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file
Initiatives
& Referenda

Date: 1/31/83

TO: MORTON BLACKWELL

FROM: WAYNE H. VALIS

Wayne

- ☐ For your information
- ☐ Per our conversation
- ☐ Other:

Please read the attached. You'll note that Dr. Ranney believes that conservatives won 3/5ths of all referendums in the '82 elections.

The Year of the Referendum

by Austin Ranney



In the November 1982 elections at least one referendum measure was on the ballot in 42 states and the District of Columbia, and just under 200 propositions were voted on in all.

Sixty-four propositions in 26 states appear to have attracted more than local interest. As in 1978 and 1980 (see *Public Opinion*, Nov./Dec. 1978, pp. 26-28 and Feb./Mar. 1981, pp. 40-41), the turnout on these propositions was generally higher than in elections for the House of Representatives, although the gap was a bit narrower than in the earlier years. The mean turnout on the 64 propositions was 40.2 percent of the voting-age population, compared with *Congressional Quarterly's* estimated 35.7 percent in all races for the House. The 1982 turnout on referendums was slightly higher than what it had been

in 1978, but, as one would expect, well below the comparable figure of 52.1 percent in the presidential year of 1980.

The outcomes of the selected 64 propositions show several clear trends. The measures receiving the most national attention were the "nuclear weapons freeze" propositions on the ballots in 9 states and the District of Columbia; they won everywhere except in Arizona, and provided liberals with by far their greatest successes in 1982 referendum voting. What impact, if any, the results will have on national policy remains to be seen, but it is worth noting that the issue did not arouse the unusually high voter interest and turnout some observers had predicted: The mean turnout on the freeze proposition was 37.6 percent, compared with 40.2 percent for all referendums.

Nuclear Weapons Freeze Measures

☒ Arizona	Yes 273,146 40.7%	No 397,462 59.3%	Turnout = 32.5%
☒ California	Yes 3,795,732 52.5%	No 3,439,082 47.5%	Turnout = 39.6%
☒ District of Columbia	Yes 79,219 69.8%	No 34,366 30.2%	Turnout = 23.3%
☒ Massachusetts	Yes 1,319,442 73.4%	No 471,968 26.3%	Turnout = 40.8%
☒ Michigan	Yes 1,585,809 56.6%	No 1,216,172 43.4%	Turnout = 42.7%
☒ New Jersey	Yes 1,255,468 66.1%	No 643,780 33.9%	Turnout = 34.3%
☒ North Dakota	Yes 139,089 58.4%	No 98,882 41.6%	Turnout = 50.3%
☒ Oregon	Yes 606,143 61.5%	No 378,780 38.5%	Turnout = 50.4%
☒ Rhode Island	Yes 161,852 59.3%	No 112,011 40.7%	Turnout = 37.7%
☒ Wisconsin (September)	Yes 641,514 75.8%	No 205,018 24.2%	Turnout = 24.4%

Measures Limiting Nuclear Power and Waste Disposal

☒ Colorado (study conversion of Rocky Flats nuclear plant to other uses)	Yes 263,236 35.4%	No 481,074 64.6%	Turnout = 33.4%
☒ Maine (end nuclear production of electricity after 1987)	Yes 201,617 44.0%	No 256,124 56.0%	Turnout = 55.1%
☒ Massachusetts (restrict building of new nuclear power plants and disposal of nuclear waste)	Yes 1,244,171 67.4%	No 602,351 32.6%	Turnout = 42.0%
☒ Montana (remove present prohibitions against placing nuclear waste in state)	Yes 69,126 24.3%	No 214,740 75.7%	Turnout = 49.9%
☒ Montana (against basing MX missile in the state)	Yes 162,164 57.2%	No 121,536 42.8%	Turnout = 49.9%

"Bottle Bills"

☒ Arizona	Yes 223,825 31.9%	No 477,856 68.1%	Turnout = 34.0%
☒ California	Yes 3,281,803 44.1%	No 4,162,884 55.9%	Turnout = 40.7%
☒ Colorado	Yes 191,420 24.4%	No 591,812 75.6%	Turnout = 35.2%

☒ Massachusetts (retain present law)	Yes 1,142,566 59.1%	No 790,966 40.9%	Turnout = 44.0%
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☒ Washington	Yes 311,614 29.4%	No 747,637 70.6%	Turnout = 33.6%
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Pro-Consumer Utility Regulation Measures

☒ Michigan (establish publicly elected public service commission)	Yes 1,026,160 36.7%	No 1,771,098 63.3%	Turnout = 42.7%
☒ Michigan (prohibit automatic utility rate adjustments without prior hearings)	Yes 1,670,381 59.6%	No 1,131,990 40.4%	Turnout = 42.8%
☒ Nevada (approve legislature's establishment of office of advocate for utility customers)	Yes 158,296 71.6%	No 62,802 26.4%	Turnout = 33.4%
☒ Missouri (establish organizations to represent utility consumers in hearings before public service commission)	Yes 510,613 38.7%	No 808,607 61.3%	Turnout = 36.2%
☒ Ohio (establish elected public utility board)	Yes 1,050,745 32.6%	No 2,174,587 67.4%	Turnout = 41.4%

Tax measures drew less attention in 1982 than in the earlier years, but there was no shortage of them. Thirteen such measures were on the ballots in 12 states, with 9 tax-cutting propositions winning and 3 losing. The most consistent pattern of all emerged in votes in 7 states on measures related to criminal justice: Arizona, Illinois, and Florida voted to make more difficult the pre-trial release of persons accused of felonies; Connecticut and Hawaii voted to allow trials on felony charges without requiring indictments by grand juries; Massachusetts voted to legalize the death penalty; and Virginia voted against a measure to restore civil rights to convicted felons.

Other measures that attracted considerable national attention were handgun control in California (defeated), legaliza-

tion of gambling in Minnesota (won), South Dakota (won), and Montana (won); and limitation of state funding of abortions in Alaska (defeated).

We noted in 1980 that the strong conservative trends some observers saw in the presidential and congressional elections were not reflected in those referendum results which, by my admittedly challengeable coding, posed reasonably clear choices between conservative and liberal positions. The same methods yield another set of contrary trends in 1982. Most commentators summed up the congressional elections as a significant gain for Democrats and liberals, but my "scorecard" for the referendums shows an overall 33-22 victory for conservative positions. By my count, liberals won 9-1 on nuclear weapons freeze measures and 3-2 on nuclear

power measures. Conservatives won 4-1 on "bottle bills," 3-2 on utility regulation, 9-3 on tax cuts, 7-0 on get-tough-on-crime measures, and 7-4 on other issues. Again, however, it is necessary to say that these results may be artifacts of my coding—or, even more likely, products of the fact that most voters are less concerned with whether a particular measure represents a "liberal" or a "conservative" position than with whether it is right or wrong.

