tiller.

Washington National Cathedral Project

Wendy Starman of the Washington National Cathedral project reviewed the Joint Nuclear Reduction/Disarmament Statement by military professions and religious leaders, released the day before at the Cathedral. As follow up, the project will sent information kits to local religious leaders around the country. Information on the project and the materials contained in the kit are available online at www.cathedral.org/cathedral.

National Missile Defense (NMD)

Kathy Guthrie (Friends Committee on National Legislation) reviewed the sign-on letter (developed by FCNL) from the faith community to President Clinton, opposing deployment of NMD. Tim Barner and Hop Phom The from 20/20 Vision were in attendance to offer assistance to the faith community in grassroots outreach on this issue. Among the possibilities are postcard alerts, conference calls with experts, and distribution of skill sheets on such topics as how to write letters-to-the-editor, how to place op-ed pieces.

Having had a positive experience during the CTBT ratification campaign with postcard alerts, the group decided to work with 20/20 to produce one on NMD. Kathy Guthrie and Greg Laszakovits (Church of the Brethren) will work with Tim and Hop to develop a text. It will be circulated to participants in our Interfaith Committee for comments and for an opportunity to be a co-sponsor of the postcard and send it to grassroots contacts. It is hoped that the postcard can be out by early to mid-July. Kathy and Greg will be in touch with members of the Interfaith Committee on this matter.

### Hiroshima Day

At our previous meeting the question was raised whether this Interfaith Committee should sponsor some kind of activity on Hiroshima Day (August 6). Discussion revealed that a number of organizations have plans underway. Also on that day the Fellowship of Reconciliation will launch a campaign to end sanctions on Iran. Bill Price (World Peacemakers) reminded us of other activities going on during July and early August through the People's Campaign for Nonviolence We decided to share what we know about activities for Hiroshima Day but not attempt to organize anything as a committee.

### Questions for Candidates

We reviewed questions to congressional candidates drafted by Jim Watkins of the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program plus some supplemental questions on the CTBT drafted by Howard Hallman and some questions to presidential candidates prepared by Hallman. The group made revisions in some of the questions. Bob Tiller (Baptist Peace Fellowship) will provide questions on the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. The group agreed that these questions should be circulated to members of the Interfaith Committee for use as they determine. This will be handled in a separate communication.

### Grassroots Action Network

We reviewed a proposal for developing a grassroots action network, written by Hallman. Carroll Houle of the Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns, new to this issue, asked if there is a grassroots network out there. Mary Miller (Episcopal Peace Fellowship) and others responded that our experience in the CTBT campaign revealed that there is if we go out and mobilized it. Partly it depends on the issue. It works best if grassroots participants feel a sense of local ownership.

Discussion focused particularly on activities this fall to encourage state and local interfaith coalitions to start meeting with senators, representatives, and their staffs following the November election. This matter will be the subject of e-mail exchange and telephone conversation during the summer and will be on the agenda for the September meeting of the committee.

# Statement of Objectives

We briefly reviewed the statement of objects circulated prior to the meeting. Mary Miller suggested that the statement should be viewed as a work in progress to help us with our focus. Others agreed.

### **Next Meeting**

We decided to meet next on Tuesday, September 19 from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. at the Methodist Building.

Notes written by Howard W. Hallman, Chair

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July 6, 2000

# Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament Annual Budget

# I. Committee Chair

| Personnel   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Hallman (part time) 12 months @ \$3,000/mo.                     | \$36,000     |
| Fringe benefits 15% of salary                                   | 5,400        |
| , ,   | 41,400       |
|   | ,            |
| Communications (phone, internet, postage)                       | 3,000        |
| Printing, photocopy   | 2,400        |
| Supplies  | 600          |
| Travel  | 2,600        |
|   |              |
|   | \$50,000     |
|   | , ,          |
| II. Web Site  |              |
| Operations: web server and internet fees, part-time consultant  | 24,000       |
| operations, were server and internet rees, part time consultant | 21,000       |
|   |              |
| III. Field Coordination   |              |
| Personnel   |              |
| Field Coordinator   | \$40,000     |
| Fringe benefit 15% of salary                                    | 6,000        |
| Ç   | 46,000       |
|   |              |
| Communications  | 6,000        |
| Office expenses   | 4,000        |
| Printing, photocopy   | 6,000        |
| Travel  | <u>4,000</u> |
|   |              |
|   | \$66,000     |
|   |              |
| GRAND TOTAL   | \$140,000    |
|   |              |

July 11, 2000

#### **OUESTIONS ON ISSUES OF NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT**

for Candidates for the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives in Election of November 2000

Please adapt to suit your needs.

#### NUCLEAR ARMS REDUCTION

Although the Cold War is over, the United States and Russia maintain a large nuclear arsenal. Thousands of nuclear weapons are kept on hair-trigger alert. That means they are within moments of firing.

Do you favor action to de-alert the nuclear arsenal?

Do you favor initiatives to achieve deep cuts in the nuclear arsenal?

If so, as a senator/representative, what will you do to promote de-alerting and deep cuts?

If you don't favor such initiatives, why not?

## NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

At the Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), held in May 2000, the United States joined Russia, the United Kingdom, France, and China in making a commitment to "an unequivocal undertaking to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals." The non-nuclear nations are now waiting to see progress toward this goal.

Do you support the objective of total elimination of all nuclear weapons on Earth?

If so, what will you do to achieve this goal?

For instance, will you support multilateral negotiations for a nuclear weapons convention that bans nuclear weapons and provides for their elimination within a timebound framework with effective verification and enforcement?

If you disagree with the goal of eliminating nuclear weapons, of what use are nuclear weapons in your opinion?

Are you willing to see the Non-Proliferation Treaty and the entire non-proliferation regime collapse?

#### NATIONAL MISSILE DEFENSE

Currently the concept of National Missile Defense (NMD) is being debated. On the surface an anti-missile defense seems a worthy objective, but many see deployment of such a system as step down the slippery slope to another nuclear arms race.

Where do you stand on the deployment of National Missile Defense?

Are you willing to commit \$60 billion for the system being developed by the Clinton Administration and even more for the much larger system proposed by Governor George W. Bush? If so, what budgetary reductions or tax increases would you propose to pay for it?

The Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty has been a cornerstone of stable relations between Russia and the United States. It has provided a firm foundation for START I and START II agreements to reduce strategic nuclear weapons. Now there are voices in the United States urging that the ABM treaty be weakened or even abrogated to allow for a National Missile Defense system.

Do you favor keeping the ABM Treaty in its present form? Or would you scrap it or modify it? If the latter, what changes do you favor?

COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN TREATY (for senatorial candidates)

In 1999 the U.S. Senate rejected ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) a measure intended to control the spread of nuclear weapons. Votes of senators up for re-election were as follows:

Voted against CTBT: Abraham (MI), Ashcroft (MO), Burns (MT), DeWine (OH), Frist (TN), Gorton (WA), Grams (MN), Hatch (UT), Hutchison (TX), Kyl (AZ), Lott (MS), Lugar (IN), Roth (DE), Santorum (PA), Snowe (ME), Thomas (WY)

Voted for CTBT: Akaka (HI), Bingaman (NM), Conrad (ND), Feinstein (CA), Jeffords (VT), Kennedy (MA), Kohl (WI), Lieberman (CT), Robb (VA), Sarbanes (MD)

Succeeded senator who voted for CTBT: Chafee (RI)

Voted present: Byrd (WV)

Open seats: Florida, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New York

For candidates who voted against CTBT

On October 13, 1999 you voted against ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), which would ban nuclear weapon testing throughout the world. What is your reason for this negative vote?

If you are re-elected, how will you vote when the CTBT comes up again?

If leaning toward a "no" vote, what would it take to get you to vote "yes"?

For challengers and candidates for open seats

In October 1999 the U.S. Senate refused to ratify the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), which would ban nuclear weapon testing throughout the world. If elected, will you vote to ratify the CTBT when it comes before the Senate again?

For candidates who voted for the CTBT

In 1999 you voted to ratify the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). If re-elected, will you vote for the CTBT when it comes up again?

There are other important nuclear disarmament issues to consider, such as de-alerting and deep cuts in strategic weapons. If re-elected, what will you do to promote action on these matters?

These questions were developed by members of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament. They were discussed at a meeting on June 22, 2000 and then edited by Howard W. Hallman, chair of the committee, based upon that discussion.

August 12, 2000

## Creation at Risk: A Consultation on Nuclear Issues with Churches

Brussels, October 5-6, 2000

#### STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The global threat posed by the existence of nuclear weapons did not disappear with the end of the Cold War. The recent Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference ended with an "unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear weapon states to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals." But many other developments of recent years – the defeat of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty in the US Senate, the nuclearization of South Asia, the retention of Cold War-era nuclear postures by the United States and Russia – have tended in the opposite direction: towards the indefinite retention and even the spread of nuclear capabilities. The looming prospect of missile defence deployment threatens further damage to nuclear arms control and disarmament efforts. How can the voice of the churches be heard at this critical moment?

Crucial decisions will be taken individually and collectively by the member states of NATO over the next few months that will do much to determine the future of nuclear weapons and nuclear arms control and disarmament efforts:

- In 1999 NATO formally restated in its new Strategic Concept its position that nuclear weapons are "the supreme guarantee of the security of the Allies," pledging to retain them "for the foreseeable future." But the Alliance also agreed to conduct an internal review of its nuclear policies, including "options for confidence and security-building measures, verification, non-proliferation and arms control and disarmament." The results of this review which could range from an endorsement of the status quo to recommendations for a significant reduction in the role accorded by NATO to nuclear weapons are scheduled to go before the North Atlantic Council in December 2000.
- NATO is working on an update of its Military Committee Directive for Military Implementation of Alliance Strategy (MC 400/2), which will specify how the new Strategic Concept is to be implemented. Among the possibilities reportedly under consideration is the use of nuclear weapons to deter or respond to chemical or biological weapons, a move that would contradict existing Negative Security Assurances and deal a serious blow to nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament efforts.
- NATO members are also consulting on the implications of the US National Missile Defence (NMD) program, which could get the go-ahead for deployment within the next few months. Missile defence deployment could lead to serious damage to the existing arms control, disarmament, and non-proliferation regime.

