

Dear Jay,

I was glad to meet with you and David Culp on Friday and talk about your plans for the letter on de-alerting. I'm pleased that you are doing it.

I have written to Steve Sprecher, United Methodist Bishop Paup's assistant, about this and sent you a copy. He is also chair of the Peace with Justice Program Committee of the national UM General Board of Church and Society, so he has a real commitment to this issue.

Since we met, I've thought further about your exploration with Oregon Peace Works about coordinating the outreach to religious leaders. My initial apprehension has grown because Peace Works was actively engaged in support of Senator Smith's opponent in the last election and, I've heard, put out some negative material about Smith. Even if their help is in the background, groups like Peace Works in annual reports and fundraising appeals tend to boast about such things ("We assisted a religious leaders' appeal to our senators."). I don't want to get bishops and other religious leaders blindsided by an adverse reaction from Senator Smith's office. Maybe I'm overreacting. You know the Oregon scene better than I. So do what you think is best. But I thought you ought to hear my views.

I talked with Mary Miller of the Episcopal Peace Fellowship about the two Episcopal bishops in Oregon. They aren't members of EPF, but that doesn't mean they won't sign such a letter. She has other members in Oregon and would probably ask them to sign the letter. I'm trying to find out about Lutheran bishops. I have an understanding with staff of the U.S. Catholic Conference that if an interfaith delegation of bishops forms in a particular state they are willing to encourage the Catholic bishop(s) to participate. For them peer level is important. There may also be some Pax Christi members in Oregon who can be brought in separately from the official hierarchy. Our Unitarian representative will help with the Unitarian church in Portland if you want. On Monday Enid Edwards of the Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon returned my call of two weeks ago and said that David Leslie, their executive director, will handle this. I'll call him this afternoon (Tuesday). Maybe they can help with outreach. I'll let you know what I find out.

Please let me know how I can be further supportive of your initiative.

Shalom,
Howard

February 20, 2001

Mr. Ken Meyers
Office of Senator Lugar
306 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC20510

Dear Ken:

I would like to confirm the invitation to have you meet with the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament at our next meeting, scheduled for Tuesday, March 13 in Conference Room 4 of the Methodist Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, NE. We meet from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. I suggest that you come between 1:30 and 2:00 if that fits your schedule.

The Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament consists of representatives from denominational offices and religious associations working together in an informal coalition. We are interested in learning more about the Nunn-Lugar program and what we can do to support it. Because many of our organizations haven't dealt with Nunn-Lugar previously, I'm wondering if there is some kind of briefing document available that describes the various components. If so, I would like to circulate it in advance.

I'm looking forward to your meeting with us.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman
Chair

February 21, 2001

Bishop Nathaniel L. Linsey, Senior Bishop
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
31 Sheffield Road
Cincinnati, OH 45420

Dear Bishop Linsey:

The Bush Administration is moving rapidly toward a decision to deploy a national missile defense. Although this has the worthy objective of protecting the United States from missile attack, it runs counter to several realities. First, it would rely on an unproven technology that many scientists believe is unachievable. Second, it would have negative impact upon Russia and China and might therefore cause a renewal of the nuclear arms race. Third, national missile defense is enormously expensive and would therefore take money from programs meeting the needs of children, families, older people, and communities. The latter concern makes this a significant justice issue.

Accordingly, the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, which I chair, has developed the attached letters to President Bush and members of Congress, opposing a commitment to deploy a national missile defense. We invite you to be a signer of these two letters.

Based upon who participated in drafting the letters, we expect other signers to represent such denominations as Baptist, Disciples of Christ, Episcopal, Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian, United Church of Christ, Friends, Brethren, Mennonites, Unitarian and also Catholic, Jewish, Muslim, and Buddhist organizations.

We would like to receive your response by February 28 if possible. You can reply to me by fax at 301 896-0013, by phone at the same number, by e-mail at mupj@igc.org, or by letter at the above address. If you have any questions, please call me at 301 896-0013.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman
Chair

February 21, 2001

Dr. W. T. Snead, Sr., President
National Missionary Baptist Convention
1404 E. Firestone
Los Angeles, CA 90001

Dear Bishop Dr. Snead:

The Bush Administration is moving rapidly toward a decision to deploy a national missile defense. Although this has the worthy objective of protecting the United States from missile attack, it runs counter to several realities. First, it would rely on an unproven technology that many scientists believe is unachievable. Second, it would have negative impact upon Russia and China and might therefore cause a renewal of the nuclear arms race. Third, national missile defense is enormously expensive and would therefore take money from programs meeting the needs of children, families, older people, and communities. The latter concern makes this a significant justice issue.

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We would like to receive your response by February 28 if possible. You can reply to me by fax at 301 896-0013, by phone at the same number, by e-mail at mupj@igc.org, or by letter at the above address. If you have any questions, please call me at 301 896-0013.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman
Chair

February 22, 2001

To: Bishop T. Larry Kirkland, Ecumenical Officer
African Methodist Episcopal Church

Fax: 323 296-1012

No. of pages: 3

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Dear Bishop Kirkland:

The Bush Administration is moving rapidly toward a decision to deploy a national missile defense. Although this has the worthy objective of protecting the United States from missile attack, it runs counter to several realities. First, it would rely on an unproven technology that many scientists believe is unachievable. Second, it would have negative impact upon Russia and China and might therefore cause a renewal of the nuclear arms race. Third, national missile defense is enormously expensive and would therefore take money from programs meeting the needs of children, families, older people, and communities. The latter concern makes this a significant justice issue.

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With best regards,

February 22, 2001

To: Dr. William J. Shaw, President
National Baptist Convention, U.S.A.

Fax: 215 474-3332

No. of pages: 3

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Dear Dr. Shaw:

The Bush Administration is moving rapidly toward a decision to deploy a national missile defense. Although this has the worthy objective of protecting the United States from missile attack, it runs counter to several realities. First, it would rely on an unproven technology that many scientists believe is unachievable. Second, it would have negative impact upon Russia and China and might therefore cause a renewal of the nuclear arms race. Third, national missile defense is enormously expensive and would therefore take money from programs meeting the needs of children, families, older people, and communities. The latter concern makes this a significant justice issue.

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We would like to receive your response by February 28 if possible. You can reply to me by fax at 301 896-0013, by phone at the same number, by e-mail at mupj@igc.org, or by letter at the above address. If you have any questions, please call me at 301 896-0013.

With best regards,

February 23, 2001

To: Kathy Thorton, RSM, National Coordinator
NETWORK: A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby

Fax: 202 547-5510

No. of pages: 3

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

The Bush Administration is moving rapidly toward a decision to deploy a national missile defense. Although this has the worthy objective of protecting the United States from missile attack, it runs counter to several realities. First, it would rely on an unproven technology that many scientists believe is unachievable. Second, it would have negative impact upon Russia and China and might therefore cause a renewal of the nuclear arms race. Third, national missile defense is enormously expensive and would therefore take money from programs meeting the needs of children, families, older people, and communities. The latter concern makes this a significant justice issue.