Austin Ranney
Resident Scholar
American Enterprise Institute

**Totals do not reflect
late absentee votes and
recounted ballots.**

Tax Measures

☒ Alaska (limit increases in state appropriations)

Yes	102,135	60.8%
No	65,786	39.2%
	167,921	Turnout = 58.5%

☒ Colorado (limit rate of increase of property taxes)

Yes	466,813	65.6%
No	244,424	34.4%
	711,237	Turnout = 32.0%

☒ Maine (index income tax rates to inflation rate)

Yes	240,023	56.7%
No	182,939	43.3%
	422,962	Turnout = 50.9%

☒ Nevada (permit imposition of an estate tax)

Yes	86,701	39.2%
No	134,359	60.9%
	221,060	Turnout = 33.4%

☒ Nevada (exempt goods and furniture of single households from taxation)

Yes	169,066	75.7%
No	54,368	24.3%
	223,434	Turnout = 33.8%

☒ Nevada (exempt food from taxation)

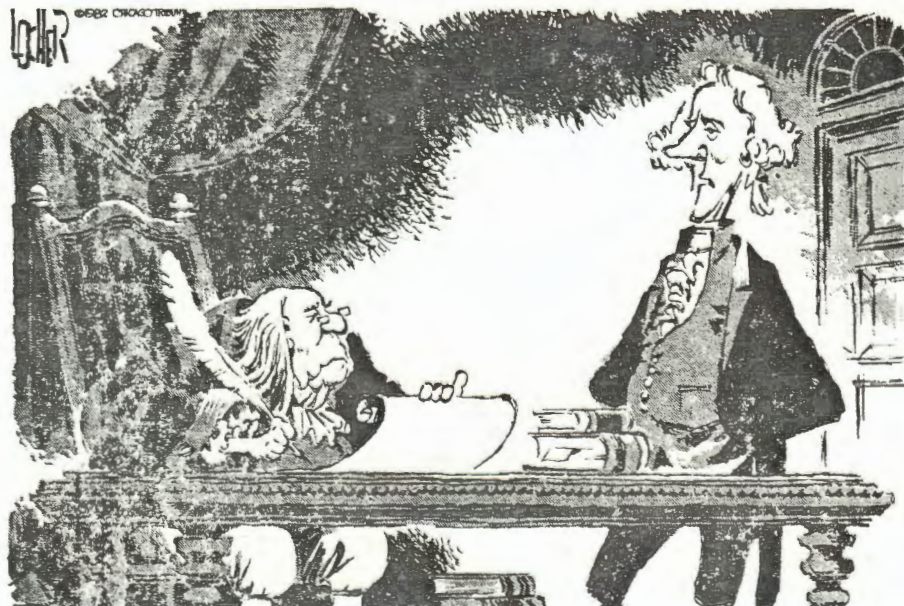
Yes	94,014	41.2%
No	133,999	58.8%
	228,013	Turnout = 34.5%

☒ North Carolina (permit legislature to issue general tax increment bonds without voter approval)

Yes	182,167	18.4%
No	810,565	81.6%
	992,732	Turnout = 22.5%

☒ Oregon (limit property taxes to 1.5% of true cash value)

Yes	486,865	49.2%
No	502,411	50.8%
	989,276	Turnout = 50.6%



"Let's leave out 'No Taxation without Representation'! What congress would vote taxes without consulting the people?"

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☒ Oregon (increase tax base of taxing districts as new construction increases the districts' value)

Yes	212,777	22.1%
No	750,303	77.9%
	963,080	Turnout = 49.3%

☒ South Carolina (exempt any industry deciding to locate in state from any new taxes for 5 years)

Yes	231,387	48.9%
No	241,546	51.1%
	472,933	Turnout = 20.6%

☒ Texas (repeal state property tax)

Yes	1,609,998	72.0%
No	626,123	28.0%
	2,236,121	Turnout = 20.7%

☒ Washington (remove sales tax on food, replace it with a corporate profits tax)

Yes	453,221	33.8%
No	889,091	66.2%
	1,342,312	Turnout = 33.0%

☒	West Virginia (property tax limitation and homestead exemption)		
Yes	404,851	80.0%	
No	101,347	20.0%	
	506,198		Turnout = 35.9%

Measures on Crime

☒	Arizona (prohibit bail for accused felons who pose danger to society)		
Yes	550,220	81.0%	
No	128,992	19.0%	
	679,212		Turnout = 32.9%

☒	Connecticut (abolish grand jury, substitute hearings, in cases where life imprisonment or death might be imposed)		
Yes	437,231	73.6%	
No	157,080	26.4%	
	<u>594,311</u>	Turnout = 25.0%	

☒	Florida (no pre-trial release if public safety not reasonably assured)		
Yes	1,412,269	60.6%	
No	917,092	39.4%	
	<u>2,329,361</u>		Turnout = 28.5%

☒	Hawaii (abolish grand jury, substitute hearings, in felony cases)		
Yes	191,798	66.8%	
No	95,216	33.2%	
	287,014	Turnout = 40.1%	

☒	Illinois (prohibit bail in cases where life imprisonment might be imposed)		
Yes	1,389,796	85.3%	
No	239,380	14.7%	
	1,629,176	Turnout = 19.5%	

☒	Massachusetts (legalize death penalty)		
Yes	1,125,653	60.1%	
No	746,733	39.9%	
	<u>1,872,386</u>	Turnout = 42.6%	

☒	Virginia (restore civil rights to convicted felons after serving sentences)		
Yes	396,322	36.6%	
No	685,753	63.4%	
	1,082,075	Turnout = 26.5%	

Other Measures

☒	Alaska ("tundra rebellion": claiming state ownership of federal land)		
Yes	126,471	72.7%	
No	47,485	27.3%	
	173,956	Turnout = 60.6%	

☒	Alaska (limit state funding of abortions)		
Yes	72,062	40.8%	
No	104,152	59.1%	
	176,214	Turnout = 61.4%	

☒	Arizona (repeal "sagebrush rebellion" by abandoning state claims to certain federal lands)		
Yes	279,411	42.9%	
No	372,179	57.1%	
	651,590	Turnout = 31.6%	

☒	California (handgun control)		
Yes	2,776,973	37.2%	
No	4,690,734	62.8%	
	<u>7,467,707</u>	Turnout = 40.9%	

☒	California (measures for water conservation and redistribution)		
Yes	2,449,513	35.3%	
No	4,488,645	64.7%	
	<u>6,938,158</u>	Turnout = 38.0%	

☒	Colorado (permit wine sales in grocery stores)		
Yes	288,797	34.3%	
No	552,205	65.6%	
	841,002		Turnout = 37.8%

☒ **Idaho** (lower voting age from 21 to 18; end restrictions on offices women can hold)

Yes	193,007	65.3%
No	102,321	34.7%
	295,328	Turnout = 44.7%

☒	Maine (repeal control of wholesale and retail milk prices)		
Yes	222,422	48.9%	
No	232,430	51.1%	
	454,852	Turnout = 54.7%	

☒	Minnesota (permit parimutuel betting on horse racing)		
Yes	1,108,255	64.0%	
No	624,721	36.0%	
	1,732,976	Turnout = 58.0%	

☒	Montana (expansion of authorized gambling and creating of state gaming commission)		
Yes	111,686	37.6%	
No	185,542	62.4%	
	297,228	Turnout = 52.2%	

☒	Montana (abolish quotas for beer and wine licenses for restaurants)		
Yes	116,444	39.7%	
No	177,181	60.3%	
	293,625	Turnout = 51.6%	

☒	Nebraska (prohibit all non-family purchasing of farm and ranch property)		
Yes	290,377	56.4%	
No	224,555	43.6%	
	514,932	Turnout = 45.0%	

☒	Nevada (affirm citizens' rights to keep and bear arms)		
Yes	162,432	71.0%	
No	66,361	29.0%	
	228,793	Turnout = 34.6%	

☒	New Hampshire (affirm state citizens' right to keep and bear arms)		
Yes	178,773	72.9%	
No	66,441	27.1%	
	245,214	Turnout = 35.2%	

☒	North Dakota (outlaw blackjack)	
Yes	96,677	37.0%
No	164,816	63.0%
	261,493	Turnout = 54.9%

☒	Oregon (abolish state land conservation and development commission and state's land use planning authority)	
Yes	447,462	44.8%
No	552,192	55.2%
	<u>999,654</u>	Turnout = 51.2%

☒	Oregon (permit self-service at gasoline stations)		
Yes	426,603	42.0%	
No	589,320	58.0%	
	1,015,923	Turnout = 52.0%	

☒	South Dakota (legalize gambling)		
Yes	107,555	42.2%	
No	147,147	57.8%	
	254,702	Turnout = 52.8%	

☒	Washington (reduce interest rate charged on credit sales from maximum of 18% to maximum of 12%)		
Yes	348,753	33.7%	
No	685,590	66.3%	
	<u>1,034,343</u>		Turnout = 32.8%

Michael Millard assisted Dr. Ranney in the preparation of this article.