The discussions leading up to these decisions are being conducted mainly behind closed doors, with little public awareness and even less opportunity for public participation.

The churches have a long history of addressing nuclear weapons issues, and in recent years the

European and North American churches have worked together on NATO nuclear policy questions. In April 1999 the Canadian Council of Churches, the Conference of European Churches, and the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA sent a joint letter to all NATO members declaring that "Contrary to NATO's current strategic concept, nuclear weapons do not, cannot guarantee security. They deliver only insecurity and peril through their promise to annihilate life itself and to ravage the global ecosystem upon which all life depends."

The Councils called on the governments of all NATO members to ensure that NATO policy:

affirms NATO's support for the rapid global elimination of nuclear weapons and commits the Alliance to take programmatic action to advance this goal;

commits NATO to reducing the alert status of nuclear weapons possessed by NATO members, and to pursuing effective arrangements for the rapid de-alerting of all nuclear weapons possessed by all states; and

renounces the first-use of nuclear weapons by any NATO members under any circumstances, and commits NATO to the pursuit of equivalent commitments from other states possessing nuclear weapons.

As part of the same initiative, the World Council of Churches sent a similar letter to the governments of all non-NATO nuclear-weapons states.

The purpose of this briefing session is to examine with the help of expert resource persons the key decisions facing NATO states over the next few months and to equip the churches to take action at both the denominational and ecumenical levels, nationally and internationally, by considering how the churches can work, individually and together, to respond at this critical juncture.

The collective efforts of the churches could play an important role in raising public awareness of the crucial nuclear-related decisions facing NATO countries, encouraging greater transparency in NATO's decision-making processes, and reinforcing public demands for real progress towards the elimination of nuclear weapons.

The types of actions that might be considered include (among other possibilities):

- a joint declaration by senior church leaders from Europe and North America;
- meetings with NATO officials and national policymakers; and
- · local or joint educational and awareness programs.

Who should attend the session?: American, Canadian, and European church staff with responsibility for public policy issues, individuals from related denominational and ecumenical committees and institutions, and representatives of the Canadian Council of Churches, the Conference of European Churches, the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA, and the World Council of Churches.

# Creation at Risk: A Consultation on Nuclear Issues with Churches Brussels, 5-6 October 2000

| Thursday  |       |  |
|-----------|-------|--|
| 5 October | 10:00 | Introduction and opening worship   |
|           | 10:30 | Session 1: NATO in the Post-Cold War era, NATO nuclear policy, and status of the NATO nuclear review   |
|           |       | <ul> <li>Ted Whiteside, Weapons of Mass Destruction Centre, NATO (invited)</li> <li>Sharon Riggle, Director, Centre for European Security and Disarmament (invited)</li> </ul> |
|           | 13:00 | Lunch  |
|           | 14:30 | Session 2: Status of nuclear arms control and disarmament efforts - Nicola Butler, Senior Analyst, Acronym Institute (invited)   |
|           | 16:30 | Break  |
|           | 16:45 | Session 3: The position of the churches on nuclear weapons   |
|           |       | - Dwain Epps, World Council of Churches  |
|           |       | - Catholic, Orthodox, Protestant representatives   |
|           | 18:45 | Adjourn  |
|           |       | Dinner   |
| Friday    |       |  |
| 6 October | 09:00 | Session 4: What steps should the churches advocate?  |
|           |       | - Ernie Regehr, Director, Project Ploughshares   |
|           |       | - Harald Müller, Director, Peace Research Institute Frankfurt (invited)  |
|           | 10:30 | Break  |
|           | 10:45 | Session 5: How can the churches advance these issues?  |
|           |       | - CEC representative   |
|           |       | - CCC representative   |
|           |       | - NCCCUSA representative   |
|           | 12:45 | Closing reflection   |
|           | 13:00 | Lunch  |

## Proposal to the Town Creek Foundation from Methodists United for Peace with Justice for a Grant in Support of Interfaith Mobilization on Nuclear Disarmament Issues

Methodists United for Peace with Justice requests a grant of \$25,000 from the Town Creek Foundation to support the leadership role we play in interfaith mobilization on nuclear disarmament issues. This will occur primarily through the work of our chair, Howard W. Hallman, in his role as chair of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament.

## The Organization

Methodists United for Peace with Justice organized in 1987 as a national association of laity and clergy. Stimulation for organizing was the 1986 pastoral letter and foundation document of the United Methodist Council of Bishops, *In Defense of Creation: The Nuclear Crisis and a Just Peace*. From the beginning nuclear abolition has been our main focus. In the waning days of the Cold War we were involved in exchanges with Soviet citizens. We opposed U.S. participation in the Gulf War. We have supported ratification of arms reduction treaties and the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). Since the early 1990s we have advocated dealerting the nuclear arsenal. Globally we are part of Abolition 2000, and we maintain contact with personnel of international religious bodies. We are involved in public advocacy in Washington, D.C. As part of our grassroots outreach, we publish a quarterly bulletin, *Peace Leaf*, and send out periodic action alerts on legislative issues.

Our base is primarily in the United Methodist Church, but we seek involvement of other denominations in the Methodist family: African Methodist Episcopal, African Methodist Episcopal, Christian Methodist Episcopal, Free Methodist, and the Wesleyan Church. Since 1988 we have sponsored a Peace with Justice Breakfast at the quadrennial United Methodist General Conference and have proposed and lobbied for legislation on nuclear disarmament. The resolution on "Nuclear Abolition", which we got through the 2000 General Conference by an almost unanimous vote, is attached. Through our chair we play a significant leadership role in interfaith activities for nuclear disarmament.

#### Assets, Revenues, and Expenditures

We are a voluntary organization. Serving as unpaid volunteers for Methodists United activities are the chair, who functions as chief executive officer, the treasurer, and the editor of *Peace Leaf*, working from their homes in Maryland, Virginia, and Ohio. We receive mail at a downtown United Methodist church in Washington, D.C., but we accomplish much of our communication by telephone, fax, and e-mail. Accordingly, we operate with very low overhead.

As the attached report indicates, in 1998 our income was \$23,437 and expenditures were \$22,342. In 1999 income was \$12,922 and expenditures were 12,814. This included grants for our interfaith activities of \$16,000 in 1998 and \$10,000 in 1999. From these grants the chair has received compensation on a part-time basis for his interfaith work. He receives no compensation for performing his duties as chair of Methodists United for Peace with Justice.

## **Need for Support for This Project**

Although many religious denominations have policy positions favoring the elimination of nuclear weapons, there was no coordinated interfaith work on this issue until the summer of 1997 when Hallman initiated what became the Interfaith Group for the CTBT. This led to a full-scale interfaith campaign for CTBT ratification with the participation of 22 faith-based organization. This was linked with efforts of civil-sector organizations, as described in the enclosed report. As this report indicates:

As chair of the Interfaith Group for the CTBT, Hallman has functioned primarily as a catalyst and mobilizer of co-equal organizations, not as a director in a hierarchical sense or as a coordinator in a formal administrative sense. The Interfaith Group is a cooperative endeavor. Different participants volunteer to take the lead in particular activities. Hallman's role is to preside at meetings, keep in touch with participants, facilitate cooperative relationships, fill gaps as necessary, and serve as liaison with peace and disarmament organizations.

Observers within the faith community and from civil-sector organizations have noted that fulfillment of this role was essential for achieving extensive interfaith involvement in the CTBT campaign. Attached are names of several persons who can provide their own observations.

Following the CTBT campaign the faith community under Hallman's leadership has explored ways to retain interfaith cooperation on nuclear disarmament issues. This led to the formation of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament with a broader agenda, with wider participation from the faith community, and with an intent to work closely with civil-sector organizations. By consensus Hallman became chair. His role will be similar to that performed with the Interfaith Group for the CTBT. The grant requested by this proposal is to pay compensation for his part-time service as chair and related expenses.

## **Project Goals and Objectives**

The purpose of this project is to provide leadership support for the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament so that it can fulfill its goals and objectives. Grassroots mobilization and public advocacy in Washington, D.C. will occur through the efforts of more than 30 faith-based organizations. Thus, a grant for the leadership role will in effect leverage substantial expenditures by the participating organizations. It will tap into their extensive grassroots networks.

At a planning meeting on May 22 the Interfaith Committee decided to give immediate attention to halting deployment of a U.S. national missile defense and eventually to terminating the program. The Committee also agreed to develop public support for arms control treaties as they come before the U.S. Senate, including the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), START II protocol, a future START III agreement, and other treaties of this nature. In the longer-range the Committee will work toward fulfillment of the commitment made by the nuclear weapon states at the 2000 Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) to "an unequivocal undertaking to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals." This may involve such measures as de-alerting, halting all new weapon development,

negotiation of a nuclear weapons convention, and instituting an international regime of fissile material control.

## Geographic Scope

This project will take place throughout the United States through grassroots networks of faith-based organizations participating in the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament.

There will also be a modest global dimension through the chair's connections with representatives of the World Council of Churches, the Holy See, and unofficial international faith-based associations. In 1998 he helped developed a statement to offer a spiritual and ethical perspective to the NPT Preparatory Committee meeting in Geneva. In October 2000 he will attend a consultation of the U.S. and Canadian councils of churches, the Conference of European Churches, and the World Council of Churches in Brussels. The global dimension won't be a large budgetary item, but it will give the project a valuable international scope.