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We would like to receive your response by February 28 if possible. You can reply to me by fax at 301 896-0013, by phone at the same number, by e-mail at mupj@igc.org, or by letter at the above address. If you have any questions, please call me at 301 896-0013.

With best regards,

February 23, 2001

Ms. Katherine Magraw, Program Officer
W. Alton Jones Foundation
232 East High Street
Charlottesville, VA 22902-5178

Dear Ms. McGraw:

In your next funding cycle would you be willing to give consideration to providing financial assistance to a broad-based national coalition working on nuclear disarmament issues that has the following characteristics:

- ❖ Thirty-five national organizations with membership that reaches every congressional district in the United States and virtually every county.
- ❖ Focuses on current nuclear disarmament issues, including de-alerting, strategic arms reduction, CTBT, national missile defense, Nunn-Lugar program, and nuclear posture review.
- ❖ Engages in (a) nonpartisan public advocacy in Washington, D.C. and (b) grassroots education and mobilization designed to influence public policy.
- ❖ Takes a strictly bipartisan approach; recognizes that Republicans particularly need to be convinced to support nuclear disarmament policies; therefore is currently initiating dialogue with approximately 25 Republican U.S. senators in Washington and through grassroots activists in their home states (about 20 states); will add Republican U.S. representatives to this initiative; also in touch with Democrats on a regular basis.
- ❖ Highly sensitive to IRS regulations so that participating organizations use their own resources for lobbying activities but can use 501(c)(3) funds for grassroots organizing and educational activities of a broader nature.

What I am describing is the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, which I chair. A list of participating organizations is enclosed. In addition to engaging in dialogue with Republicans in Congress, both in Washington and through grassroots delegations, we are defining our position on a number of issues.

The Friends Committee on National Legislation has taken the lead in producing the enclosed letter to President Bush on de-alerting. The Interfaith Committee has in the works a letter to President Bush and to all members of Congress on national missile defense (enclosed). We have a draft of a

Ms. Kathrine Magraw
February 23, 2001
Page two.

statement on nuclear posture review that recommends incorporating nuclear disarmament objectives, as specified in the practical steps outlined in the Final Document of the 2000 NPT Review Conference. At our March meeting Ken Myers of Senator Lugar's staff is going to discuss the Nunn-Lugar program. This is likely to lead us to become an advocate of this and related initiatives. We retain our interest in achieving ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, although not much likely to happen in 2000. We will support strategic arms reductions as they come along. Participating organizations will use their legislative alert systems to mobilize grassroots activists as issues come up in Congress.

The Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament differs from the Nuclear Reduction/Disarmament Initiative that originated at the Washington National Cathedral and is now at Wesley Theological Seminary, which is solely educational and deliberately avoids engagement in public policy advocacy. Our base in the faith community distinguishes us from member organizations of the Coalition to Reduce Nuclear Danger, almost none of which are engaged systematically with the Republicans who control Congress and the White House. We also keep the moral perspective in view.

There is room for all. The poorest funded is the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, which has the broadest bipartisan scope and the greatest geographic breadth. Are you willing to give us some consideration in this cycle of grants?

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman
Chair

February 23, 2001

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

Dear Mr. Greene:

Since I didn't hear from you after your year-end funding cycle, I assume you were not interested in the proposal I sent you on November 10, 2000. However, the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, which I chair, is still functioning, is increasing its scope of activities, and remains in need of financial support. Here are our characteristics:

- ❖ Thirty-five national organizations with membership that reaches every congressional district in the United States and virtually every county (see enclosed list).
- ❖ Focuses on current nuclear disarmament issues, including de-alerting, strategic arms reduction, CTBT, national missile defense, Nunn-Lugar program, and nuclear posture review.
- ❖ Engages in (a) nonpartisan public advocacy in Washington, D.C. and (b) grassroots education and mobilization designed to influence public policy.
- ❖ Takes a strictly bipartisan approach; recognizes that Republicans particularly need to be convinced to support nuclear disarmament policies; therefore is currently initiating dialogue with approximately 25 Republican U.S. senators in Washington and through grassroots activists in their home states (about 20 states); will add Republican U.S. representatives to this initiative; also in touch with Democrats on a regular basis.
- ❖ Highly sensitive to IRS regulations so that participating organizations use their own resources for lobbying activities but can use 501(c)(3) funds for grassroots organizing and educational activities of a broader nature.

Even with limited resources we are able to function at a policy level in defining our positions on a number of issues. Thus, the Friends Committee on National Legislation has taken the lead in producing the enclosed letter to President Bush on de-alerting. The Interfaith Committee has in the works a letter to President Bush and to all members of Congress on national missile defense (enclosed). We have a draft of a statement on nuclear posture review that recommends incorporating nuclear disarmament objectives, as specified in

Mr. Wade Greene
February 23, 2001
Page two.

the practical steps outlined in the Final Document of the 2000 NPT Review Conference. At our March meeting Ken Myers of Senator Lugar's staff is going to discuss the Nunn-Lugar program. This is likely to lead us to become an advocate of this and related initiatives. We retain our interest in achieving ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, although not much likely to happen in 2000. We will support strategic arms reductions as they come along.

The Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament differs from the Nuclear Reduction/Disarmament Initiative that originated at the Washington National Cathedral, is now at Wesley Theological Seminary, and is solely educational and deliberately avoids engagement in public policy advocacy. Our base in the faith community distinguishes us from member organizations of the Coalition to Reduce Nuclear Danger, almost none of which are engaged systematically with the Republicans who control Congress and the White House. We also keep the moral perspective in view.

Although we have the broadest base of any organization or coalition working on nuclear disarmament, we lack the capacity to achieve broad grassroots mobilization. Each denomination has its own network, and each unofficial peace fellowship does likewise. However, we don't have the mobilizing staff necessary to put these diverse networks into cohesive local and state coalitions. If we could, we would achieve much greater impact on public policy decisions of senators and representatives in Washington.

Is there any possibility that substantial Rockefeller Family support could be forthcoming to finance this endeavor? The amount we are seeking is indicated in the enclosed budget. We would welcome a grant for what portion you would be willing to cover.

I would welcome an opportunity to go to New York to discuss with you what we are doing and what we want to do.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman
Chair

Dear Friends:

I am continuing to pursue the course set by the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament last November to encourage state religious leaders to talk with Republican senators on nuclear disarmament issues. The issues we chose include de-alerting, strategic arms reduction, CTBT, and national missile defense. All four will be on the agenda this year. Although ratification of the CTBT won't be taken up in 2001, a number of persons favor keeping it alive, maybe even getting some hearings. (Ken Myers is meeting with us on March 13 about the Nunn-Lugar program, and conceivably we may add it to our working agenda.)

Yesterday I took Kansas, which has senators on the Armed Services and Foreign Relations Committees. I had a long conversation with Bill Beachy of the Topeka Center for Peace and Justice, with whom we worked during the CTBT ratification campaign. This center works with both religious and civil-sector organizations. Ira, he said that you had talked with him earlier about Back from the Brink and that he is considering applying for an organizing grant.