CONSERVATIVE-LIBERAL SCORECARD, 1982

Issue	Conservative Wins	Liberal Wins
Nuclear weapons freeze	Ariz.	Calif., D.C., Mass., Mich., N.J., N.D., Ore., R.I., Wis.
Nuclear power and waste disposal limitations	Colo., Maine	Mass., Mont. (2)
Bottle bills	Ariz., Calif., Colo., Wash.	Mass.
Pro-consumer utility regulations	Mich., Mo., Ohio	Mich., Nev.
Tax measures	Alaska, Colo., Maine, Nev. (2), N.C., Tex., Wash., W. Va.	Nev., Ore., S.C.
Get-tough-on-crime	Ariz., Conn., Fla., Haw., Ill., Mass., Va.	
Other issues	Alaska, Ariz., Calif. (2), Nev., N.H., Wash.	Alaska, Ida., Maine, Ore.



Ohio Senate
Statehouse
Columbus, Ohio 43216
614/466-6508

Blackwell
Committees:
Natural Resources, Environment
& Energy
State Government, Health &
Human Resources
Ways & Means

MAY 6 1983

Bill Ress
30th District

May 4, 1983

Howard Philips
The Conservative Caucus
450 Maple Avenue East
Vienna, Virginia 22180

Dear Howard:

Enclosed please find a copy of the Nuclear Freeze Joint
Resolution that passed the Ohio Senate yesterday, with a
vote of 19-14.

I have also enclosed the amendment I offered which was de-
feated 17-16.

The Dems control the Senate 17 to 16. Senator Paul Pfeifer
cast the key vote. If he had voted against the final resolu-
tion ... the other two Republicans would not have supported it.

I think you should let some folks know that our 1982 U.S. Senate
candidate was responsible for passing the Nuclear Freeze Resolu-
tion in the Ohio Senate.

Best regards,

Bill
Bill Ress
State Senator

BR/rp

Enclosures: Sub. S.J.R. No. 5 (Bill Ress)
Senate Joint Resolution No. 5

115th General Assembly

1.4

1.6

Regular Session

Sub. S. J. R. No. 5 1.7

1983-1984

1.8

MR. RESS

1.9

1.11

JOINT RESOLUTION

1.12

To memorialize Congress and the President of the 1.14

United States to negotiate a proposal calling for 1.15

mutually verifiable reduction in testing, 1.16

production, and further deployment of nuclear 1.17

weapons by the United States and the Soviet

Union.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO: 1.20

WHEREAS, The horror of a nuclear holocaust is universally 1.22

acknowledged, as the United States and the Soviet Union presently 1.24
possess large quantities of nuclear weapons; and

WHEREAS, The United States and the Soviet Union plan to 1.26

build more nuclear warheads, including a new generation of super- 1.28
accurate, first-strike-capable weapons; and

WHEREAS, The increased accuracy of these new weapons will, 1.30

for the first time in the history of the arms race, threaten the 1.31
retaliatory capability of each side's missile forces; and 1.32

WHEREAS, The continuation of the nuclear arms race may, if 1.34

not stopped, increase chances of a massive nuclear exchange 1.35

during this time when economic difficulties, political 1.36

dissension, revolution, and competition for energy supplies are 2.1

on the rise worldwide; and 2.2

WHEREAS, Rather than permit this dangerous future to 2.4

continue, the United States and the Soviet Union should negotiate 2.5

the immediate, mutual, and verifiable reduction in all further 2.6

testing, production, and deployment of nuclear weapons and of 2.7

missiles and new aircraft designed primarily to deliver nuclear 2.8

weapons; and 2.9

WHEREAS, Reducing the production of nuclear weapons and 2.11
 weapon-grade material may increase the incentive of other 2.12
 countries to adhere to the Nonproliferation Treaty, renouncing 2.13
 their own nuclear weapons, and may help prevent the spread of 2.14
 nuclear weapons to other countries; and 2.15

WHEREAS, Balanced and verifiable reductions in the nuclear 2.17
 arsenals of the United States and the Soviet Union may further 2.18
 lessen tensions and further decrease chances of nuclear war; 2.19
 therefore be it 2.20

RESOLVED, That the members of the Senate and House of 2.22
 Representatives of the 115th General Assembly of Ohio hereby 2.23
 memorialize the Congress and the President of the United States 2.24
 to seek the adoption of the following proposal: 2.25

(1) As an essential step toward lessening the risk of 2.27
 nuclear war, the United States and the Soviet Union should 2.28
 negotiate an immediate, mutual, and verifiable reduction in the 2.29
 testing, production, and further deployment of nuclear weapons 2.30
 and of missiles and new aircraft designed primarily to deliver 2.31
 nuclear weapons, with particular emphasis given to effective 2.32
 measures of verification, including provisions for onsite 2.33
 inspections; and

(2) All funds that would otherwise have gone to these 2.35
 weapons programs should be returned to the taxpayers; and be it 2.36
 further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly 3.2
 authenticated copies of this Resolution to the President of the 3.3
 United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of 3.4
 Representatives, the members of Ohio's Congressional delegation, 3.5
 and the President of the United States. 3.6

As Reported by Senate Judiciary Committee	1.4
115th General Assembly	1.6
Regular Session	S. J. R. No. 5 1.7
1983-1984	1.8
MESSRS. SCHWARZWALDER-FISHER-MESHEL-ZIMMERS-BUTTS-BOWEN-	1.10
ROBERTO-PFEIFFER-BOGGS-BRANSTOOL-FRIES-MAURER-PFEIFER-	1.11
MS. VALIQUETTE-MESSRS. OCASEK-SKALL-CARNEY-ZALESKI	1.12
	1.13
J O I N T R E S O L U T I O N	1.14
To memorialize Congress and the President of the	1.16
United States to adopt the proposal calling for a	1.17
freeze on testing, production, and further	1.18
deployment of nuclear weapons by the United	1.19
States and the Soviet Union, a balanced reduction	
of such weapons, and a redirection of funds to	1.20
help create a healthy, job-productive economy.	1.21
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:	1.24
WHEREAS, The horror of a nuclear holocaust is universally	1.26
acknowledged, as the United States and the Soviet Union presently	1.28
possess more than 50,000 nuclear weapons that can destroy each	1.29
society many times over and threaten all life on earth; and	1.30
WHEREAS, The United States and the Soviet Union plan to	1.32
build more than 20,000 new nuclear warheads, including a new	1.33
generation of super-accurate, first-strike-capable weapons; and	1.35
WHEREAS, The increased accuracy of these new weapons will,	2.1
for the first time in the history of the arms race, threaten the	2.2
retaliatory capability of each side's missile forces, and	2.3
pressure each side to adopt a hair-trigger "launch on warning"	2.4
policy creating a substantially greater risk of accidental	2.5
nuclear war; and	2.6
WHEREAS, The continuation of the nuclear arms race will, if	2.8
not stopped, increase chances of a massive nuclear exchange	2.9
during this time when economic difficulties, political	2.10
dissension, revolution, and competition for energy supplies are	2.11
on the rise worldwides and	2.12