## **Strategies and Tactics**

This project will provide leadership to the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament so that it can carry out a variety of tactics for achieving its goals. Drawing upon the experience of the CTBT campaign, activities will include the following.

#### Grassroots mobilization

Use of grassroots networks of denominations and religious associations

State and local interfaith organizing

Information dissemination

Action alerts

By participating organizations

Jointly

Petitions

National call-in days

Regional training workshops

Conference calls

Home state meetings with members of Congress

Worship and celebration

## Public policy advocacy in Washington

Sign-on letters

Lobby days

Meetings with congressional staff

Meetings with Executive Branch officials

News conferences

Newspaper ads

Rallies

Ceremonies

Collaboration with civil-sector organizations

How these methods are applied in a concrete situation is illustrated by the first cooperative endeavor of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament. At an all-afternoon planning meeting on May 22, 2000 participants decided to give priority attention to national missile defense. The Friends Committee on National Legislation took the lead in developing a sign-on letter to President Clinton, opposing NMD deployment. Because most faith-based groups have not worked on this issue, Hallman obtained from the Coalition to Reduce Nuclear Dangers a three-page briefing paper on NMD and circulated it among the participating organizations.

Because faith groups had worked closely with 20/20 Vision during the CTBT campaign, Hallman invited 20/20 representatives to attend the June 22 meeting. Out of this session came an agreement to develop a joint postcard alert on NMD. Two persons from the Interfaith Committee worked with 20/20 staff to develop the text. Hallman sent it via e-mail to the participating organizations, inviting them to cosponsor the card and send it to their grassroots activists. He made some follow-up calls, but most of the follow-up contact was handled by 20/20 staff (who had grants for this purpose). Twenty-eight faith-based organizations became cosponsors and sent cards to their constituents. 20/20 took care of production and printing. Approximately 40,000 cards were printed and distributed, and some organizations put out the text via e-mail. This was an effective partnership. 20/20 provided its know-how, and the Interfaith Committee mobilized the faith-based organizations. Neither organization could have carried out this endeavor alone.

The Interfaith Committee on Nuclear Disarmament will use the above-mentioned tactics to achieve interfaith cooperation on other nuclear disarmament issues and will work closely with a variety of civil-sector organizations. The chair will provide catalytic leadership to bring this about. This role will easily fall within the scope of activities eligible for funding under 501(c)(3) regulations of the Internal Revenue Service. Activities which might be deemed lobbying will be carried out by participating faith-based organizations with their own resources.

## **Action Plan and Timeline**

This grant for leadership support for the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament will tie into a timeline that has already commenced.

**May 2000.** Planning meeting to set goals and objectives and determine action priorities. As mention, the decision was made to focus immediate attention on halting deployment of a national missile defense (NMD).

**June-September.** National missile defense campaign, described above. In September we are identifying state and local contacts from the faith community to participate in a 20/20 conference call on NMD.

**September.** At a September 19 meeting we will discuss organizing to deal with the next Congress. Among other topics we will consider working on de-alerting through connections with Back-from-the-Brink campaign, pushing for Senate ratification of the CTBT and arms control treaties, and encouraging the incoming presidential administration to fulfill U.S. NPT obligations.

**October-December.** Building upon our CTBT experience, we will foster state and local interfaith cooperation on nuclear disarmament issues. We will encourage state and local delegations to make post-election visits with their senators and representatives who will serve in the next Congress. At the same time Washington-based organizations will develop relationships with persons who will serve in the next Administration. We will also foster a meeting between heads of religious communions and the president-elect on nuclear disarmament and other peace issues.

January-December 2001. The Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament will engage in public advocacy in Washington and grassroots mobilization to influence decisions of the Congress and the new Administration on nuclear disarmament issues. We will deal with issues placed on the table through presidential initiative (such as treaty ratification and policy proposals) and through the regular legislative cycle (such as budgetary, authorizing, and appropriations measures). We will also be pro-active to promote measures that aren't on the current executive or legislative agenda (perhaps de-alerting and negotiation of a multilateral nuclear weapons convention).

## **Expected Outcomes**

From an organizing perspective we expect to achieve effective collaboration among faith based organizations at the national level and to have a widespread interfaith grassroots network dealing with key nuclear disarmament issues. For the latter we will place particular emphasis on organizing in swing states as determined by how senators and representatives are leaning on current issues.

On the policy goals we are seeking, we are realistic enough to know that they will be determined by many actors and diverse political forces. Our intent is to mobilize persons from the faith-sector and to work cooperatively with civil-sector organizations so that we may make a positive contribution to favorable policy outcome.

## **Fiscal and Administration Information**

The following information is attached:

Project budget

Fiscal information on Methodists United for Peace with Justice

Faith-based organizations participating in the work of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament

References with knowledge of our interfaith mobilization activities

Qualifications of Howard W. Hallman

Copy of IRS letter determining that the Methodists United Peace/Justice Education Fund, which will be the grantee, is a 501(c(3) entity

.An issue of *Peace Leaf* 

"Nuclear Abolition" resolution of United Methodist General Conference

Postal card action alert on NMD developed by 20/20 Vision with 28 faith-based cosponsors

A report, "Interfaith Activities to Support CTBT Ratification"

## Methodists United for Peace with Justice Operating Budget, 2000

| Communications | \$3,600 |
|----------------|---------|
| Printing       | 3,000   |
| Travel         | 1,000   |
| Administrative | 400     |
|                | \$8,000 |

# Special Project, 2000 (Grant from a Rockefeller Family Member)

| Personnel: Hallman (3½ months @ \$3,000) | \$10,500 |
|--|----------|
| Media Consultant                         | 3,000    |
| Facility rental                          | 600      |
| Travel                                   | 900      |
|  |          |
|  | \$15,000 |

# **Project Budget, 2001**

\$50,000

## Personnel

| Hallman (part time) 12 months @ \$3,000/mo. Fringe benefits 15% of salary     | \$36,000<br><u>5,400</u><br>41,400 |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Communications (phone, internet, postage) Printing, photocopy Supplies Travel | 3,000<br>2,400<br>600<br>2,600     |

# Financial Information for Methodists United for Peace with Justice (1998-1999)

| Balance 12-31-97   |   | \$ | 679.88   |
|--|---|----|----------|
| Income - 1998  Membership contributions  Grants  Special donations  Miscellaneous          | \$ 5,975.00<br>16,000.00<br>2,450.00<br>11.73                       | 2. | 3,436.73 |
| Expenditures - 1999 Personnel Communications Printing Travel Administrative Special events | 13,600.00<br>2,003.31<br>1,166.43<br>1,792.20<br>241.68<br>3,538.19 | 22 | ,341.81  |
| Balance 12-31-98   |   | 1  | .774.80  |
| Income - 1999 Membership contributions Grants Miscellaneous                                | 2,005.00<br>10,000.00<br>16.85                                      | 1  | 2,921.85 |
| Expenditures Personnel Communications Printing Travel Administrative                       | 9,500.00<br>1,627.53<br>549.95<br>833.20<br>303.54                  | 1  | 2,814.22 |
| Balance 12-31-99   |   |    | 1,882.43 |

## Faith-based Organizations Participating in Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament

Alliance of Baptists

American Baptists Churches, USA

American Friends Service Committee

**Baptist Peace Fellowship** 

Buddhist Peace Fellowship

Central Conference of America Rabbis

Church of the Brethren

Church Women United

Church World Service

Conference of Major Superiors of Men

Disciples Peace Fellowship

Episcopal Church

Episcopal Peace Fellowship

Fellowship of Reconciliation

Friends Committee on National Legislation

Jewish Peace Fellowship

Lutheran Office of Governmental Affairs

(Evangelical Lutheran Church in America)

Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns

Mennonite Central Committee

Methodists United for Peace with Justice

Muslim Peace Fellowship

National Council of Churches

Pax Christi USA

Presbyterian Church U.S.A.

Presbyterian Peace Fellowship

Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism

Sisters of Saint Joseph of Peace

Sisters of Mercy of the Americas

Sojourners

Unitarian Universalist Association

United Church of Christ

United Methodist General Board of Church and Society

U.S. Catholic Conference

World Peacemakers

#### References

David Culp Phone: 202 547-6000 c/o Friends Committee on National Legislation E-mail: david@fcnl.org

245 Second Street, NE Washington, DC 20002

John Isaacs, President Phone: 202 543-4100 Council for a Livable World E-mail: jdi@clw.org

110 Maryland Avenue, NE Washington, DC 20002

Robert Musil, Executive Director Phone: 202 898-0150
Physicians for Social Responsibility E-mail: bmusil@psr.org

Washington, DC 20005

1101 14<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Suite 700

Jerry Powers, Director Phone: 202 541-3196

Office of International Justice and Peace. E-mail: gpowers@nccbuscc.org

U.S. Catholic Conference 3211 4<sup>th</sup> Street, NE Washington, DC 20017

David D. Radcliff, Director of Brethren Witness Phone: 800 323-8039

Church of the Brethren General Board E-mail: dradcliff GB@brethren.org

1451 Dundee Avenue Elgin, IL 60120-1694

Ms. Robin Ringler, Director Phone: 202 488-5647

Peace with Justice Program E-mail: dringler@umc0gbcs.org

E-mail: jwyerman@2020vision.org

United Methodist General Board of Church and Society

100 Maryland Avenue, NE Washington, DC 20002

James Wyerman, Executive Director Phone: 202 833-2020

20/20 Vision

1828 Jefferson Place, NW Washington, DC 20036

## Proposal to the Compton Foundation from Methodists United for Peace with Justice for a Grant in Support of Interfaith Mobilization on Nuclear Disarmament Issues

Methodists United for Peace with Justice requests a grant of \$25,000 from the Compton Foundation to support the leadership role we play in interfaith mobilization on nuclear disarmament issues. This will occur primarily through the work of our chair, Howard W. Hallman, in his role as chair of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament.