Since December as I have contacted several states, I have offered a sample set of questions on the four issues for use in meetings with senators (see below). When we started, the FCNL letter from religious leaders on de-alerting wasn't available, but now it is. Jay Penniman, an FCNL member, has adapted the letter for Oregon, to be addressed to senators. Apparently Esther wants to do likewise in Indiana (I'll come back to this later). Last week I talked with Bob Kinsey, who is involved with the United Church of Christ in Colorado, and we concluded that de-alerting and strategic arms reduction are the best issue to take up with Senator Allard (given his firm commitment to NMD). It seems that a state version of the FCNL letter would be a good point of departure for organizing.

In my conversation with Bill Beachy, I suggested the same thing. Use a version of the letter to get signers from the Kansas faith community. Seek appointments with Senators Roberts and Brownback to discuss current nuclear disarmament issues. Present the de-alerting letter as a starting point and also bring up questions about strategic arms reduction, CTBT, and national missile defense. This approach would blend the agendas of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, Back from the Brink, and FCNL. It would give us unity in our work in the states.

Regarding Indiana, I started making contacts in December. Several persons suggested that we work with the Indianapolis Peace and Justice Center. However, they had moved and the telephone number I was given was disconnected. I finally caught up with Jane Haldeman in February, and she put the matter on their board agenda. They agreed that they would work with us on the four issues. Jane told me they also decided to circulate the religious leaders' letter. I'm guessing that somebody from the Indiana Peace Action Coalition approached the same meeting with a request to do this. So here we have another opportunity for a blended approach.

In awkward way we may have fallen into a pattern that can maximize our strengths. I hope we can flesh this out when we meet on Thursday.

Shalom,
Howard

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Questions for U.S. Senators on Nuclear Disarmament Issues

Senator, we thank you meeting with us. Many faith groups have a strong interest in nuclear disarmament issues. We would like to discuss some of them with you.

De-alerting and strategic arms reduction

During the past 20 years bilateral arms reduction treaties between the United States and Russia have used to lessen the risk of nuclear war. What are the prospects for completion of the ratification process for START II? Do you think there should be a START III agreement for further reductions?

Last May in a campaign speech President Bush said that "the United States should remove as many weapons as possible from high-alert, hair-trigger status." He said, "It should be possible to reduce the number of nuclear weapons significantly further than what has already been agreed to under START II without compromising our security in any way." He further stated that de-alerting and strategic arms reduction could come about through executive leadership without waiting for years of treaty negotiations. What do you think of these ideas? Do you favor de-alerting? Do you support strategic arms reduction through executive action?

Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT)

In January General John Shalikashvili proposed that the Senate reconsider the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) and ratify it. He suggested that the treaty be reviewed after ten years by a commission set up by the president and Congress. He suggested a more integrated approach to non-proliferation. He offered several other ideas. What do you think of General Shalikashvili's recommendations?

National Missile Defense

Persons in the faith community have grave doubts about National Missile Defense (NMD). They believe that the threat of attack on the United States by long-range missiles by small nations is greatly exaggerated, that deployment of NMD by the United States would risk a renewed nuclear arms race with Russia and China, that it wouldn't guard against more likely means of attack by terrorists and small nations, that the cost of NMD is wasteful and takes money away from other needs. What are your views on National Missile Defense?

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

February 28, 2001

To: Mark Brown

Fax: 202 626-7932

No. of pages: 3

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Re: Sign letter on national missile defense

Dear Mark:

Here are the letters to President Bush and members of Congress expressing opposition to national missile defense. I hope you can sign. I note that in the 1995 ELCA policy statement that you give priority to "agreements among the leading nuclear powers to reduce their nuclear stockpiles and to decrease the possibility of nuclear confrontation or accident." U.S. deployment of national missile defense and possible withdrawal from the ABM treaty would risk Russian retention of multi-warhead missiles, scheduled for deactivation under START II and negate chances for further arms reduction agreements.

The signers so far are the following: American Baptist Churches, Church of the Brethren, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, Disciples Peace Fellowship, Episcopal Church, Episcopal Peace Fellowship, Jewish Peace Fellowship, Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns, Methodists United for Peace with Justice, Muslim Peace Fellowship, National Council of Churches, Pax Christi USA, Presbyterian Church USA, Presbyterian Peace Fellowship, Sisters of Saint Joseph of Peace, Unitarian Universalist Association, United Church of Christ, United Methodist General Board of Church and Society, World Peacemakers.

I expect additional signers, such as the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism, Mennonite Central Committee, a couple of more Baptist groups, one or two Evangelicals. I'm also seeking signatures from African American denominations. The only "no's" have been from the U.S. Catholic Conference, which rarely signs, and FCNL because Joe wants to wait until they reissue an updated version of their 2000 letter. You didn't sign that one.

So I hope that you sign. Let me know.

Shalom,

February 28, 2001

To: Dr. Tyrone S. Pitts, General Secretary
Progressive National Baptist Convention

Fax: 202 398-4998

No. of pages: 3

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Dear Dr. Pitts:

I wrote you last week about a sign-on letter on national missile defense. Apparently the letter went astray, so I am repeating my request.

The Bush Administration is moving rapidly toward a decision to deploy a national missile defense. Although this has the worthy objective of protecting the United States from missile attack, it runs counter to several realities. First, it would rely on an unproven technology that many scientists believe is unachievable. Second, it would have negative impact upon Russia and China and might therefore cause a renewal of the nuclear arms race. Third, national missile defense is enormously expensive and would therefore take money from programs meeting the needs of children, families, older people, and communities. The latter concern makes this a significant justice issue.

Accordingly, the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, which I chair, has developed the attached letters to President Bush and members of Congress, opposing a commitment to deploy a national missile defense. We invite you to be a signer of these two letters.

So far we have 20 signers representing Baptist, Brethren, Disciples of Christ, Episcopal, Presbyterian, United Church of Christ, United Methodist, and Unitarian denominations, the National Council of Churches, and some Catholic, Jewish, and Muslim organizations.

We would like to receive your response by March 2 if possible. You can reply to me by fax at 301 896-0013, by phone at the same number, by e-mail at mupj@igc.org, or by letter at the above address. If you have any questions, please call me at 301 896-0013.

With best regards,

March 3, 2001

Rev. Sharon Key, Executive Minister
Rhode Island State Council of Churches
734 Hope Street
Providence, RI 02906

Dear Rev. Key:

Since I talked with you and wrote you on February 27, I have had further discussion with persons from the Friends Committee on National Legislation and Back from the Brink Campaign, which is focused on de-alerting the nuclear arsenal. We decided that it would be useful at this time to encourage you and our contacts in key states to adapt the letter to President Bush on de-alerting for use with senators. I mentioned this to you in my previous e-mail communication. Now I want to highlight it.

A copy of this letter is enclosed. For your use it could be addressed to Senator Reed and Senator Chafee. The opening paragraph might read: "We, leaders and members of religious organizations in Rhode Island, join in an interfaith appeal for you to take leadership to reduce the threat of accidental nuclear war. Specifically we ask you talk with President Bush and ask him to work with Russian leaders to take all nuclear weapons off 'hair-trigger' alert."

We suggest that bishops and other heads of judicatories be the initial signers of such a letter and then have the letter circulated widely among faith groups for more signatures. The bishops and other prelates could seek a meeting with the senators to discuss de-alerting and perhaps one or two other nuclear disarmament issues (see enclosure).