WHEREAS, The increasing sums of money devoted to creating weapons of destruction are depriving our economy of resources which, if transferred, would develop a healthy job-productive economy and could be used for social services; and

WHEREAS, Ohio cities are in desperate need of jobs and the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported in 1982 that military spending creates substantially fewer jobs per \$1 billion expended than civilian and service industries; and

WHEREAS, The threat of nuclear war is already having an adverse psychological effect on the citizens of our nation and is especially crippling our children; and

WHEREAS, Rather than permit this dangerous future to continue, the United States and the Soviet Union should adopt the immediate, mutual, and verifiable freeze on all further testing, production, and deployment of nuclear weapons and of missiles and new aircraft designed primarily to deliver nuclear weapons; and

WHEREAS, The U. S. Department of Defense in its annual report in fiscal year 1982 testifies as follows: "The United States and the Soviet Union are roughly equal in strategic nuclear power"; and

WHEREAS, Stopping the production of nuclear weapons and weapon-grade material would increase the incentive of other countries to adhere to the Nonproliferation Treaty, renouncing their own nuclear weapons, and would help prevent the spread of nuclear weapons to other countries; and

WHEREAS, Balanced and verifiable reductions in the nuclear arsenals of the United States and the Soviet Union, following the first step of a freeze, will further lessen tensions and further decrease the chances of nuclear wars; and

WHEREAS, Both a freeze and subsequent reductions can be satisfactorily verified by existing national technical means; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the members of the Senate and House of the Representatives of the 115th General Assembly of the State of Ohio hereby memorialize the Congress and the President of the

United States to seek the adoption of the following proposal, 3.22
that: 3.23

(1) As an essential first step toward lessening the risk 3.25
of nuclear war, the United States and the Soviet Union should 3.26
adopt an immediate, mutual, and verifiable freeze on the testing, 3.27
production, and further deployment of nuclear weapons and of 3.28
missiles and new aircraft designed primarily to deliver nuclear 3.29
weapons; 3.30

(2) Proceeding from this freeze, the United States and 3.32
Soviet Union should pursue major, mutual, and verifiable 3.33
reductions in nuclear warheads, missiles, and other delivery 3.34
systems, through annual percentages or equally effective means, 3.35
in a manner that enhances stability; 3.36

(3) All funds that would otherwise have gone to these 4.2
weapons programs should be redirected to help create a healthy, 4.3
job-productive economy and provide needed social services; and be 4.5
it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly 4.7
authenticated copies of this Resolution to the President of the 4.8
United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of 4.9
Representatives, the members of Ohio's Congressional Delegation, 4.10
and the President of the United States. 4.11

A Single Issue ^{Life} ^{Nuclear} ^{freeze}

Abortion and nuclear war, since they both deal with the loss of innocent human life, in a certain sense belong together as political and moral issues. Yet as the American bishops become increasingly emphatic on the subject of nuclear weapons, it is going to be difficult for them not to de-emphasize the abortion issue in the process.

For 10 years abortion has been recognized as the chief priority of the American bishops. Now some bishops are explicitly saying that nuclear weaponry is equally important, while others even say that the nuclear issue is the most important of all, with no mention of abortion. Can the bishops have two chief priorities? Perhaps, but it is not going to be easy. While in theory the two issues may belong together, in practice it is going to be extremely difficult to harness them.

A few months ago the anti-abortion movement suffered a narrow defeat in the Senate, the first time it came close to passing legislation that would partially outlaw the practice. The bishops, by what in retrospect seem clearly mistaken political judgments, contributed to that defeat.

In the wake of that experience many people are saying that the abortion question is now dead, a claim reinforced by the fact that the recent election probably means that anti-abortion sentiment in the House (not in the Senate) will be somewhat diminished in January, the 10th anniversary of the Supreme Court's original legalization of the practice.

It will be tempting for many people, including some bishops, to say in effect: "We gave it a good try, but we failed. All we can do now is move on to other things." Such a stance would be a self-fulfilling prophecy, insuring the issue's death.

Bishops are human beings, and it must be assumed that, like most people, they do not like being vilified. Yet their pro-life stand has caused them to be continually vilified in the major media for almost a decade: The television networks, the most influential newspapers, and the news magazines are highly unsympathetic to the pro-life cam-

paign, and repeatedly the bishops have been accused of "interfering" in politics and violating separation of Church and state.

Their venture into the nuclear weapons issue inspires the same charges, but mostly from people perceived as being on the fringe of things (the right wing). Most liberal and "centrist" commentators now applaud the bishops and seem even to relish a possible confrontation between them and the Reagan administration. Gone is any worry about Church-state separation or the rights of individual Catholics to adhere to their own consciences.

Bluntly stated, it is going to be tempting for some bishops to emphasize the nuclear weapons issue — which brings them overwhelmingly favorable publicity and applause from their former detractors — at the expense of the abortion issue, which has brought them mainly abuse.

It is startling, for example, to read that the president of the National Council of Churches, Methodist Bishop James Armstrong, now strongly supports the bishops' proposed statement on nuclear issues. This is the same Bishop Armstrong who, where abortion is concerned, accused the bishops of violating the separation of Church and state (and who threw in an attack on clerical celibacy for good measure). What kind of allies are we now courting?

In the end, however, it will be difficult to give abortion and nuclear weaponry equal priority simply because in practice voters will have to choose between candidates who support the bishops in one area but not the other. Broadly speaking (with a number of notable exceptions), conservatives tend to oppose both abortion and the nuclear freeze, liberals to favor both. Catholics who sincerely seek to vote in accordance with the bishops' guidance will find themselves in a dilemma. If half vote mainly on the abortion and half mainly on the nuclear weapons issue, the results are likely to be so split that both sides will be rendered impotent. In the process, politicians owing their seats to their anti-abortion stand may be voted out of office by Catholics following their bishops on the nuclear weapons issue.

There is no sign yet that the bishops themselves are ready to scuttle the abortion issue, although some of the leading "peace bishops" show little interest in it. But there are some trial balloons. California Right-to-Life, for example, has complained that in the recent election Father Thomas Harvey, director of the National Conference of Catholic Charities, endorsed California Congressman George Miller, who has been consid-

ered as a "protector of our nation's children and families," although Miller has even voted to allow experimentation on fetuses. Harvey's endorsement shows that some prominent Catholic priests now totally ignore abortion in making political judgments. It is not unrealistic to suspect that some bishops are not far behind.

There is one overwhelming reason to give abortion priority over nuclear weapons — nobody has been killed in a nuclear war since 1945; abortions are taking place almost every minute. As the bishops find their voice on the nuclear issue, they must insure that they do not lose it on their official chief priority.

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Gerardine Ann Frawley

EDITOR

Francis X. Maier

MANAGING EDITOR

Janice Lester

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

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CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

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IN THE NATION

Reagan
And
1984

By Tom Wicker

On the Monday after unemployment rose above 10 percent, the Dow Jones average broke 1,000. On the day the Commerce Department announced that unemployment had reached 10.8 percent, President Reagan's political advisers let it be known that they had begun to plan his re-election campaign. It's a strange year.