## The Organizations

Methodists United for Peace with Justice organized in 1987 as a national association of laity and clergy. Stimulation for organizing was the 1986 pastoral letter and foundation document of the United Methodist Council of Bishops, *In Defense of Creation: The Nuclear Crisis and a Just Peace*. From the beginning nuclear abolition has been our main focus. In the waning days of the Cold War we were involved in exchanges with Soviet citizens. We opposed U.S. participation in the Gulf War. We have supported ratification of arms reduction treaties and the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). Since the early 1990s we have advocated dealerting the nuclear arsenal. Globally we are part of Abolition 2000, and we maintain contact with personnel of international religious bodies. We are involved in public advocacy in Washington, D.C. As part of our grassroots outreach, we publish a quarterly bulletin, *Peace Leaf*, and send out periodic action alerts on legislative and executive policy issues.

The Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament has evolved from the Interfaith Group for the CTBT, which was the vehicle for interfaith mobilization during the ratification campaign for the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. Hallman organized this group in the summer of 1997 and gained the participation of 22 faith-based organization. Their work was linked with efforts of civil-sector organizations

Following the CTBT campaign the faith community under Hallman's leadership explored ways to retain interfaith cooperation on nuclear disarmament issues. This led to the formation of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament with a broader agenda, with wider participation from the faith community, and with an intent to work closely with civil-sector organizations. So far more than 30 faith-based organizations are participating in this initiative, and more are expected to join.

By consensus Hallman will serve as chair of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament. His role will be similar to the way he served with the Interfaith Group for the CTBT, described in the attached activities report as follows:

As chair of the Interfaith Group for the CTBT, Hallman has functioned primarily as a catalyst and mobilizer of co-equal organizations, not as a director in a hierarchical sense or as a coordinator in a formal administrative sense. The Interfaith Group is a cooperative endeavor. Different participants volunteer to take the lead in particular activities. Hallman's role is to preside at meetings, keep in touch with participants, facilitate cooperative relationships, fill gaps as necessary, and serve as liaison with peace and disarmament organizations.

The grant requested by this proposal is to pay compensation for his part-time service as chair in the performance of this catalytic leadership role.

## **Goals and Objectives**

The Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament will work on a variety of nuclear disarmament issues. This will occur through grassroots mobilization around the United States and public advocacy in Washington, D.C. A grant in support of the leadership role will in effect leverage substantial expenditures by the participating organizations. It will tap into their extensive grassroots networks.

At a planning meeting on May 22 the Interfaith Committee decided to give immediate attention to halting deployment of a U.S. national missile defense and eventually to terminating the program. The Committee also agreed to develop public support for arms control treaties as they come before the U.S. Senate, including the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), START II protocol, a future START III agreement, and other treaties of this nature. In the longer-range the Committee will work toward fulfillment of the commitment made by the nuclear weapon states at the 2000 Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) to "an unequivocal undertaking to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals." This may involve such measures as de-alerting, halting all new weapon development, negotiation of a nuclear weapons convention, and instituting an international regime of fissile material control.

## **Strategies and Tactics**

The Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament will use a variety of tactics for achieving its goals. Drawing upon the experience of the CTBT campaign, activities will include the following.

Grassroots mobilization

Use of grassroots networks of denominations and religious associations

State and local interfaith organizing

Information dissemination

Action alerts

By participating organizations

Jointly

Petitions

National call-in days

Regional training workshops

Conference calls

Home state meetings with members of Congress

Worship and celebration

Public policy advocacy in Washington

Sign-on letters

Lobby days

Meetings with congressional staff

Meetings with Executive Branch officials News conferences Newspaper ads Rallies Ceremonies

Collaboration with civil-sector organizations

The Interfaith Committee on Nuclear Disarmament will use these tactics to achieve interfaith cooperation on various nuclear disarmament issues and will work closely with a variety of civil-sector organizations. The chair will provide catalytic leadership to bring this about. This role will easily fall within the scope of activities eligible for funding under 501(c)(3) regulations of the Internal Revenue Service. Activities which might be deemed lobbying will be carried out by participating faith-based organizations with their own resources.

#### **Action Plan and Timeline**

This grant for leadership support for the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament will tie into a timeline that has already commenced.

May 2000. A planning meeting established goals and objectives and determined action priorities. A decision was made to focus immediate attention on halting deployment of a national missile defense (NMD).

**June-September.** The campaign opposing deployment of national missile defense has featured collaboration with 20/20 Vision to produce a postal card alert with 28 faith-based cosponsors. More than 40,000 cards have been distributed, and some organizations have used electronic means to transmit the message to grassroots networks. In September we have identified state and local contacts from the faith community to participate in a 20/20 conference call on NMD.

**September.** At a September 19 meeting we will discuss organizing to deal with the next Congress. Among other topics we will consider working on de-alerting through connections with Back-from-the-Brink campaign, pushing for Senate ratification of the CTBT and arms control treaties, and encouraging the incoming presidential administration to fulfill U.S. NPT obligations.

**October-December.** Building upon our CTBT experience, we will foster state and local interfaith cooperation on nuclear disarmament issues. We will encourage state and local delegations to make post-election visits with their senators and representatives who will serve in the next Congress. At the same time Washington-based organizations will develop relationships with persons who will serve in the next Administration.

**January-December 2001.** The Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament will engage in public advocacy in Washington and grassroots mobilization to influence decisions of the Congress and the new Administration on nuclear disarmament issues. We will deal with issues placed on the table through presidential initiative (such as treaty ratification and policy proposals) and through the regular legislative cycle (budgetary, authorizing, and appropriations

measures). We will also be pro-active by promoting measures that aren't on the current executive or legislative agenda (perhaps de-alerting and negotiation of a multilateral nuclear weapons convention).

## **Expected Outcomes**

From an organizing perspective we expect to achieve effective collaboration among faith based organizations at the national level and to have a widespread interfaith grassroots network dealing with key nuclear disarmament issues. For the latter we will place particular emphasis on organizing in swing states as determined by how senators and representatives are leaning on current issues.

On the policy goals we are seeking, we are realistic enough to know that they will be determined by many actors and diverse political forces. Our intent is to mobilize persons from the faith sector and to work cooperatively with civil-sector organizations so that we may make a positive contribution to favorable policy outcome.

#### Grantee

The grantee will be the Methodists United Peace/Justice Education Fund, an entity that has 501(c)(3) status from the Internal Revenue Service. IRS letters are attached.

#### Qualifications of Howard W. Hallman

Howard W. Hallman is chair of Methodists United for Peace with Justice, a national association of laity and clergy. Since its founding in 1987, he has served the organization as issues chair, executive director, and since 1994 as chair. Among other accomplishments this organization has successfully sponsored resolutions on nuclear disarmament and abolition that were adopted by the 1988, 1992, 1996, and 2000 sessions of the United Methodist General Conferences.

Hallman is also chair of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, a coalition of more than 30 faith-based organizations working together on issues of nuclear disarmament. This committee evolved from the Interfaith Group for the CTBT, which Hallman chaired, that served as a vehicle for denominational offices and religious associations to work together for ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.

Hallman has been a peace activist since his days at the University of Kansas in Lawrence in the years following World War II. He was a conscientious objector during the Korean War. In 1984 he felt a call work for nuclear disarmament and has pursued this task since then. For several years in the 1980s he was unpaid coordinator of the Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign in Montgomery County, Maryland at the time of its merger with SANE (predecessor of Peace Action). Since 1988 he has participated in the Monday Lobby, a collaborative effort of Washington-based peace and disarmament organizations.

From 1996 to 1998 Hallman was the co-convener of the Religious Working Group for Nuclear Abolition, affiliated with Abolition 2000. In this role he developed a statement on religious and moral values for presentation to the 1998 session of the Preparatory Committee of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). Recently he has been invited to attend a consultation meeting in Brussels of approximately 20 representatives from the World Council of Churches, Conference of European Churches, Canadian and U.S. councils of churches, and unofficial religious peace associations. He also has contacts with top officials of the Holy See.

In his professional career Hallman worked in urban improvement programs in Philadelphia and New Haven. He was associated with the War on Poverty in the 1960s. During the 1970s into the '80s he headed the Civic Action Institute which provided training and technical assistance to city officials, neighborhood leaders, and other civic activist on citizen participation practices and neighborhood self-help activities. His nine books include *Neighborhoods: Their Place in Urban Life*.

# **Board of Directors Methodists United for Peace with Justice**

Chair

Howard W. Hallman

Bethesda, Maryland

Layperson.

Vice-Chair

Rev. Bruce K. Edwards Morrison, Missouri

Clergyperson

Secretary

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Massillon, Ohio

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Detroit, Michigan

Clergyperson, nonviolence trainer

Rev. Schuyler Rhodes

Berkeley, California

Wesley Foundation director

Donald C. Whitmore

Auburn, Washington

Layperson, consultant on defense issues

## Faith-based Organizations Participating in Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament

Alliance of Baptists

American Baptists Churches, USA

American Friends Service Committee

**Baptist Peace Fellowship** 

Buddhist Peace Fellowship

Central Conference of America Rabbis

Church of the Brethren

Church Women United

Church World Service

Conference of Major Superiors of Men

Disciples Peace Fellowship

Episcopal Church

Episcopal Peace Fellowship

Fellowship of Reconciliation

Friends Committee on National Legislation

Jewish Peace Fellowship

Lutheran Office of Governmental Affairs

(Evangelical Lutheran Church in America)

Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns

Mennonite Central Committee

Methodists United for Peace with Justice

Muslim Peace Fellowship

National Council of Churches

Pax Christi USA

Presbyterian Church U.S.A.