Would something like this be workable in Rhode Island? If so, we would like to work closely with you. I will welcome an opportunity to discuss this further.

Shalom,

Howard W. Hallman
Chair

March 3, 2001

Rev. John Barton, General Minister
Virginia Council of Churches
1214 W. Graham Road
Richmond, VA 23220-1409

Dear Rev. Barton:

As I told you in our telephone conversation, the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, which I chair, is working with religious groups in various states to encourage grassroots action on several important issues.

They include de-alerting to remove nuclear weapons from hair-trigger alert, strategic arms reduction, ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), and opposition to national missile defense. At the moment we are giving particular attention to de-alerting and are working closely with Back from the Brink Campaign, which focuses on this issue.

Specifically we are encouraging state versions of the enclosed letter on de-alerting developed by the Friends Committee on National Legislation and addressed to President Bush. At the state level we suggest that the letter be addressed to U.S. senators, in your case Senator Warner and Senator Allen. Thus, the opening paragraph might read: "We, leaders and members of religious organizations in Virginia, join in an interfaith appeal for you to take leadership to reduce the threat of accidental nuclear war. Specifically we ask you talk with President Bush and ask him to work with Russian leaders to take all nuclear weapons off 'hair-trigger' alert."

We suggest that bishops and other heads of judicatories might be the initial signers of such a letter and then have the letter circulated widely among faith groups for more signatures. As a follow-up, bishops and other religious leaders could seek a meeting with the senators to discuss de-alerting and perhaps two or three other nuclear disarmament issues (see enclosure).

Would something like this be workable in Virginia? Can you assist in this effort? Would it be possible to get something like this started even before your May cabinet meeting? If so, we would like to work closely with you. Denominational offices and peace fellowships that are a part of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament will help by making contact with their constituents in Virginia.

Rev. John Barton
March 3, 2001
Page two.

I will call you so that we can discuss these ideas further.

Shalom,

Howard W. Hallman
Chair

March 3, 2001

Rev. Barbara Dua, Executive Secretary
New Mexico Conference of Churches
124 Hermosa S.E.
Albuquerque, NM 87108-2610

Dear Rev. Dau:

I am writing to you as chair of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament (see attached listing of participants). Two and three years ago during the campaign for ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), we worked closely with your predecessor, Wally Ford. Now we would like to establish a relationship with you to deal with several issues: the CTBT when it comes up again, de-alerting to remove nuclear weapons from hair-trigger alert, strategic arms reduction, and opposition to national missile defense. At the moment we are giving particular attention to de-alerting and are working closely with Back from the Brink Campaign, which focuses on this issue.

Specifically we are encouraging state versions of the enclosed letter on de-alerting developed by the Friends Committee on National Legislation and addressed to President Bush. At the state level we suggest that the letter be addressed to U.S. senators, in your case Senator Domenici and Senator Bingaman. Thus, the opening paragraph might read: "We, leaders and members of religious organizations in New Mexico, join in an interfaith appeal for you to take leadership to reduce the threat of accidental nuclear war. Specifically we ask you talk with President Bush and ask him to work with Russian leaders to take all nuclear weapons off 'hair-trigger' alert."

We suggest that bishops and other heads of judicatories might be the initial signers of such a letter and then have the letter circulated widely among faith groups for more signatures. As a follow-up, bishops and other religious leaders could seek a meeting with the senators to discuss de-alerting and perhaps two or three other nuclear disarmament issues (see enclosure).

Would something like this be workable in New Mexico? Can you assist in this effort? If so, we would like to work closely with you. Denominational offices and peace fellowships that are a part of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament will help by making contact with their constituents in New Mexico.

Rev. Barbara Dua
March 3, 2001
Page two.

I will call you so that we can discuss these ideas further.

Shalom,

Howard W. Hallman
Chair

March 3, 2001

Mrs. Marilyn Mecham, Executive Director
Interchurch Ministries of Nebraska
215 Centennial Mall S., Room 411
Lincoln, NE 69508-1888

Dear Mrs. Mecham:

Since talking with you and corresponding several weeks ago, our plans for grassroots work on nuclear disarmament issues have evolved. We have decided to give priority attention to de-alerting to remove nuclear weapons from hair-trigger alert. In doing so the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, which I chair, is working closely with Back from the Brink Campaign, which focuses on de-alerting, and with the Friends Committee on National Legislation, which developed the enclosed letter from religious leaders to President Bush on de-alerting.

Specifically we are encouraging state versions of this letter addressed to U.S. senators, in your case to Senator Hagel and Senator Nelson. Thus, the opening paragraph might read: "We, leaders and members of religious organizations in Nebraska, join in an interfaith appeal for you to take leadership to reduce the threat of accidental nuclear war. Specifically we ask you talk with President Bush and ask him to work with Russian leaders to take all nuclear weapons off 'hair-trigger' alert."

We suggest that bishops and other heads of judicatories might be the initial signers of such a letter and then have the letter circulated widely among faith groups for more signatures. As a follow-up, bishops and other religious leaders could seek a meeting with the senators to discuss de-alerting with them.

Would something like this be workable in Nebraska? Can you and your Peace and Justice Committee assist in this effort? If so, we would like to work closely with you. Denominational offices and peace fellowships that are a part of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament will help by making contact with their constituents in Nebraska. I'll call you to discuss this further.

Shalom,

Howard W. Hallman, Chair

March 3, 2001

Bill Beachy
Topeka Center for Peace and Justice
1248 S.W. Buchanan
Topeka, KS 66604

Dear Bill:

I have had further discussion with Back from the Brink Campaign and Friends Committee on National Legislation about the letter to senators on de-alerting. They would prefer use of the full version of the FCNL-developed letter, modified for state use, rather than the abridged version I sent you. A copy of is enclosed. But the choice is up to you.

We suggest that bishops and other heads of judicatories might be the initial signers of such a letter and then have the letter circulated widely among faith groups for more signatures. As a follow-up, bishops and other religious leaders could seek a meeting with the senators to discuss de-alerting. If your delegation chooses, they could discuss other nuclear disarmament issues (see enclosure).

I hope that something along these lines can take place in Kansas. If so, we would like to work closely with you. For instance, denominational offices and peace fellowships that are a part of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament can help by making contact with their constituents in Kansas.

I'll keep in touch with you.

Shalom,

Howard W. Hallman
Chair

Dear Nancy and David,

I am working with Back from the Brink and the Friends Committee on National Legislation to get religious leaders in several states to sign a joint letter to their senators on de-alerting. The letter will be an adaptation of the FCNL letter that Nancy signed (see below), modified to ask the senators to talk with President Bush on de-alerting.

We want to get bishops and other heads of judicatories in these states to be initial signers of these letters. The states we are dealing with at the moment are Rhode Island, Virginia, Indiana, Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, and Oregon. Are there Pax Christi bishops in any of these states who might sign such a letter? Can you contact them for this purpose? (I can provide you the state version of the letter and tell you who else we know is signing.) Once the letter has initial signers in particular states, would you be in a position to ask other Pax Christi members to sign it?