Mr. Reagan has not yet said — or perhaps decided — that he will run again. But he let the planning meeting go forward; and his friend Senator Laxalt said he accepted the chairmanship of the Republican National Committee only because he believed the President would seek re-election.

But by any conventional standard, the highest unemployment level since 1940 is not the best platform for a President to run upon. And even though the election is nearly two years away, that number may not sink by then to politically acceptable levels; Martin Feldstein, the chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, said recently that it would take five years to get unemployment down to 6 or 7 percent without re-igniting inflation.

All of which should make Mr. Reagan wince when he recalls his own campaign joke from 1980. A recession, he liked to say then, was when your neighbor lost his job; a depression was when you lost your job; and recovery would be when the President lost his.

Still, as far as the economy is concerned, Mr. Reagan and his advisers have several reasons to feel "not confident but comfortable" about 1984, in the phrase of Richard Wirthlin, the President's poll-taker. For one thing, exit polls taken on election day this year showed that about as many voters as held Mr. Reagan responsible actually blamed the Democrats for hard economic times.

That probably reflected the President's persuasive arguments for his economic program; but it also suggests a troubled belief among voters that the Democrats don't have an alternative other than a return to the policies Mr. Reagan has done such an effective job of condemning. And though the Republicans lost ground in the 1982 elections, there was little evidence of a wholesale swing back to the Democrats, on economic or any other grounds.

When the sharp November rise in unemployment was announced, moreover, once again the Democrats were ready with nothing more than loud calls for a new jobs program — despite the prospect of a 1983 deficit climbing toward \$200 billion, despite President Reagan's promise to veto and despite recent political evidence that such expedients look to many voters like the same old Democratic medicine in which they've lost confidence.

Besides, Mr. Wirthlin suggested to Hedrick Smith of The New York Times, economic trends may be favorable for the President by 1984. If inflation is under 6 percent and unemployment and interest rates are declining, even slowly, Mr. Reagan will be able to argue plausibly that his programs have proved their long-term efficacy and should not be exchanged for profligate Democratic spending policies.

In fact, another issue on which Mr. Reagan capitalized in 1980 — the nation's alleged military weakness — could be more of a problem for him in 1984 than the economy. It was one thing to promise to make the United States "No. 1" again; but it's quite another to spend the kind of money Mr. Reagan has committed to the military at a time when the economy is stagnant, millions of people are out of work and the budget deficit is all but out of control.

The difficulty Mr. Reagan is having in persuading Congress to buy the MX missile (and his ludicrous attempt to disguise its 10 warheads by calling it the "peacekeeper"), the efforts gathering force in Congress to cut back his defense budget, the refusal of the Soviet Union to back down from the Administration's military bluster and the growing anti-nuclear movement the President has tried so hard to dissuade or discredit — all suggest that he may find military issues far less profitable politically, the next time around.

Besides, the single biggest issue Mr. Reagan had going for him in 1980 — the public's eagerness to dump Jimmy Carter — has disappeared. To the extent that the so-called "social issues" — abortion, school prayer and the like — won him votes in 1980, four years of inability to advance these causes substantially should neutralize them in a Reagan re-election campaign.

But Mr. Reagan's popularity, if not his job rating, remains high and his demeanor attractive to many. He has no clear opponent in sight, and the impending scramble among hordes of Democrats may do little to endear any of them to the public.

So Mr. Reagan's political thinkers are by no means wasting their time as they begin to plan for 1984. It's a reasonably good bet that he'll run again, as most Presidents do; and although it's not as easy to re-elect a President as it once was, Ronald Reagan has shown that he'd be a tough contender in any race.

200 signatures needed

Freeze foes petition for referendum

By GUTHRIE SAYEN

WASHINGTON, Conn. — Michel Craig, who opposes the nuclear arms freeze resolution adopted at last month's town meeting, said Monday he and others will have collected enough signatures by this weekend to bring the same resolution to a referendum vote.

A group of 11 petition circulators have collected at least 175 of the 200 signatures necessary to place the resolution, which passed by a 154-81 vote April 13, on a machine ballot early next month, Craig said. The airline pilot, who was in Bombay during the first vote, said he alone has collected 105 signatures.

If Craig's group collects 200 signatures, voters will be able to discuss the resolution at the annual town meeting May 28, but the vote will adjourned to a referendum to be held sometime between June 5 and 11. If the group does not collect enough signatures, discussion of the resolution could be held at the meeting, but no action could be taken.

Craig said he opposes the resolution, which calls on the United States, the Soviet Union and all other nations to freeze their nuclear arsenals, because it would leave the United States at a disadvantage and because only 7 percent of the registered voters supported the resolution at the town meeting.

The Rev. Thomas Kelso of the New Preston Congregational Church, who helped organize support here for the nuclear freeze resolution, said if it goes to a referendum vote, "I feel the outcome will be at least the same, if not more in favor."

Craig's group is "moving on the basis of a misconception ... These large numbers (of people opposed to the resolution) are just not there. They're attempting the impossible," said Mr. Kelso.

Once the group has enough signatures, Craig said, "Our efforts will be directed toward informing people about the various freeze proposals ... There are other options, and people should be aware of them."

Craig wants parity between the nuclear arsenals of the two superpowers before negotiating a freeze. He sees Washington's resolution as a local variation on the Kennedy-Hatfield amendment introduced in Congress, which he opposes because, unlike the Jackson-Warner amendment, it makes no mention of parity.

According to Mr. Kelso, there was no attempt among those who organized support for the local resolution to align themselves with the Kennedy-Hatfield amendment or any other national resolution.

Although he disagrees with the wording of the local resolution, Craig said, "I am definitely anti-nuclear weapons."

Should Craig's group obtain the requisite number of signatures, Washington could become a propaganda battleground. Craig said he is contemplating several strategies, including a townwide mailing.

Mr. Kelso said his group had no specific plans yet, but if the resolution goes to a machine vote, "we'll crank up and meet them on that ground."

FRIDAY, MAY 21, 1982

THE LITCHFIELD COUNTY TIMES

Arms Freeze Foes Set for Round 2 in Washington

By CANDACE PORT

WASHINGTON—Sparks are expected to fly at the annual town meeting next Friday when residents debate for the second time a proposal for an immediate bilateral nuclear arms freeze.

Opponents of the freeze resolution submitted to the town enough signatures to put the freeze resolution before a second town meeting. They say they expect by this weekend to have the 200 signatures necessary to bring the question to a referendum in early June.

The group, which is led by resident Michel Craig, is hoping to reverse the town meeting decision last month in which residents by a 154-81 vote approved a resolution calling on the United States, the Soviet Union and all other nations to halt production of nuclear weapons. Mr. Craig and other members of his group oppose the resolution because they say it would leave the United States, which they claim trails the Soviets in nuclear strength, vulnerable to Soviet attack.

If Mr. Craig's group is successful in its referendum drive, residents will be able to discuss the freeze Friday, but the meeting will be adjourned to a referendum to be held sometime between June 5 and 11. If the group does not collect enough signatures, residents may still discuss the freeze, but no vote would be taken.

Also on Friday's agenda—and expected to stir little controversy—is a vote on the \$943,591 town government budget. The spending package represents a 6.6 percent increase over this year's budget, and if combined with Washington's \$1.9 million share of the three-town Region 12 school budget, plus offsetting revenues, would mean a tax increase of about one mill, according to First Selectman John March.