Presbyterian Peace Fellowship

Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism

Sisters of Saint Joseph of Peace

Sisters of Mercy of the Americas

Sojourners

Unitarian Universalist Association

United Church of Christ

United Methodist General Board of Church and Society

U.S. Catholic Conference

World Peacemakers

## **Budget Information**

In its regular activities Methodists United for Peace with Justice is a voluntary organization without staff. The chair, treasurer, and editor of *Peace Leaf* function from their homes in Maryland, Virginia, and Ohio. We receive mail at a downtown United Methodist church, but we accomplish much of our communication by telephone, fax, and e-mail. Accordingly, we operate with very low overhead.

## Operating Budget, 2000 Methodists United for Peace with Justice

| Communications | \$3,600 |
|----------------|---------|
| Printing       | 3,000   |
| Travel         | 1,000   |
| Administrative | 400     |
|                | \$8,000 |

# Special Project, 2000 (Grant from a Rockefeller Family Member)

| Personnel: Hallman (3½ months @ \$3,000) | \$10,500 |
|--|----------|
| Media Consultant                         | 3,000    |
| Facility rental                          | 600      |
| Travel                                   | 900      |
|  |          |
|  | \$15,000 |

## Project Budget, 2001

## Personnel

| Hallman (part time) 12 months @ \$3,000/mo. | \$36,000 |
|---|----------|
| Fringe benefits 15% of salary               | 5,400    |
|   | 41,400   |
| Communications (phone, internet, postage)   | 3,000    |
| Printing, photocopy                         | 2,400    |
| Supplies                                    | 600      |
| Travel                                      | 2,600    |
|   | \$50,000 |

Our grant request is for \$25,000, half of the annual project budget.

# Financial Information for Methodists United for Peace with Justice (1998-1999)

| Balance 12-31-97   |   | \$  | 679.88   |
|--|---|-----|----------|
| Income - 1998  Membership contributions  Grants  Special donations  Miscellaneous          | \$ 5,975.00<br>16,000.00<br>2,450.00<br>11.73                       | 23  | 3,436.73 |
| Expenditures - 1999 Personnel Communications Printing Travel Administrative Special events | 13,600.00<br>2,003.31<br>1,166.43<br>1,792.20<br>241.68<br>3,538.19 | 22, | 341.81   |
| Balance 12-31-98   |   | 1   | .774.80  |
| Income - 1999 Membership contributions Grants Miscellaneous                                | 2,005.00<br>10,000.00<br>16.85                                      | 12  | 2,921.85 |
| Expenditures Personnel Communications Printing Travel Administrative                       | 9,500.00<br>1,627.53<br>549.95<br>833.20<br>303.54                  | 12  | 2,814.22 |
| Balance 12-31-99   |   |     | 1,882.43 |

#### References

The following persons from faith-based and civil-sector organizations who can provide their observations of the experience of the Interfaith Group for the CTBT, the initial activities of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, and Hallman's leadership role.

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#### Time Line for Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament

May 2000. Planning meeting to set goals and objectives and determine action priorities. As mention, the decision was made to focus immediate attention on halting deployment of a national missile defense (NMD).

**June-September.** National missile defense campaign: distribution of 40,000 postcard action alerts, developed in cooperation with 20/20 Vision, by 28 faith-based organizations. In September we are identifying state and local contacts from the faith community to participate in a 20/20 conference call on NMD.

**September.** At a September 19 meeting we will discuss organizing to deal with the next Congress. Among other topics we will consider working on de-alerting through connections with Back-from-the-Brink campaign, pushing for Senate ratification of the CTBT and arms control treaties, and encouraging the incoming presidential administration to fulfill U.S. NPT obligations.

**October-December.** Building upon our CTBT experience, we will foster state and local interfaith cooperation on nuclear disarmament issues. We will encourage state and local delegations to make post-election visits with their senators and representatives who will serve in the next Congress. At the same time Washington-based organizations will develop relationships with persons who will serve in the next Administration. We will also foster a meeting between heads of religious communions and the president-elect on nuclear disarmament and other peace issues.

January-December 2001. The Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament will engage in public advocacy in Washington and grassroots mobilization to influence decisions of the Congress and the new Administration on nuclear disarmament issues. We will deal with issues placed on the table through presidential initiative (such as treaty ratification and policy proposals) and through the regular legislative cycle (such as budgetary, authorizing, and appropriations measures). We will also be pro-active to promote measures that aren't on the current executive or legislative agenda (perhaps de-alerting and negotiation of a multilateral nuclear weapons convention).

## Faith-based Organizations Participating in Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament

Alliance of Baptists

American Baptists Churches, USA

American Friends Service Committee

Baptist Peace Fellowship

Buddhist Peace Fellowship

Central Conference of America Rabbis

Church of the Brethren

Church Women United

Church World Service

Conference of Major Superiors of Men

Disciples Peace Fellowship

**Episcopal Church** 

Episcopal Peace Fellowship

Fellowship of Reconciliation

Friends Committee on National Legislation

Jewish Peace Fellowship

Lutheran Office of Governmental Affairs

(Evangelical Lutheran Church in America)

Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns

Mennonite Central Committee

Methodists United for Peace with Justice

Muslim Peace Fellowship

National Council of Churches

Pax Christi USA

Presbyterian Church U.S.A.

Presbyterian Peace Fellowship

Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism

Sisters of Saint Joseph of Peace

Sisters of Mercy of the Americas

Sojourners

Unitarian Universalist Association

United Church of Christ

United Methodist General Board of Church and Society

U.S. Catholic Conference

World Peacemakers

# COMPTON FOUNDATION, INC PROPOSAL OUTLINE FORM

DATE: September 15, 2000

ORGANIZATION: Methodists United for Peace with Justice

CONTACT PERSON: Howard W. Hallman

TITLE: Chair

ADDRESS: 1500 16<sup>th</sup> NW, Washington, DC 20036 PHONE: 301 896-0013 FAX: 302 896-0013

E-MAIL: mupj@igc.org

SHORT PROJECT TITLE: Interfaith Mobilization on Nuclear Disarmament Issues

#### PROPOSAL SUMMARY:

The purpose of this project is to provide support for the leadership role that Methodists United for Peace with Justice plays in interfaith mobilization on nuclear disarmament issues. This occurs through the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, a coalition that now involves 34 denominational offices and religious associations and will expand to include others. The Interfaith Committee engages in public advocacy in Washington and grassroots mobilization through the extensive networks of participating organizations. Issues to be addressed include national missile defense, de-alerting the nuclear arsenal, deep cuts in strategic weapons, ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, curtailment of new weapons development, and support for a nuclear weapons convention. The proposed grant in support of catalytic leadership will provide leverage for mobilization of substantial resources in personnel and outreach activities of the participating organizations.

AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$25,000

PROJECT BUDGET PER YEAR: \$50,000

TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET: Projected to four years -- \$200,000

TOTAL ORGANIZATION BUDGET: For own activities -- \$8,000 (plus volunteers)

#### PROJECT FUNDING SOURCES AND AMOUNTS:

#### 1. RECEIVED:

\$15,000 from anonymous member of the Rockefeller Family

#### 2. APPLIED FOR:

\$25,000 from Unitarian Universalist Veatch Program for 2000 into 2001 \$25,000 from Town Creek Foundation for 2001

## Meeting of Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament. 1:00 to 2:30 p.m., Tuesday, September 19 Methodist Building, Conference Room 4 100 Maryland Avenue, NE, Washington, D.C.

## Agenda

- 1. Introductions
- 2. Election campaign
  - a. Presidential
  - b. Congressional
- 3. National missile defense
- 4. Back from the Brink campaign
- 5. Post-election activities
- 6. Next meeting

## Suggested Grassroots Activities on Nuclear Disarmament for Presidential Campaign

- 1. Get grassroots activists to attend candidates' town meetings and ask the following questions:
  - a. In this campaign there is a lot of talk of moral values. What are your views on the morality of nuclear weapons: their possession, threatened use, and actual use?
  - b. If elected president, what specifically will you do during your four-year term to reduce the danger of nuclear war and eliminate nuclear weapons?
  - c. Do you see any utility for nuclear weapons in war? If so, please indicate the categories of targets you as commander-in-chief would consider legitimate to strike with nuclear weapons. For instance, would you authorize nuclear attack on cities?
- 2. Have grassroots activists call out short versions of the questions as the candidates pass by, such as:
  - a. {Governor, Mr. Vice President}, do you believe that nuclear weapons are morally acceptable?
  - b. What are you going to do for nuclear disarmament?
  - c. Who would you be willing to attack with nuclear weapons?
- 3. Have grassroots activists get local reporters and talk show hosts to ask the first set of questions.
- 4. At candidates' local appearances, hold up signs with such message as:

Nuclear Weapons -- A Moral Issue Nuclear Disarmament Now! [draw peace sign, which is "N" and "D" in flag language] No Nukes Is Good News Ratify the CTBT [especially for Governor Bush] Zero Alert for Nuclear Weapons Etc.

5. Write letters to the editor, indicating that the candidates' should discuss nuclear weapons in the campaign: the morality, the utility, plans for nuclear disarmament.