Give me a call at 301 896-0013 if you want to discuss this.

Shalom,
Howard

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March 5, 2001

Dr. Condoleezza Rice
National Security Advisor
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Dr. Rice:

On behalf of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, which I chair, I want to send through you the enclosed letter to President Bush that expresses the concerns of representatives of 25 faith-based organizations about national missile defense. Would you please give this letter to the President for us and share it with other persons on the national security team?

We are concerned about the rush to a decision to deploy national missile defense for three reasons. First, the real and present danger to the U.S. home comes from Russian missiles deployed on hair-trigger alert. U.S deployment of national missile defense, especially if it entails withdrawal from the ABM Treaty, runs the risk of causing Russia to retain multi-warhead missiles and in other ways to lessen cooperation in bilateral strategic arms reduction.

Second, we believe that the dangers from a few small nations can be handled more effectively through a comprehensive nonproliferation strategy. In our letter we outline major components of such a strategy.

Third, the huge budgetary outlay to achieve national missile defense, even if the technology works (which has not yet been proven), would prevent the achievement of highly significant social justice objectives, including "Leave No Child Behind".

Representatives of our faith-based organizations would welcome an opportunity to meet with you and others in the Bush Administration to discuss more fully our views on national missile defense.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman
Chair

March 5, 2001

The Honorable Colin Powell
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

On behalf of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, which I chair, I want to share with you the enclosed letter to President Bush that expresses the views of representatives of 25 faith-based organizations about national missile defense.

We are concerned about the rush to a decision to deploy national missile defense for three reasons. First, the real and present danger to the U.S. home comes from Russian missiles deployed on hair-trigger alert. U.S. deployment of national missile defense, especially if it entails withdrawal from the ABM Treaty, runs the risk of causing Russia to retain multi-warhead missiles and in other ways to lessen cooperation in bilateral strategic arms reduction.

Second, we believe that the dangers from a few small nations can be handled more effectively through a comprehensive nonproliferation strategy. In our letter we outline major components of such a strategy.

Third, the huge budgetary outlay to achieve national missile defense, even if the technology works (which has not yet been proven), would prevent the achievement of highly significant social justice objectives, including "Leave No Child Behind".

Representatives of our faith-based organizations would welcome an opportunity to meet with you and others in the State Department to discuss more fully our views on national missile defense.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman
Chair

March 5, 2001

The Honorable Donald Rumsfeld
Secretary of Defense
U.S. Department of Defense
Washington, DC 20301

Dear Mr. Secretary:

On behalf of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, which I chair, I want to share with you the enclosed letter to President Bush that expresses the views of representatives of 25 faith-based organizations about national missile defense.

We are concerned about the rush to a decision to deploy national missile defense for three reasons. First, the real and present danger to the U.S. home comes from Russian missiles deployed on hair-trigger alert. U.S. deployment of national missile defense, especially if it entails withdrawal from the ABM Treaty, runs the risk of causing Russia to retain multi-warhead missiles and in other ways to lessen cooperation in bilateral strategic arms reduction.

Second, we believe that the dangers from a few small nations can be handled more effectively through a comprehensive nonproliferation strategy. In our letter we outline major components of such a strategy.

Third, the huge budgetary outlay to achieve national missile defense, even if the technology works (which has not yet been proven), would prevent the achievement of highly significant social justice objectives, including "Leave No Child Behind".

Representatives of our faith-based organizations would welcome an opportunity to meet with you and others in the Defense Department to discuss more fully our views on national missile defense.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman
Chair

Larry,

Here are letters for you to deliver to the Rayburn House Office Building.

You can walk into the office, hand the letter to the receptionist, and say, "I'd like to leave this letter for your defense aide." Or something to that effect.

When I do a building, I take the elevator to the top floor, do the circuit on that floor, walk to the next floor (or you can take the elevator down), and do the circuit. Usually there is a floor diagram by the elevator that shows the where the offices are.

Thanks very much for undertaking this task.

Howard Hallman

March 6, 2001

To: Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament

Dear Colleagues:

I am sending you two background pieces on the Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Nuclear Threat Reduction program. One is a speech by Senator Lugar that, though more than a year old, lays out the main issues of the program. The second is a description of various component programs.

This can serve as background for the discussion we will have with Ken Myers from Senator Lugar's staff when he meets with the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament at our next meeting, scheduled for Tuesday, March 13 at 1:00 p.m. in Conference Room 4 of the Methodist Building.

I'll see you then.

Howard W. Hallman

March 6, 2001

The Rev. Ed Weisheimer
The Christian Church in Indiana
1100 W. 42nd Street
Indianapolis, IN 46208-3375

Dear Rev. Weisheimer:

I am writing you as chair of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament and at the suggestion of Carol Cosby of the Disciples Peace Fellowship, who is a member of the committee.

One of our top issues is the quest for de-alerting the global nuclear arsenal to take nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert. In January more than 60 religious leaders, including the Rev. Dr. Richard Hamm, signed the enclosed letter to President Bush, asking him to take action on de-alerting. Now we are working with organizations in Indiana to have a similar letter go to Senator Lugar and Senator Bayh, asking them to urge President Bush to take such action. The letter would be similar to the national letter, except in asking the senators to act.

We are wondering if you would be willing to be an initial signer of the Indiana letter. We are asking other heads of judicatories in Indiana to do likewise and two or three other prominent religious leaders. With the initial signers indicated, the letter will then be circulated to a variety of religious leaders throughout the state for their signatures.

After the signatures have been collected an interfaith delegation will seek an appointment with the senators to present the letter and discuss the issue. We are asking United Methodist Bishop Woodie White to help get the appointment with Senator Lugar because the senator is a United Methodist. Would you be willing to be part of this delegation if it can fit in with your schedule?

We will greatly appreciate your assistance with this endeavor. If you have any questions, please call me at 301 896-0013. You can reply by phone or fax to this number or by e-mail at mupj@igc.org.

Shalom,

Howard W. Hallman, Chair

March 6, 2001

The Rt. Rev. Catherine E.M. Waynick
Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis
1100 West 42nd Street
Indianapolis, IN 46208

Dear Bishop Waynick:

I am writing you at the suggestion of Mary Miller, executive director of the Episcopal Peace Fellowship. We work together on the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, which I chair.

One of our top issues is the quest for de-alerting the global nuclear arsenal to take nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert. In January more than 60 religious leaders, including the Rt. Rev. Frank T. Griswold, signed the enclosed letter to President Bush, asking him to take action on de-alerting. Now we are working with organizations in Indiana to have a similar letter go to Senator Lugar and Senator Bayh, asking them to urge President Bush to take such action. The letter would be similar to the national letter, except in asking the senators to act.

We are wondering if you would be willing to be an initial signer of the Indiana letter. We are asking other heads of judicatories in Indiana to do likewise and two or three other prominent religious leaders. With the initial signers indicated, the letter will then be circulated to a variety of religious leaders throughout the state for their signatures.

After the signatures have been collected an interfaith delegation will seek an appointment with the senators to present the letter and discuss the issue. We are asking United Methodist Bishop Woodie White to help get the appointment with Senator Lugar because the senator is a United Methodist. Would you be willing to be part of this delegation if it can fit in with your schedule?