Other votes on Friday's agenda are:

—The appropriation of \$10,000 from the non-recurring fund for capital expenditures to be used for resurfacing the town's tennis courts. This would be added to \$10,000 appropriated last year.

—Acceptance of title to open space land on Shearer Road. If residents vote not to accept the parcel, they may vote to authorize the selectmen to execute a quit-claim deed reconveying the title to the Little Bear Company.

—Sale of .2 acres of land on Route 45 to an adjoining landowner for payment of taxes due.

Friday's meeting will be held at 8 p.m. in Bryan Memorial Town Hall.

Arms freeze referendum June 8

By GUTHRIE SAYEN

WASHINGTON, Conn. — The selectmen Wednesday set June 8 as the date for a referendum on the nuclear arms freeze resolution that an April town meeting endorsed by a nearly 2-1 ratio.

A group opposing the resolution filed a petition with 256 signatures Tuesday, calling for a machine vote to reconsider the resolution. Although only 200 signatures are necessary to place a question on the ballot, Terrell E. Stevens, one of the petition circulators, filed eight more signatures Wednesday.

The petitioners asked that the referendum be held June 5, a Saturday, but the Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Help had previously reserved Town Hall, where voting takes place, for a tag sale on that date. The selectmen settled on the following Tuesday, the traditional day for voting.

Proponents of the resolution, which calls

on the United States, the Soviet Union and all other nations to freeze production of nuclear weapons, have again swung into action.

Five ministers have endorsed a statement that reads in part:

"We continue to support the vote at the last town meeting ... which favored a bilateral arms freeze by a heavy majority. Each denomination represented by our churches has taken a strong stand in favor of the freeze and has urged its members to work for its passage...

"There is no more important issue before us. We urge your consideration, your prayers and your support. Once again, let us endorse this important step on the road to peace."

The statement will be read to congregations and published in church bulletins, said Thomas J. Kelso, pastor of the New Preston Congregational Church.

Also endorsing the statement, according to Mr. Kelso, are: Richard E. Crews, rector of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church; Haig J. Nargesian, rector of St. John's Episcopal Church; Lee A. Neuhaus, pastor of the First Congregational Church of Washington; and David L. Sundell, pastor of the Salem Covenant Church.

The ministers encouraged their congregations to support the freeze resolution the first time it was considered, Mr. Kelso said.

Mr. Kelso predicted the resolution will pass by an even larger margin June 8 than on April 13, when voters approved it by a vote of 154-81. "We're very confident of an overwhelming victory," he said. "There's nobody sweating it. We're going to win."

Katharine Faulkner, a pro-freeze activist, said Tuesday a group of six or seven residents would be phoning people and ask-

ing them to support the resolution.

None of the principal organizers of the opposition could be reached Wednesday for comments on their plans.

But one of them, Michel Craig, has said in the past that, in addition to the statement he plans to make at Friday's town meeting, when the resolution will be discussed but not voted on, his group plans a mailing effort.

After discussion of the resolution at Friday's annual town meeting, which begins at 8 p.m. at Town Hall, the vote will be adjourned to the referendum. The polls will be open at Town Hall June 8 from noon until 8 p.m.

Petitioners victorious in nuke referendum

BY JOE FOSTER

WASHINGTON—There will definitely be a town referendum on the nuclear arms freeze resolution passed at the April 13 special town meeting.

As of noon on Tuesday, Town Clerk Doris K. Welles had verified 256 signatures on 15 petitions submitted to her earlier in the day.

The petitions stated:

"Because an estimated 93 percent of the voters of Washington did not vote for the resolution passed at Washington town hall on April 13, 1982, calling for a freeze on nuclear weapons by the United States, the Soviet Union and all nations, the undersigned petition:

"1. That the same resolution be presented for discussion on May 28, 1982, in a Washington town hall meeting; and

"2. That a referendum be held Saturday, June 5, 1982, by machine ballot for the voting to be conducted for or against the aforesaid resolution."

The referendum will not be held on June 5 as requested in the petition (see related story). The main hall in Bryan Memorial Hall has been reserved since January by Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church for a tag and bake sale that day.

First Selectman John Marsh said late Tuesday afternoon the referendum will more than likely be June 8 from noon to 8 p.m. The board of selectmen met late yesterday (Wednesday) afternoon (after deadline time) in special session to set the date for the referendum.

At press time yesterday the wording to go on the ballot at the referendum had not yet been determined.

There will be discussion on this controversial issue at the annual town meeting tomorrow (Friday) at 8 p.m. in Bryan

Memorial Hall.

Michael Craig, the airline pilot who spearheaded the drive for a referendum on the nuclear arms freeze resolution, petitioned for the 20 signatures needed to get the issue on the call of the annual town meeting. Craig was not available for comment this week.

Craig was not at the special town meeting April 13 which approved the resolution by a 2-to-1 margin, because he was in Bombay, India.

When he returned he was shocked to learn that only seven percent of the 2,245 registered voters in town had voted for the freeze at the town meeting. He said previously, "Seven percent of the voters is not a fair sampling."

Craig made it clear in an interview with The New Milford Times earlier this month that he is not opposed to a nuclear weapons freeze. But, he stated, he is "vehemently against" the Kennedy-Hatfield resolution calling for it.

He much prefers the Jackson-Warner resolution and for the new U.S. proposal to reduce nuclear warheads on both sides. Craig has said all along, "This is not a political issue nor is it a liberal-conservative issue."

Terry Stevens, who has assisted Craig in the referendum drive, said yesterday he felt the last vote on the resolution was "too rushed."

Stevens said, "I am one of the greatest advocates of peace there is, and I'm all for a freeze, but the Kennedy-Hatfield proposal is simply not the proper way to do it."

Those who petitioned for the referendum were Robert R. Matheu, Harold A. Meyer, Jr., Carl Paul Vassbrinck, Michael R. Caroe (three petitions), Craig (five petitions), Norman Hannibal, Robert A. Witkoski and Charles A. Smith.

CONNECTICUT

FRIDAY, MAY 28, 1982

THE HARTFORD COURANT

Pilot Aims To Thaw Town Vote for Nuclear Arms Freeze

By NEAL E. YATES
Courant Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, Conn. — A Pan American World Airways pilot, unable to participate in the town meeting vote last month to join the nuclear arms freeze movement because he was in his 747 halfway around the world, is forcing this affluent town of 3,500 to take another vote.

Michel Craig's successful effort for a referendum on the issue marks the first time that a town

meeting endorsement is being re-voted anywhere in the nation.

"When I looked in the newspaper and saw what had happened," Craig said Thursday, "I was disappointed — not in the way the vote came out, but in the fact that a small number of people had managed to create the impression that the citizens of the town of Washington had voted in favor of a freeze."

"My resolve came when I found out that no one really knew what it was all about ... win lose or

draw they will know what they are voting on," he said, explaining that he opposes the freeze because he believes it is a communist plot designed to insure Soviet superiority in nuclear weapons. He said it is a plot that has attracted many well-meaning Americans.

Karin Fierke, co-director of the Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign National Clearinghouse in St. Louis, said Thursday that Washington's referendum will mark the first time in the

movement's one-year history that a town meeting vote will be reconsidered.

Craig was flying on the New York-Frankfurt-Bombay run when the town meeting voted 154-81 April 13 to join the 41 other Connecticut communities that have voted to support the halt of the nuclear weapons race.

After returning, Craig began a petition drive to force the town to conduct an all-day referendum on the question. He and his supporters collected 65 more than the

necessary 200 signatures, forcing a referendum June 8.