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

Notes from meeting of Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament September 19, 2000

Howard Hallman of Methodists United for Peace with Justice reported on the response of presidential candidates to questions on nuclear disarmament from 48 religious leaders (previously circulated by e-mail and available at www.umc-gbcs/whatsnew.htm). Attached is a story by the United Methodist News Service on the September 7 news conference with Bishop Thomas Gumbleton and Bishop C. Dale White. Hallman has invited the Gore and Bush campaigns to provide replies to the unanswered questions and will publicize them if received. As further follow up, Adam Eidinger, our media consultant, is trying to place the attached op-ed piece, signed by Bishop Gumbleton and Bishop White, asking the candidates to answer questions about the morality of nuclear weapons, their utility, and the NPT obligation for elimination of nuclear weapons.

Possible questions for grassroots activists to pose to presidential candidates were discussed. In addition to those previously circulated, Bill Yolton of the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship sent in the following: "How much money are we spending on nuclear weapons? And how much are we going to spend? Why don't we cut the budget there and save more than the tax cut?"

Among others Gregg Laszakovits of the Church of the Brethren and Mary Miller from the Episcopal Peace Fellowship indicated that they would circulate the questions, such as in a newsletter and by sending them to key contacts. Larry Egbert from the Unitarian Universalist Association suggested having local people send the questions to their senators and ask them to get answers from the candidates. We will also send the key unanswered questions to Jim Lehrer, moderator of the presidential candidates debate. David Culp, a consultant to the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL), suggested having local activists write letters to the editor after the debate, commenting on the candidates' responses and lack of response on key issues.

Further information on presidential candidates' views is found in Arms Control Today, September 2000 in answers to 12 questions on arms control issues from Governor Bush and Vice President Gore, available on line at www.armscontrol.org/ACT/sept00/pressept00.html.

Regarding congressional candidates, some organizations are making use of questions developed at the June meeting and circulated in August. This can set the stage for post-election contacts.

On national missile defense (NMD) Tim Barner of 20/20 Vision spoke of the postcard action alert developed by 20/20 Vision in cooperation with the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament. Twenty-eight cosponsors from the faith community distributed over 40,000 postcards, and some sent out the message via e-mail. Even though President Clinton has decided to defer NMD, it remains an issue. The Church of the Brethren office has pasted a sticker on unused cards, noting that although President Clinton has postponed deployment, national missile defense is still an issue; so ask candidates where they stand. 20/20 Vision is printing stickers with a similar message for its 2,000 surplus cards. If you want some stickers, contact Tim Barner at 202 833-2020 or at timb@2020vision.org.

Tim reported that 38 persons, including 11 from the faith community, participated in a national conference call on NMD. Twenty civil-sector organizations are preparing a postcard on NMD

and the need for deep cuts on strategic weapons, directed at members of Congress. As follow up to this meeting, Tim will provided further ideas for use by the faith community in encouraging grassroots action on NMD.

Ira Shorr and Ester Pank from the Back from the Bring Campaign presented a report on their activities on de-alerting the nuclear arsenal. They are seeking commitments from presidential candidates to act on de-alerting, and they are working in 16 states to raise this issue in congressional elections. In particular they are pressing for action by the next president and the new Congress during the first 100 days of the new presidential term. They distributed handouts on de-alerting and will send a packet of information to all persons on the contact list of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament.

Kathy Guthrie of FCNL handed out a draft of a sign-on letter on de-alerting, to be sent from religious leaders to the president-elect after the election. FCNL is interested in comments on this draft. Persons present offered suggestions on how best to circulate the letter to collect signers.

There was discussion of post-election activities. David Culp suggested that the interfaith grassroots activists focus particularly on members of the House and Senate Armed Services Committee and the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. We recalled our experience with the CTBT ratification campaign in encouraging and facilitating interfaith cooperation in key states. We decided to take up at our next meeting which states to concentrate on for the next Congress and how to go about achieving interfaith organizing in those states.

Also for the post-election period Hallman agreed to seek a meeting between top staff the president-elect and representatives of the faith community to discuss our nuclear disarmament agenda.

We agreed to meet next on Tuesday, November 14 from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. at the Methodist Building.

These notes were written by Howard W. Hallman.

#### **Contacts for Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament**

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September 25, 2000

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# Interfaith Mobilization on Nuclear Disarmament Issues by Methodists United for Peace with Justice

Methodists United for Peace with Justice is seeking financial support for the leadership role we play in interfaith mobilization on nuclear disarmament issues. This occurs through the work of our chair, Howard W. Hallman, in his role as chair of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament.

# The Organizations

**Methodists United for Peace with Justice** organized in 1987 as a national association of laity and clergy. Stimulation for organizing was the 1986 pastoral letter and foundation document of the United Methodist Council of Bishops, *In Defense of Creation: The Nuclear Crisis and a Just Peace*. From the beginning nuclear abolition has been our main focus. In the waning days of the Cold War we were involved in exchanges with Soviet citizens. We opposed U.S. participation in the Gulf War. We have supported ratification of arms reduction treaties and the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). Since the early 1990s we have advocated dealerting the nuclear arsenal. Globally we are part of Abolition 2000, and we maintain contact with personnel of international religious bodies. We are involved in public advocacy in Washington, D.C. As part of our grassroots outreach, we publish a quarterly bulletin, *Peace Leaf*, and send out periodic action alerts on legislative and executive policy issues.

The Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament has evolved from the Interfaith Group for the CTBT, which was the vehicle for interfaith mobilization during the ratification campaign for the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. Hallman organized this group in the summer of 1997 and gained the participation of 22 faith-based organization. Their work was linked with efforts of civil-sector organizations. (See attached report on Interfaith Activities in Support of CTBT Ratification.)

Following the CTBT campaign the faith community under Hallman's leadership explored ways to retain interfaith cooperation on nuclear disarmament issues. This led to the formation of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament with a broader agenda, with wider participation from the faith community, and with an intent to work closely with civil-sector organizations. So far more than 30 faith-based organizations are participating in this initiative (see page 2), and more are expected to join.

By consensus Hallman will serve as chair of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament. His role will be similar to the way he served with the Interfaith Group for the CTBT, described in the activities report as follows:

As chair of the Interfaith Group for the CTBT, Hallman has functioned primarily as a catalyst and mobilizer of co-equal organizations, not as a director in a hierarchical sense or as a coordinator in a formal administrative sense. The Interfaith Group is a cooperative endeavor. Different participants volunteer to take the lead in particular activities. Hallman's role is to preside at meetings, keep in touch with participants, facilitate cooperative relationships, fill gaps as necessary, and serve as liaison with peace and disarmament organizations.

# Faith-based Organizations Participating in Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament

Alliance of Baptists

American Baptists Churches, USA

American Friends Service Committee

Baptist Peace Fellowship

**Buddhist Peace Fellowship** 

Central Conference of America Rabbis

Church of the Brethren

Church Women United

Church World Service

Conference of Major Superiors of Men

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Episcopal Church

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Fellowship of Reconciliation

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Lutheran Office of Governmental Affairs

(Evangelical Lutheran Church in America)

Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns

Mennonite Central Committee

Methodists United for Peace with Justice

Muslim Peace Fellowship

National Council of Churches

Pax Christi USA

Presbyterian Church U.S.A.

Presbyterian Peace Fellowship

Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism

Sisters of Saint Joseph of Peace

Sisters of Mercy of the Americas

Sojourners Peace Ministry

Unitarian Universalist Association

United Church of Christ

United Methodist General Board of Church and Society

U.S. Catholic Conference

World Peacemakers

Some of these are denominational offices, others are religious associations focusing on peace and justice issues. The former provide access to the denominational structure and official channels of communication. The latter are able to cut through hierarchical order and directly reach the strongest peace advocates. This "both-and" arrangement creates a strong coalition.

# **Goals and Objectives**

Methodists United for Peace with Justice is seeking financial support of its leadership role with the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament so that this coalition of more 30 faith-based organizations can fulfill its goals and objectives. The outcome will consist of interfaith cooperation for extensive action-oriented, grassroots mobilization of faith-based organizations throughout the United States and joint public policy advocacy in Washington, D.C. A grant for the leadership role will in effect leverage substantial expenditures by the participating organizations and will tap into their widespread grassroots networks.

At a planning meeting on May 22 the Interfaith Committee decided to support the effort to halt deployment of a U.S. national missile defense and eventually to terminate the program. The Interfaith Committee also agreed to develop public support for arms control treaties as they come before the U.S. Senate, including the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), START II protocol, a future START III agreement, and other treaties of this nature. At its September meeting the Interfaith Committee agreed to add de-alerting to its active agenda. In the longerrange the Committee will work toward fulfillment of the commitment made by the nuclear weapon states at the 2000 Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) to "an unequivocal undertaking to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals." This may involve such measures as de-alerting, deep cuts in the strategic arsenal, halting all new weapon development, negotiation of a nuclear weapons convention, and instituting an international regime of fissile material control.

# **Strategies and Tactics**

This project will provide leadership to the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament so that it can carry out a variety of tactics for achieving its goals. Drawing upon the experience of the CTBT campaign, interfaith activities to be undertaken by participating organizations will include the following.

# Grassroots mobilization

Use of grassroots networks of denominations and religious associations State and local interfaith organizing Information dissemination

Action alerts

By participating organizations **Jointly** 

Petitions

National call-in days

Regional training workshops

Conference calls

Home state meetings with members of Congress

Worship and celebration

Public policy advocacy in Washington

Sign-on letters

Lobby days

Meetings with congressional staff

Meetings with Executive Branch officials News conferences Newspaper ads Rallies Ceremonies

Collaboration with civil-sector organizations

How these methods are applied in a concrete situation is illustrated by the first cooperative endeavor of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament. At an all-afternoon planning meeting on May 22, 2000 participants decided to give priority attention to national missile defense. The Friends Committee on National Legislation took the lead in developing a sign-on letter to President Clinton, opposing NMD deployment. Because most faith-based groups have not worked on this issue, Hallman obtained from the Coalition to Reduce Nuclear Dangers a three-page briefing paper on NMD and circulated it among the participating organizations.