We will greatly appreciate your assistance with this endeavor. If you have any questions, please call me at 301 896-0013. You can reply by phone or fax to this number or by e-mail at mupj@igc.org.

Shalom,

Howard W. Hallman, Chair

March 8, 2001

Daryl,

I'm accepting your offer for your office to deliver some of the letters to senators on national missile defense. Will you please deliver these to the Dirksen and Russell buildings? I'm doing Hart, which is about half of them. Unitarian interns took care of the House.

They are arranged by room number, starting with the top floors. Some of them have two persons per office because the list we got from David Culp has both defense and foreign policy aides. Some are the same, but others are a pair.

Thanks for your assistance.

Howard Hallman

To: Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament

Dear Colleagues:

The letter from religious leaders to President Bush opposing national missile defense has been dispatched. The final version and list of signers is attached. A similar letter has been delivered to all members of Congress, asking them to share our concerns with President Bush.

Thanks for all who signed the letter. Thanks to David Culp of FCNL for providing name of Senate defense and foreign policy aides so that the letter to senators could be sent to their attention. Thanks to Stacie Robinson of the Coalition to Reduce Nuclear Dangers for performing the merge for 155 Senate aides. Thanks to Emily and Ali, Unitarian interns, for delivering letters to House members and to Daryl Byler for taking care of half of the Senate. I did the other half.

You can now make use of the letter by sharing it with your constituents and asking them to express these concerns to President Bush and to their senators and representatives. Delegations in states talking with their senators can also use the letter.

Would any one be interested in posting letter and signers on your web site?

Shalom,
Howard

To: Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament

Dear Colleagues:

I have finalized the letters to President Bush and members of Congress on national missile defense by incorporating suggestions received. I edited the opening sentence, added some language in the first and second reasons, and dropped what was the third reason, the need for rigorous testing.

Will you or some other representative from your organization sign these letters? For denominations we are suggesting heads of Washington offices or social action agencies rather than heads of communion, but that is your choice to make. I request your response by Wednesday, February 28. For your convenience, you can fill in the blanks.

Yes, we will sign the letters to President Bush and members of Congress on national missile defense.

Name and title of signer:

Name of organization:

The letters will have no letterhead, only the date of transmission. Signers will be in alphabetical order by organization. At the end it will indicate: "This letter was facilitated by Howard W. Hallman, chair, Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, 1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036; phone: 301 896-0013; e-mail: mupj@igc.org."

Shalom,
Howard

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The Honorable George W. Bush
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We the undersigned representatives of faith-based organizations share with you the desire to keep God's people, including those in the U.S. homeland, safe from nuclear attack. However, we are deeply concerned about the haste to make a commitment to deploy unproven technology for national missile defense.

First, the real and present danger for nuclear attack on the United States comes from the several thousand Russian missiles now on hair trigger alert and thousands of Russian nuclear weapons in reserve with inadequate security. The best remedies are mutual de-alerting, strategic arms reduction, and stable control of fissile material. These opportunities could be jeopardized if the United States withdraws from the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty to erect a national missile defense. Russia might then withdraw from other arms control treaties and retain multi-warhead missiles now scheduled for elimination under START II. Also, China might increase its nuclear

arsenal. This would pose far greater danger to U.S. homeland security than the remote threat of a few missiles a small nation might develop years from now.

Second, heavy emphasis on unproven anti-missile technology to counter a speculative future threat from a few small nations neglects other elements of a comprehensive non-proliferation strategy. More promising methods include international monitoring of nuclear test explosions, rigorous fissile material control, stringent missile technology control, diplomacy, financial assistance to nations cooperating in nuclear non-proliferation, and countering social, economic, and political instability that provides the breeding ground for terrorist groups

Third, we are seriously concerned about budgetary implications. Since 1983 the United States has spent \$69 billion on national missile defense, enriching major defense contractors but producing no effective system. President Clinton's plan, which you have criticized as inadequate, would cost \$60 billion. Indications are that the layered approach you favor could cost more than \$100 billion. A budgetary commitment of this magnitude along with the tax cut you are promoting would preclude achieving the goal of "Leave No Child Behind" and dealing with other urgent domestic needs.

For these reasons we urge you to pull back from the dangerous rush to a premature decision on national missile defense and withdrawal from the ABM Treaty.

Respectfully yours,

Representatives of
faith-based organizations

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Dear Senator/Representative:

We the undersigned representatives of faith-based organizations share the desire to keep God's people everywhere, including those in the U.S. homeland, safe from nuclear attack. However, we are deeply concerned about the haste to make a commitment to deploy unproven technology for national missile defense. We ask you to share our concerns with President Bush.

First, the real and present danger for nuclear attack on the United States comes from the several thousand Russian missiles now on hair trigger alert and thousands of Russian nuclear weapons in reserve with inadequate security. The best remedies are mutual de-alerting, strategic arms reduction, and stable control of fissile material. These opportunities could be jeopardized if the United States withdraws from the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty to erect a national missile defense. Russia might then withdraw from other arms control treaties and retain multi-warhead missiles now scheduled for elimination under START II. Also, China might increase its nuclear arsenal. This would pose far greater danger to U.S. homeland security than the remote threat of a few missiles a small nation might develop years from now.

Second, heavy emphasis on unproven anti-missile technology to counter a speculative future threat from a few small nations neglects other elements of a comprehensive non-proliferation strategy. More promising methods include international monitoring of nuclear test explosions,

rigorous fissile material control, stringent missile technology control, diplomacy, financial assistance to nations cooperating in nuclear non-proliferation, and countering social, economic, and political instability that provides the breeding ground for terrorist groups

Third, we are seriously concerned about budgetary implications. Since 1983 the United States has spent \$69 billion on national missile defense, enriching major defense contractors but producing no effective system. President Clinton's plan, which President Bush has criticized as inadequate, would cost \$60 billion. Indications are that the layered approach President Bush favors could cost more than \$100 billion. A budgetary commitment of this magnitude along with the tax cut now working its way through Congress would preclude achieving the goal of "Leave No Child Behind" and dealing with other urgent domestic needs.

For these reasons we ask you to urge President Bush to pull back from the dangerous rush to a premature decision on national missile defense and withdrawal from the ABM Treaty.

Respectfully yours,

Representatives of
faith-based organizations

Rev. Dr. Stan Hastey, Executive Director
Alliance of Baptists
(organization listed for identification only)

Curtis Ramsey-Lucas
Director of Legislative Advocacy
National Ministries
American Baptist Churches

Ken Sehested, Executive Director
Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America

David Radcliff
Director of Brethren Witness
Church of the Brethren General Board

Greg Laszakovits
Director, Washington Office
Church of the Brethren General Board

Tiffany Heath
Interim Legislative Director
Church Women United

Gary Baldrige
Global Missions Coordinator
Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

Rev. Lonnie Turner
Washington Office
Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

Joel Heim, Moderator
Disciples Peace Fellowship

Thomas H. Hart
Director of Government Relations
Episcopal Church, USA

Rev. Mark Brown, Assistant Director
International Affairs and Human Rights
Lutheran Office for Governmental Affairs
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Ronald J. Sider, President
Evangelicals for Social Action

Mary H. Miller, Executive Director
Episcopal Peace Fellowship

Murray Polner, President
Jewish Peace Fellowship

Rev. Carroll Houle
Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns

J. Daryl Byler, Director
Washington Office
Mennonite Central Committee, U.S.

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

Rabia Terri Harris, Coordinator
Muslim Peace Fellowship

Brenda Girton-Mitchell, JD
Assoc. General Secretary for Public Policy
& Director of the Washington Office
National Council of Churches

Nancy Small, National Coordinator
Pax Christi, USA

Rev. Elenora Giddings Ivory
Director, Washington Office
Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.