The Rev. Thomas Kelso, pastor of the Congregational Church of New Preston, one of five town churches whose pastors actively support the pro-freeze resolution, said he welcomes the referendum because he believes it will bring the pro-freeze movement an even greater margin of victory.

"Getting 250 or so names on a petition is one thing," Kelso said,

"but that doesn't mean they can muster that many votes — I don't think they can."

"There is no more important issue before us," Kelso said, calling the churches' efforts a "moral commitment separate from partisan politics."

He said a joint statement urging Washington voters to vote again for the freeze resolution will be part of every Sunday church bulletin until the referendum.

FRIDAY, MAY 28, 1982

THE LITCHFIELD COUNTY TIMES

County Arms Freeze Tally Reaches Nine

Roxbury, Cornwall Votes Pass

By CANDACE PORT

The record now shows nine Litchfield County towns backing a resolution which calls for an immediate nuclear weapons freeze, and one against.

Roxbury and Cornwall approved the nuclear freeze resolution last Friday night and New Hartford and Barkhamsted, took the same stand Tuesday night, joining Falls Village, Kent Salisbury, Washington and Bridgewater, which had passed the measure earlier. Only Torrington in effect rejected the freeze; its City Council members decided two months ago not to put a freeze vote on their agenda.

Other county towns are gearing up for votes on the resolution, which has been approved by nearly 300 New England communities. Warren's town meeting vote is scheduled for next Friday at 8 p.m. in Town Hall, and future votes are planned for Woodbury, Litchfield and Bethlehem. By far the hottest debate on the question is expected today in Washington, where a group of residents has successfully petitioned for a reconsideration of last month's town meeting freeze approval.

Led by Washington resident Michel Craig, group members claim the 154-81 approval did not represent the sentiments of the majority of townspeople. Their efforts have led to a second discussion of the freeze tonight at 8 p.m. in Town Hall, and to a referendum next month. If voters in that referendum defeat the freeze proposal, Washington would be the first town in the nation to take a re-vote on—and reject—the freeze, according to national disarmament leaders.

Freeze proponents on the local and state level say they are optimistic the Washington re-vote will reaffirm the town's earlier freeze support. The second vote, they say, will give them time to step up their campaign to inform the public about the current status—and danger—of the United States' and the Soviet Union's nuclear arsenals.

In New Milford, selectmen have scheduled a June 10 public hearing on the Board of Selectmen's upcoming freeze vote. Eight New Milford physicians endorsed the freeze resolution in a letter to local newspapers this week, concurring with a similar endorsement by the 10,000-member Physicians for Social Responsibility and aligning themselves, they said, "with the thousands of physicians, both here and abroad, who regard the nuclear arms race as the path to incomprehensible tragedy."

A hearing on the freeze resolution was also scheduled for last night in Litchfield. No date has been set for a town meeting vote there.

Friday's town meetings in Cornwall and Roxbury both gave the freeze overwhelming support. More than 100 Cornwall residents unanimously approved a resolution calling for the United States and the Soviet Union to stop producing, testing and deploying nuclear weapons, and to reduce and ultimately abolish nuclear weapons "out of a deep concern for the peoples of the earth..."

Roxbury's 63-21 endorsement came after an hour of sometimes emotional debate in which speakers on both sides of the issue recited what are fast becoming stock arguments in the nationwide

monitoring an arms freeze. Opponents warned of potential United States vulnerability to Soviet attack if arms production were halted, the impossibility of trusting the Soviets and of the message of weakness a freeze would send to this country's allies and enemies.

"This is a good resolution," said playwright Arthur Miller, a Roxbury resident. "It won't solve anything itself, but it will speak from our hearts to our leaders...It will strengthen those in the leadership so they will be able to stand up to the Soviet Union and say, 'We want peace. We will not surrender our nation to you. Now, do you want peace? And what are we going to do about this problem?'"

Calling himself a "man of peace," resident Henry Turner said he opposes an immediate nuclear freeze because "our enemies might feel that American people are not really determined to prevent the Russian domination of the world."

He was joined by George Kibitz, who said he favored President Ronald Reagan's proposal calling for the withdrawal of middle-range Soviet missiles from Europe.

"The main reason we have never had a third world war is through superior deterrence on our part," Mr. Kibitz said. "I feel more lives will be saved through keeping our deterrence than through dismantling it."

The freeze resolutions, in effect, back a resolution sponsored by Senators Ted Kennedy, Democrat of Massachusetts, and Mark Hatfield, Republican of Oregon, which calls for an immediate halt to the nuclear arms race. The towns' resolutions are sent to President Reagan and to the state's Congressional delegation.

Freeze supporters cited the dangers of nuclear arms, the weapons capacity for world destruction and the feasibility of

WATERBURY REPUBLICAN

Waterbury, Conn., Friday, May 28, 1982

Freeze vote petition may be contested

WASHINGTON, Conn. — A June 8 referendum to reconsider a nuclear arms freeze resolution passed by an April town meeting is in doubt.

Andrew Glantz of Washington and Peter Wassdorp of Warren said they found Thursday about 60 discrepancies between the signatures on a petition calling for a referendum and the registrars' list of voters. They said they examined fewer than half of the 264 signatures verified by Town Clerk Doris Welles. In order to hold a referendum, the town clerk must receive at least 200 bona fide signatures.

Opponents to the freeze filed the petition this week calling for a machine vote on the same resolution endorsed at the April 13 town meeting.

Glantz, who supports the freeze, said he is not yet certain he will challenge the petition. He said he planned to consult with a group of pro-freeze citizens meeting Thursday night.

Mrs. Welles admitted there were discrepancies, but that they were minor, such as someone not signing a middle initial.

Michel Craig, who organized the referendum campaign, said he was prepared to get more signatures.

Mrs. Welles said she will call the secretary of the state this morning for advice.

Challenge to freeze revote dropped

By GUTHRIE SAYEN

WASHINGTON, Conn. — A possible challenge to the June 8 referendum on a nuclear arms freeze resolution was dropped Friday.

Andrew Glantz said he will not contest any signatures on the petition calling for a second vote on the freeze resolution passed by a nearly 2-1 margin at an April town meeting.

Although he claimed to have found 123 alleged inconsistencies between signatures on the petition and the registrars' lists of voters, Glantz said a challenge would have been "nitpicking."

A group of opponents to the freeze resolution approved by the town meeting petitioned for a revote by collecting 264 signatures. Only 200 signatures verified by the town clerk are necessary to place a question on a machine ballot. If at least 65 of Glantz's possible challenges had been upheld, the referendum would have been postponed until more signatures had been

collected.

Glantz, who cast his ballot at the town meeting in favor of the resolution calling on the United States, the Soviet Union and all other nations to freeze production of nuclear arms, said he was not motivated by his pro-freeze stance, but by sense of concern for the town meeting form of government.

"I felt it was running totally against the grain of New England participatory democracy" to bring to a referendum vote a resolution that a town meeting endorsed by a 154-81 paper ballot vote, said Glantz.

He also said it was expensive to hold a referendum. First Selectman John A. Marsh estimated it would cost about \$450. Marsh also noted that because of the threat of Glantz's challenge the town had incurred over \$100 dollars in legal fees.

Town Attorney Richard C. Gradowski said he told the town clerk that not signing a middle initial or using a customary abbreviation of a first name would not

invalidate a signature if the identity of the signer could be readily established in reference to the voting lists. Based on that opinion, it would seem that Glantz would not have been able to contest a significant number of signatures.