Because faith groups had worked closely with 20/20 Vision during the CTBT campaign, Hallman invited 20/20 representatives to attend the June meeting of the Interfaith Committee. Out of this session came an agreement to develop a joint postcard alert on NMD. Two persons from the Interfaith Committee worked with 20/20 staff to develop the text. Hallman sent it via email to the participating organizations, inviting them to cosponsor the card and send it to their grassroots activists. He made some follow-up calls, but most of the follow-up contact was handled by 20/20 staff (who had grants for this purpose). Twenty-eight faith-based organizations became cosponsors and sent cards to their constituents (sample attached). 20/20 took care of production and printing. Approximately 40,000 cards were printed and distributed, and some organizations put out the text via e-mail. This was an effective partnership. 20/20 provided its know-how, and the Interfaith Committee mobilized the faith-based organizations. Neither organization could have carried out this endeavor alone.

# **Action Plan and Timeline**

Financial assistance for leadership support for the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament will tie into a timeline that has already commenced.

May 2000. Planning meeting to set goals and objectives and determine action priorities. As mentioned, the decision was made to focus immediate attention on halting deployment of a national missile defense (NMD).

**June-September.** In addition to the postcard campaign on national missile defense campaign, participants of the Interfaith Committee identified state and local contacts from the faith community to participate in a 20/20 conference call on NMD. At the June meeting there was discussion of questions on nuclear disarmament issues that participating organizations could raise on a nonpartisan basis in congressional election campaigns. These were refined and circulated for discretionary use by participating organizations (see attachment).

**September.** At the September meeting of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament participants agreed to continue working with 20/20 Vision on national missile

defense issues. They also decided to embark on a similar cooperative working relationship with the Back from the Brink Campaign in support of de-alerting the nuclear arsenal. There was further discussion about nonpartisan involvement in the election campaign to raise issues about nuclear disarmament. (See separate description of a parallel effort regarding the election.)

**October-December.** Building upon our CTBT experience, we will foster state and local interfaith cooperation on nuclear disarmament issues. We will encourage state and local delegations to make post-election visits with their senators and representatives who will serve in the next Congress. At the same time Washington-based organizations will develop relationships with persons who will serve in the next Administration, including a request for a meeting with incoming national security staff.

January-December 2001. The Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament will engage in public advocacy in Washington and grassroots mobilization to influence decisions of the Congress and the new Administration on nuclear disarmament issues. We will deal with issues placed on the table through presidential initiative (such as treaty ratification and policy proposals) and through the regular legislative cycle (such as budgetary, authorizing, and appropriations measures). We will also be pro-active to promote measures that are not on the current executive or legislative agenda (such as de-alerting and negotiation of a multilateral nuclear weapons convention).

As we did in the CTBT campaign, the Interfaith Committee will work closely with civil-sector organizations on nuclear disarmament issues, especially members of the Coalition to Reduce Nuclear Dangers. The chair will give special attention to bringing this about.

## Qualifications of Howard W. Hallman

This project will support the work of Howard W. Hallman in his role as chair of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament. His qualifications include long involvement in peace activities, broad experience in interfaith matters, and a professional career dealing with urban programs and citizen participation activities.

#### **Peace Activities**

Hallman has long experience working for world peace. While in college he became a Christian pacifist. He requested selective service classification as a conscientious objector and performed alternative civilian service during the Korean War. Subsequently he engaged in a variety of peace activities as a volunteer, mostly through the Fellowship of Reconciliation and local churches. This included opposition to the Vietnam War.

In 1984 Hallman decided to focus his attention on the need for nuclear disarmament. He studied the topic, wrote and circulated a variety of papers, especially on the fallacy of nuclear deterrence. He became active in the Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign of Montgomery County, Maryland, where he lives, and as a volunteer served as coordinator for three years through the period when the Freeze Campaign merged with SANE. In 1986 Hallman drafted, circulated, revised, and got signatures from a wide range of people around the country for "A Citizens' Declaration on Worldwide Nuclear Disarmament: Starting Now, Finishing Before the Year 2000". He staged a public signing ceremony in September 1986.

In 1987 Hallman helped establish Methodists United for Peace with Justice, which organized in response to the United Methodist bishops call for greater prayer and action for peace, set forth in their pastoral letter and foundation document, *In Defense of Creation: The Nuclear Crisis and a Just Peace*. Since then he has filled several offices: issues chair, treasurer, executive director, and now chair of the board of directors. He has represented Methodists United in the Monday Lobby. At his initiative Methodists United was able to get peace and justice resolutions adopted by the 1988, 1992, 1996, and 2000 United Methodist General Conferences, including the current official policy statement on "Nuclear Abolition" (see attachment).

In May 1991 Hallman had an insight that nuclear disarmament could come in two stages: first, deactivate the nuclear arsenal by bringing strategic submarines into port and removing their missiles, taking warheads off ICBMs, and removing nuclear weapons from strategic bombers; second, dismantlement of these weapons through balanced stages. This idea was incorporated into a policy statement of Methodists United for Peace with Justice in October 1991 and sent to political leaders in the United States, Soviet Union, and Russian Federation and to arms control advocates in the United States. In February 1992 Hallman got representatives of more than 30 national peace and arms control organizations in the United States to recommend the deactivation approach (now called de-alerting) to President George Bush and President Boris Yeltsin.

In the summer of 1995 Hallman began exploring ways to mobilize the religious community in the United States to work together in a renewed push for nuclear abolition. He circulated among U.S. religious leaders a Citizen's Pledge to work for nuclear abolition, which

the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation had initiated. In the fall and winter of 1995-96 Hallman participated in organizing meetings of the Abolition 2000 network. He became a co-convener of a Religious Working Group for Nuclear Abolition. Through this vehicle he developed a statement by world religious leaders on nuclear abolition addressed to delegates of the 1998 session of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Preparatory Committee. The Religious Working Group sponsored a reception for delegates and wrote a presentation on moral and spiritual values that was one of 13 statements by non-governmental organizations presented to the delegates.

Through his position as chair of Methodists United for Peace with Justice Hallman became heavily involved in the grassroots campaign to achieve U.S. Senate ratification of the Chemical Weapons Convention in the spring of 1997. This led to the formation of the Interfaith Group for the CTBT, which he chaired, to build grassroots support for Senate ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and to offer a unified, interfaith presence in Washington in support of the CTBT. This experience has formed the basis for Hallman's initiative to establish the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, which he is chairing.

## **Interfaith Activities**

During high school in Pittsburg, Kansas (1943-46): member, Hi-Y; president, junior year.

At University of Kansas (1946-51): Student Religious Council, vice president and chairperson of Religious Emphasis Week; chairperson, Civil Rights Coordinating Council; recipient of William Allen White Interfaith Fellowship Award. Joined Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR).

Philadelphia (1952-58): Member, Board of Directors, Community Service Department of Philadelphia Council of Churches. Chairperson (two years), Philadelphia Chapter, Fellowship of Reconciliation.

New Haven (1959-65): Member, Board of Directors, Wider City Parish (an inner-city ministry). Active in local FOR.

Washington, D.C. (1965-71): Member, Coalition of Conscience (a civil rights organization).

Montgomery County, Maryland (1971 to present): Chairperson, Interfaith Forum on Peace and Justice (1986-90). Active in Community Ministries of Montgomery County (1996-). Member, Commission on Social and Economic Justice, Interfaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington (1999-).

On national scene: Chair, Interfaith Group for the CTBT (1997-99); Chair, Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament (2000-).

International: Co-Chair, Religious Working Group, Abolition 2000 (1996-98) (activities described above); invited to consultation of representatives of European, Canadian, and American churches on NATO, in Brussels, October 2000; has contacts with officials of the Holy See.

#### **Professional Career**

Hallman is a graduate of the University of Kansas in Lawrence, where he earned B.A. and M.A. degrees and worked for the Bureau of Government Research.

He worked in Philadelphia from 1952 to 1958, first for the Philadelphia Housing Association, an advocacy organization, and then as a consultant to citizen organizations. His focus was on housing and urban renewal policy, suburban planning, and metropolitan development.

From 1959 to 1965 Hallman worked in New Haven, Connecticut, for three years as director of the city's neighborhood improvement program and for another three years as deputy director of Community Progress, Inc., a private nonprofit corporation set up to run community action and anti-poverty programs. Toward the end of this period he was on loan part time to the War on Poverty Task Force in Washington, D.C.

Hallman moved to Washington, D.C. in 1965 and served as a consultant to city governments and community action agencies around the country, helping them set up employment training and community action programs. In 1967 he directed a study of the Poverty Program for a U.S. Senate subcommittee.

In 1969 Hallman organized the Center for Governmental Studies, later renamed Civic Action Institute. For the next seven years the Center conducted studies of municipal decentralization, citizen participation, and employment and training programs and conducted workshops for local officials and citizen leaders. In 1971 Hallman presented a paper on citizen participation an international conference in Zagreb, Yugoslavia in 1971. He was elected a fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration in 1973. In 1976 he was the principal founder of Neighborhoods, USA, a national association of neighborhood leaders and local officials. Hallman served as a full-time consultant to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development on citizen participation policies in 1977. From 1978 to 1983 the Civic Action Institute under his leadership provided training and technical assistance to local officials and citizen leaders on citizen participation and neighborhood action.

In 1984 Hallman switched his primary attention to public advocacy on peace and justice issues. In 1987 he was an organizer of Methodists United for Peace with Justice, an advocacy organization, served as executive director for a while, and is now chair of the board of directors. He also performed occasional consulting on matters of citizen participation and neighborhood organizing through the Civic Action Institute. In 1992 he hosted a Polish delegation to the United States in a study of citizen participation practices. In 1994 he spent a week in Turkey speaking to local officials and citizen organization leaders on democratic participation. In 1996 he presented a paper on citizen participation at an international conference in Tokyo. In May 2000 he was presented the Founder's Award at the 25<sup>th</sup> annual conference of Neighborhoods USA. He is a member of the Standing Panel on Social Equity of the National Academy of Public Administration.