L. William Yolton
Presbyterian Peace Fellowship

Ann Rutan, csjp , President
Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace

Rev. Meg A. Riley
Washington Office for Faith in Action
Unitarian Universalist Association

Ron Stief
Justice and Witness Ministries
United Church of Christ

Jim Winkler, General Secretary
General Board of Church and Society
United Methodist Church

William J. Price
World Peacemakers

*This letter was facilitated by Howard W. Hallman, Chair, Interfaith Committee for Nuclear
Disarmament, 1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC Phone/fax: 301 896-0013 mupj@igc.org*

A Religious Leaders' Appeal on De-alerting Nuclear Weapons

To: The Honorable [names of senators]:

We, leaders and members of religious organizations in [name of state], join in an interfaith appeal for you to help reduce the threat of accidental nuclear war. Specifically we ask you to meet with President Bush and urge him to work with Russian leaders to take all nuclear weapons off "hair-trigger" alert.

From a faith perspective, policies concerning nuclear weapons raise profound questions about our moral responsibilities, the integrity of God's creation, and human destiny. As an interfaith community, we assert that de-alerting all nuclear weapons is a prudent and necessary step toward eliminating the threat of nuclear war.

Although the Cold War ended over a decade ago, the United States and Russia combined have five thousand nuclear weapons -- the equivalent of 100,000 Hiroshima bombs -- on high-alert status, ready to be fired at a moment's notice. In a time of crisis or perceived attack, decision makers on both sides have only minutes to decide whether to launch a nuclear strike.

A single miscalculation or computer error could lead to nuclear war. We have already come too close to this ultimate catastrophe. In 1995 a U.S. research rocket launched off the coast of Norway appeared on Russian radar screens. Because the rocket had a profile similar to that of a nuclear missile from a U.S. Trident submarine, Russian radar could not distinguish the research rocket from a U.S. nuclear missile. Russia came within minutes of launching its own nuclear missiles at the United States. The United States and Russia narrowly avoided nuclear disaster, instigated because of poor communications and the hair-trigger alert status of U.S. and Russian nuclear missiles.

The continued deterioration of Russia's radar and early warning systems only increases the nuclear danger. The poor conditions of Russian facilities, substandard training and pay, and low morale of personnel increases the likelihood of mistakes. The security of the United States -- and the world -- now rests with an increasingly fragile and vulnerable Russian nuclear system.

The United States and Russia should move now to end the threat of accidental nuclear war by de-alerting their arsenals -- taking them off the hair-trigger. De-alerting means lengthening the time needed to prepare nuclear missiles for launch. One method of de-alerting, endorsed by General George Lee Butler, USAF (Ret.), former commander-in-chief of the U.S. Strategic Command, is separating nuclear warheads from their missiles. This would give U.S. and Russian officials more time to make an assessment of any threat. It would provide a critical margin of safety in case of a failure of early warning systems or nuclear command and control.

Therefore, we urge you to speak with President Bush, urging him to initiate action to remove all nuclear weapons from hair-trigger status. We await your response and would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss this important matter.

Sincerely,

[Note: This statement is based upon one developed by the Friends Committee on National Legislation, addressed to President Bush, and signed by national religious leaders.]

Senators to Focus On

Maine	Collins (AS), Snowe (B)
Vermont	Jeffords
Rhode Island	Chafee (FR)
Pennsylvania	Specter(Ap), Santorum (AS)
Virginia	Warner (AS), Allen (FR)
Kentucky	McConnell (Ap), Bunning (AS)
Tennessee	Frist (FR)
Ohio	DeWine (Ap)
Indiana	Lugar (FR)
Iowa	Grassley (B)
Nebraska	Hagel (FR)
Kansas	Roberts (AS), Brownback (FR)
Wyoming	Thomas (FR)
Colorado	Allard (AS)
New Mexico	Domenici (B, Ap)
Arizona	McCain (AS)
Oregon	Smith (FR)
Alaska	Stevens (Ap)

Committees

AS -- Armed Services
FR -- Foreign Relations
E -- Energy and Natural Resources
Ap -- Appropriations
B -- Budget

February 22, 2001

ograbc@aol.com, jmatlack@erols.com, glaszakovits_gb@brethren.org,
tlheath@churchwomen.org, 76622.637@compserve.com, thart@dfms.org, david@fcnl.org,
kathy@fcnl.org, marsusab@aol.com, J._Daryl_Byler@mcc.org, lisaw@nccusa.org,
cgordon@ctr.pcusa.org, rlabush@rac.org, uuawo@aol.com, egbert14pj@yahoo.com,
stiefr@ucc.org, dringler@umc-gbcs.org

**Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament
Budget**

A. Leadership

Chair -- ½ time	\$ 36,000
Fringe benefits (15%)	<u>5,400</u>
	41,400
Non-personal	<u>8,600</u>
	50,000

B. Outreach

Field coordinator -- full time	\$ 50,000
Fringe benefits (15%)	<u>7,500</u>
	57,500
Non-personal	<u>22,500</u>
	80,000

C. Communications

Web site	\$ 20,000
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TOTAL \$ 150,000

Questions for U.S. Senators on Nuclear Disarmament Issues

Senator, we thank you meeting with us. Many faith groups have a strong interest in nuclear disarmament issues. We would like to discuss some of them with you.

De-alerting and strategic arms reduction

During the past 20 years bilateral arms reduction treaties between the United States and Russia have used to lessen the risk of nuclear war. What are the prospects for completion of the ratification process for START II? Do you think there should be a START III agreement for further reductions?

Last May in a campaign speech President Bush said that "the United States should remove as many weapons as possible from high-alert, hair-trigger status." He said, "It should be possible to reduce the number of nuclear weapons significantly further than what has already been agreed to under START II without compromising our security in any way." He further stated that de-alerting and strategic arms reduction could come about through executive leadership without waiting for years of treaty negotiations. What do you think of these ideas? Do you favor de-alerting? Do you support strategic arms reduction through executive action?

Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT)

In January General John Shalikashvili proposed that the Senate reconsider the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) and ratify it. He suggested that the treaty be reviewed after ten years by a commission set up by the president and Congress. He suggested a more integrated approach to non-proliferation. He offered several other ideas. What do you think of General Shalikashvili's recommendations?