Hallman has conducted studies in Sweden, Canada, Puerto Rico, and Israel. He is the author of more than 250 articles, pamphlets, and reports and nine books, including *The Organization and Operation of Neighborhood Councils, Small and Large Together: Governing the Metropolis*, and *Neighborhoods: Their Place in Urban Life*.

## **Financial Information**

Methodists United for Peace with Justice is a voluntary organization with a modest budget for its activities within Methodism. Serving as unpaid volunteers are the chair, who functions as chief executive officer, the treasurer, and the editor of *Peace Leaf*, working from their homes in Maryland, Virginia, and Ohio. We receive mail at a downtown United Methodist church in Washington, D.C., but we accomplish much of our communication by telephone, fax, and e-mail. Accordingly, we operate with very low overhead.

For our leadership role in interfaith mobilization we have received some small grants in recent years. We are now seeking to expand our funding for this activity.

In 1998 our income was \$23,437 and expenditures were \$22,342. In 1999 income was \$12,922 and expenditures were \$12,814. This included grants for our interfaith activities of \$16,000 in 1998 and \$10,000 in 1999, both from the Ploughshares Fund. So far in 2000 we have received a \$15,000 contribution from an anonymous member of the Rockefeller family. From these grants the chair has received compensation on a part-time basis for his interfaith work. He receives no compensation for performing his duties as chair of Methodists United for Peace with Justice.

We have proposals pending with the Unitarian Universalist Veatch Program, the Town Creek Foundation, and the Compton Foundation to support our leadership role with the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament. The budget for this endeavor has three components, as shown on the following page. In order of priority they are (1) support for the chair's interfaith work, (2) creation and operation of a web site, and (3) adding a field coordinator for interfaith mobilization. The latter is likely to be contracted out to another faith-based organization with capacity to handle this kind of staff.

# **Budget for Interfaith Mobilization on Nuclear Disarmament**

# I. Committee Chair

| Personnel Hallman (part time) 12 months @ \$3,000/mo. Fringe benefits 15% of salary | \$36,000<br><u>5,400</u><br>41,400         |
|---|--|
| Communications (phone, internet, postage) Printing, photocopy Supplies Travel       | 3,000<br>2,400<br>600<br>2,600             |
|   | \$50,000                                   |
| II. Web Site  |  |
| Set-up: consultant, domain name   | \$ 4,000                                   |
| Operations: web server and internet fees, part-time staff                           | 18,000                                     |
|   | \$22,000                                   |
| III. Field Coordination   |  |
| Personnel   |  |
|   |  |
| Field Coordinator Fringe benefit 15% of salary                                      | \$40,000<br><u>6,000</u><br>46,000         |
| Fringe benefit 15% of salary  Communications Office expenses Printing, photocopy    | 6,000<br>46,000<br>6,000<br>4,000<br>6,000 |
| Fringe benefit 15% of salary  Communications Office expenses                        | 6,000<br>46,000<br>6,000<br>4,000          |
| Fringe benefit 15% of salary  Communications Office expenses Printing, photocopy    | 6,000<br>46,000<br>6,000<br>4,000<br>6,000 |

#### **Tax Status**

Methodists United for Peace with Justice has status as a 501(c)(4) organization under IRS regulations. We operate a Methodists United Peace/Justice Education Fund that IRS has ruled is a 501(c)(3) entity and a public foundation under section 509(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code. The IRS ruling is attached.

For the most part our role in interfaith activity is educational in nature and is therefore financed through (c)(3) funding. Activities that can be considered lobbying are handled by participating organizations through their own resources.

An exception is part of the \$15,000 contribution we received this summer from an anonymous member of the Rockefeller family. \$5,000 was a (c)(3) contribution to Education Fund, but \$10,000 was a (c)(4) contribution to our General Fund. The latter was used to pay expenses for a nonpartisan survey of presidential candidates for their views on nuclear disarmament issues and a news conference to release the results (described separately).

We maintain separate bank accounts for the two funds and are very careful to observe IRS regulations in our expenditures.

## References

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# Rough Draft - Not for Reproduction or Circulation

## Dear President Elect,

Few issues today are more important for national security than reducing the threat of accidental nuclear war. We are leaders of religious congregations, joining together in an interfaith appeal to you, the next President of the United States. Though we vary in our perspectives on nuclear policy, we all agree that de-alerting is an important next step to be taken by the leader of the U.S. We ask for your commitment to eliminating the threat of accidental nuclear war by de-alerting nuclear warheads.

Although the Cold War ended a decade ago, the United States and Russia continue to preserve the ability to launch nuclear weapons in a matter of minutes. Maintaining the alert status increases the chance of an accidental nuclear attack, as almost occurred in January 1995. During this incident, a U.S. rocket performing a scientific probe was launched off the coast of Norway. Although the Russian government had been notified about the launch, the information did not reach the right persons in the military. When the rocket appeared on Russian radar screens, it was indistinguishable from a U.S. ballistic missile. Due to the type of rocket, and its launch site, Russian military technicians were unable to tell if the rocket was an attack from the United States. President Yeltsin had only a few minutes to decide whether or not to launch a counterattack. Fortunately, President Yeltsin chose to wait, rather than following Russia's "launch on warning" protocol. The United States and Russia narrowly avoided a nuclear disaster, initiated because of poor communications and caused by the "hair trigger" alert status of U.S. and Russian nuclear forces.

De-alerting nuclear warheads minimizes the possibility of accidental nuclear attacks by lengthening the time that elapses between the order to launch a weapon and the actual launch. This time would allow for communication and diplomacy between nuclear powers during a crisis. De-alerting can be accomplished by storing nuclear warheads separately from their delivery systems, removing the guidance systems from missiles, and pinning open the switches that fire missile motors.

The importance of de-alerting grows greater all the time. The Russian infrastructure is crumbling, thereby increasing the chance that mis-communication could occur. To protect the world from nuclear disaster, the United States can and should initiate a de-alerting policy with Russia. In 1991, President Bush removed hundreds of U.S. warheads from high-alert status, which prompted President Gorbachev to do the same. The best interest of both countries will be served by pursuing de-alerting now, and Russia looks to the United States to lead in this endeavor. A national initiative by the United States now, may prompt Russia to respond in kind.

De-alerting should be seen as a next step in the process of reducing the nuclear threat and building common security between nations. We seek to achieve these goals through arms control and multi-lateral diplomacy. The Non-Proliferation Treaty, the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty, the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, START II and III, and other security enhancing agreements

should continue to be pursued in order to achieve our goals.

Within our faith communities, policies concerning nuclear weapons raise profound questions about the integrity of God's creation, our moral responsibilities, and human destiny. These moral questions persist as long as the threat of nuclear war continues. As an interfaith coalition, we contend that de-alerting is a prudent and smart step to take, regardless of one's political orientation or stance on nuclear weapons. De-alerting is a possible and practical next step for ensuring that our world remains safe from nuclear war. You can, and should, assert United States leadership to reduce the nuclear danger by taking U.S. nuclear weapons off of hair-trigger status.

Sincerely,

Please send comments and suggestions to Lydia Milnes, of the Friends Committee on National Legislation at: lydia@fcnl.org (202)547-6000 ext. 121 (202) 547-6019 (fax)

# Presidential Election Campaign Activities of Methodists United for Peace with Justice

Separate from the work of the Interfaith Committee on Nuclear Disarmament, Howard Hallman has worked with Dave Robinson of Pax Christi USA on a letter from religious leaders to presidential candidates, asking ten questions on nuclear disarmament issues. There are 48 signers representing a cross-section of denominations and geographic regions. In getting signers we had assistance of denominational contacts from the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament. However, this project has functioned separately because some participating organizations are sensitive about being involved in the election campaign.

As the attached composite response indicates, Ralph Nader responded to all ten questions. We obtained partial answers from the campaign staffs of Vice President Gore and Governor Bush. The two Reform Party candidates didn't respond.

Catholic Bishop Thomas Gumbleton and United Methodist Bishop C. Dale White presented the responses at a news conference at the National Press Club on September 7. Representatives of religious news services came, but the mainline press ignored the event in spite of vigorous efforts to interest them. The attached story by the United Methodist News Services reflects the flavor of the event.

We have circulated the candidates' response to contacts in the faith community and also to civil-sector organizations that are part of the Monday Lobby and the Abolition USA network. The United Methodist General Board of Church and Society posted the candidates' composite response on its web site: www.umc-gbcs.org/whatsnew.htm. We invited the Bush and Gore campaigns to supply replies to the unanswered questions and indicated that we would post them, but they have not provided any further information.

As follow up we are trying to place the attached op-ed piece by Bishop Gumbleton and Bishop White. It emphasizes three unanswered questions: the morality of nuclear weapons, their utility, and the U.S. NPT obligation. We are encouraging producers of talk shows and reporters following the campaign to raise these questions with the candidates. We have asked Jim Lehrer to take up this subject when Vice President Gore and Governor Bush have their television debates. We are also circulating suggestions for grassroots activities (attached).

The status of Methodists United for Peace with Justice as a 501(c)(4) organization enables us to be involved in electoral issues in a nonpartisan manner. This project was supported by a \$10,000 (c)(4) contribution from an anonymous member of the Rockefeller family. Most of our work, though, is educational nature and is financed through our Methodists United Peace/Justice Education Fund, a 501(c)(3) entity.

September 28, 2000