National Missile Defense

Persons in the faith community have grave doubts about National Missile Defense (NMD). They believe that the threat of attack on the United States by long-range missiles by small nations is greatly exaggerated, that deployment of NMD by the United States would risk a renewed nuclear arms race with Russia and China, that it wouldn't guard against more likely means of attack by terrorists and small nations, that the cost of NMD is wasteful and takes money away from other needs. What are your views on National Missile Defense?

Drafted by Methodists United for Peace with Justice
February 28, 2001

March 6, 2000

Dear Representative:

Re: National Missile Defense

Attn: Defense Aide

We the undersigned representatives of faith-based organizations share the desire to keep God's people everywhere, including those in the U.S. homeland, safe from nuclear attack. However, we are deeply concerned about the haste to make a commitment to deploy unproven technology for national missile defense. We ask you to share our concerns with President Bush.

First, the real and present danger for nuclear attack on the United States comes from the several thousand Russian missiles now on hair trigger alert and thousands of Russian nuclear weapons in reserve with inadequate security. The best remedies are mutual de-alerting, strategic arms reduction, and stable control of fissile material. These opportunities could be jeopardized if the United States withdraws from the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty to erect a national missile defense. Russia might then withdraw from other arms control treaties and retain multi-warhead missiles now scheduled for elimination under START II. Also, China might increase its nuclear arsenal. This would pose far greater danger to U.S. homeland security than the remote threat of a few missiles a small nation might develop years from now.

Second, heavy emphasis on unproven anti-missile technology to counter a speculative future threat from a few small nations neglects other elements of a comprehensive non-proliferation strategy. More promising methods include international monitoring of nuclear test explosions, rigorous fissile material control, stringent missile technology control, diplomacy, financial assistance to nations cooperating in nuclear non-proliferation, and countering social, economic, and political instability that provides the breeding ground for terrorist groups

Third, we are seriously concerned about budgetary implications. Since 1983 the United States has spent \$69 billion on national missile defense, enriching major defense contractors but producing no effective system. President Clinton's plan, which President Bush has criticized as inadequate, would cost \$60 billion. Indications are that the layered approach President Bush favors could cost more than \$100 billion. A budgetary commitment of this magnitude along with the tax cut now working its way through Congress would preclude achieving the goal of "Leave No Child Behind" and dealing with other urgent domestic needs.

For these reasons we ask you to urge President Bush to pull back from the dangerous rush to a premature decision on national missile defense and withdrawal from the ABM Treaty.

Respectfully yours,

Signers from faith-based organizations are listed on the next page.

March 6, 2001

The Honorable [name]
[#] [name] Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: National Missile Defense:

Atten: [name of aide]

Dear Senator:

We the undersigned representatives of faith-based organizations share the desire to keep God's people everywhere, including those in the U.S. homeland, safe from nuclear attack. However, we are deeply concerned about the haste to make a commitment to deploy unproven technology for national missile defense. We ask you to share our concerns with President Bush.

First, the real and present danger for nuclear attack on the United States comes from the several thousand Russian missiles now on hair trigger alert and thousands of Russian nuclear weapons in reserve with inadequate security. The best remedies are mutual de-alerting, strategic arms reduction, and stable control of fissile material. These opportunities could be jeopardized if the United States withdraws from the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty to erect a national missile defense. Russia might then withdraw from other arms control treaties and retain multi-warhead missiles now scheduled for elimination under START II. Also, China might increase its nuclear arsenal. This would pose far greater danger to U.S. homeland security than the remote threat of a few missiles a small nation might develop years from now.

Second, heavy emphasis on unproven anti-missile technology to counter a speculative future threat from a few small nations neglects other elements of a comprehensive non-proliferation strategy. More promising methods include international monitoring of nuclear test explosions, rigorous fissile material control, stringent missile technology control, diplomacy, financial assistance to nations cooperating in nuclear non-proliferation, and countering social, economic, and political instability that provides the breeding ground for terrorist groups

Third, we are seriously concerned about budgetary implications. Since 1983 the United States has spent \$69 billion on national missile defense, enriching major defense contractors but producing no effective system. President Clinton's plan, which President Bush has criticized as inadequate, would cost \$60 billion. Indications are that the layered approach President Bush favors could cost more than \$100 billion. A budgetary commitment of this magnitude along with the tax cut now working its way through Congress would preclude achieving the goal of "Leave No Child Behind" and dealing with other urgent domestic needs.

For these reasons we ask you to urge President Bush to pull back from the dangerous rush to a premature decision on national missile defense and withdrawal from the ABM Treaty.

Respectfully yours,

Signers from faith-based organizations listed on next page.

For immediate release
March 5, 2001

Contact: Howard Hallman
Phone: 301 896-0013

RELIGIOUS LEADERS OPPOSE NATIONAL MISSILE DEFENSE

Representatives of 25 national faith-based organizations have written President George W. Bush to express their deep concern about the haste to deploy a national missile defense. Although they share the desire to keep God's people safe from nuclear attack, they have grave doubts about the commitment to rely on unproven technology.

The religious leaders point out that the real and present danger for nuclear attack comes from Russian missiles on hair-trigger alert and other nuclear warheads held in reserve with inadequate security. The best remedies are mutual de-alerting, strategic arms reduction, and stable control of fissile material. Furthermore, the religious leaders point out, if the United States withdraws from the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty to erect a national missile defense, Russia might respond by retaining multi-warhead missiles now scheduled for deactivation under START II.

Secondly, the religious leaders believe that a comprehensive non-proliferation strategy is a better way to deal with a few small nations that might develop and deploy long-range missiles years from now. More promising methods include international monitoring of nuclear test explosions, control of fissile material and missile technology, diplomacy, and financial assistance to nations cooperating in nuclear non-proliferation. As to the threat from terrorist groups, the religious leaders emphasize the need to counter social, economic, and political instability that provides the breeding ground for terrorist groups.

Thirdly, the religious leaders are concerned about the budgetary implications of national missile defense. The layered approach that President Bush prefers could cost more than \$100 billion. A budgetary commitment of this magnitude along with the pending tax cut would preclude achieving the goal of "Leave No Child Behind", which President Bush favors and the faith community supports.

For these reasons the representatives of the 25 national faith-based organizations ask President Bush to pull back from a premature decision on national missile defense and withdrawal from the ABM Treaty.

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Copy of the letter to President Bush and list of signers are attached.

The letter to President Bush and this news release have been facilitated by Howard W. Hallman, chair, Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, 1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036. Phone/fax: 301 896-0013. E-mail: mupj@igc.org

Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament
Meeting of March 13, 2001
1:00 to 2:30 p.m.
Methodist Building, Conference Room 4

Agenda

1. Introductions
2. National Missile Defense
 - a. Sign-on letter
 - b. Legislation
 - c. North Korea
3. Hill Visits
4. Nunn-Lugar Program (1:30 to 2:00)
Special guest: Ken Myers, Office of Senator Lugar
5. Grassroots Mobilization
 - a. States
 - b. Issues:
 - De-alerting
 - Strategic arms reduction
 - CTBT
 - National missile defense
6. De-alerting: Action in Washington
7. Nuclear Posture Review
8. Other matters

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 10, 2001, 1:00 to 2:30 p.m., Methodists Building, Conference Room 4