Had Glantz been able to bring an injunction against the referendum, Michael Craig, who spearheaded the petition drive, said his group was prepared to secure enough signatures to insure the town would have the opportunity to reconsider the freeze resolution.

The Rev. Thomas Kelso, pastor of the New Preston Congregational Church and a pro-freeze activist, said he expected the resolution to be endorsed a second time by a "very strong majority. We don't need to resort to any kind of trickery. If they (Craig's group) have a valid petition — and they obviously do — we accept that."

On the other hand, he said, it was worth inspecting the petitions.

Arms freeze issue rekindles two sides

WASHINGTON, Conn. — Unlike the relatively calm town meeting that endorsed a nuclear arms freeze resolution in April, Friday's town meeting on that resolution prompted numerous emotionally charged speeches.

While the issue was debated a second time Friday night, it was not acted upon.

Opponents of the resolution — calling on the United States, the Soviet Union and all other nations to freeze the production of nuclear weapons that the April town meeting approved by a 154-81 vote — petitioned to place the same resolution on the call of the annual town meeting for the purpose of discussion only.

They then collected more than the 200 signatures necessary to bring the resolution to a machine vote. After Friday's discussion concluded, the town meeting was adjourned to a June 8 referendum.

In April, perhaps five people spoke to 250 or more people on the resolution. Friday, three or four times as many people rose to address about 100 people.

Most of the arguments advanced by opponents and proponents alike had been expressed in numerous editorials and letters to the editor. Judging by the applause following speakers' remarks, freeze supporters decidedly outnumbered opponents.

Speaking in favor of the resolution, Covington Hardee said, "I signed the petition (circulated by freeze opponents) to have a referendum because I believe it is import-

ant for all who did not get to the last meeting to make their voices known."

Many of the speakers said those for and against the resolution have much in common.

Norman Levitt said, "They both want the same thing. There is no valley between them." And Michel Craig, the force behind the petition to reconsider the resolution,

said, "Our goal is common. Our method is different."

He urged people to inform themselves on the issue. After the meeting, Craig handed out a questionnaire that he said was designed to defuse the emotional response to the resolution.

On one side of the questionnaire is a list of 10 questions that can be checked yes or no. On the other side are Craig's answers.

Craig said he is also planning to send "very precise information" to voters before the referendum.

Pro-freeze activists are also gearing up for the June 8 vote. Before the town meeting, the Rev. Thomas J. Kelso of the New Preston Congregational Church said he attended a meeting Thursday night at which about 20 people planned a telephone campaign to turn out voters in favor of the resolution.

In addition to Kelso, four other ministers will be encouraging their congregations to support a freeze on the production of nuclear weapons.

Emotions run high during nuclear freeze meeting

BY JOE FOSTER

WASHINGTON—The recently-approved nuclear arms freeze resolution became an emotional issue at the annual town meeting Friday night in Bryan Memorial Hall.

The emotions of people who spoke rose as the meeting wore on. Some people rose and walked to the microphone and said, "I came here with no intention of getting up and speaking, and here I am."

It was a second go-round on the nuclear arms freeze in town. A resolution was passed at the April 13 special town meeting, where voters approved it by a 154-81 vote.

The resolution called on the United States, the Soviet Union and all nations to freeze all production of nuclear arms weapons.

But Michael Craig spearheaded a drive to force a referendum, because he felt the small turnout at the April 13 town meeting only represented seven percent of town voters.

Craig then proceeded to get the 20 signatures required to get the issue on the call of the annual town meeting Friday night and also get the necessary 200 signatures for the referendum set for Tuesday from noon to 8 p.m. in Bryan Memorial Hall.

Rev. Thomas Kelso led off the parade of proponents and opponents of the freeze resolution, which passed at the April 13 town meeting.

"On June 8 we must once again vote to put the cold war attitude into cold storage...If you oppose the arms freeze,

you are part of a small and shrinking majority.

"Life on our planet is more subject to destruction by computer error, by human error, or at the hands of leaders who persist in the charade that some of us would survive an atomic war..."

"Give it a chance by joining us," Kelso concluded, the 80 percent majority of Americans who will continue to vote for peace, for sane diplomacy and for survival."

Norman Leavitt said Russian morality was taken from the Communist Manifesto, a document, he said, "which should be required reading in the senior year of high school."

Leavitt said he "would follow President Reagan's lead in arms reduction."

Craig chided proponents of the freeze resolution.

"Where were you when Russia was building up the arms race?" he asked. "Where were you in the UN's Decade of Disarmament (1959-79)? And where were you in 1947 when Truman told the Russians we would dismantle our nuclear weapons if they and other nations did not build them? Where were you then?"

Covington Hardee said, "We are not the Congress of the United States. We are expressing our opinion on a difficult issue. It is important that towns make their voices heard...And I hope our decision will be that we will support the resolution that was passed."

Michael Caroe, who previously spoke against the freeze resolution, said, "Let us stand up and be counted. If we don't honor

our honor, we are letting down our NATO allies." Caroe said he favored a debate on the issue.

Michael Harwood favored the freeze resolution. "I'll tell you what my vote was about—this madness has to stop. So say it loud and clear. 'Stop it.'"

Emory Roth said, "I'm frightened. That's why I voted for the freeze resolution."

Mrs. Randolph Rolles said, "The best way to keep peace is to be prepared for war."

Roderick Richardson said, "We are all concerned. All of us are against a nuclear war. By voting for a freeze, we do not eliminate a nuclear war. The Soviet Union will not go to the negotiating table."

Royal Graves said he was in favor of the freeze resolution. "Nuclear weapons are very complicated. They must be tested frequently. They are totally unsafe to have around," he said.

Katharine Faulkner said, "Einstein once said, 'The world has now changed, but people think the same way.' Think of the unborn generation. We must have a safe place for it. The Russians are not perfect people, and neither are we. So we must get together."

Rev. Kelso said near the close of the lengthy meeting, "We are beginning to talk together, and I applaud that. The endorsement of a freeze resolution is not an endorsement of Russia. There is no civil defense, no medical defense against a nuclear attack. And there are also no survivors."

Salisbury Lakeville Journal

Salisbury Sharon Canaan Falls Village Cornwall Kent Norfolk Sheffield

Thursday, June 3, 1982

Nuclear Freeze...

Freeze Revote Watched Closely

By Alfred T. Banfield Jr.

The first effort in the nation to overturn a town's endorsement of a bilateral nuclear arms freeze is being watched closely by persons on both sides of the issue at local, national and international levels.

When voters of the Town of Washington return to the polls next Tuesday to cast ballots on the same wording in favor of a bilateral nuclear freeze approved 154 to 81 April 13, skeptics of the freeze will be sounding the movement for an indication of shallower support.

The repercussions could be widespread if the vote should indicate a change of sentiment.

For instance, two freeze opponents, who last week placed ads with mail-in coupons in two Kent newspapers in an effort to gauge a possible backlash, think a reversal in Washington would be a definite factor in spurring a revote in Kent.

And Michel Craig, a Pan American World Airways pilot who successfully petitioned for the revote in Washington, said Tuesday that persons from three other towns, including one in Northwest Connecticut have called him about his campaign and the possibility of carrying the revote issue to other towns. Craig indicated without saying so specifically that the Northwest town is Salisbury.

Meanwhile, supporters of the freeze movement in Washington and Kent feel confident that a revote will confirm the earlier support for a bilateral freeze, possibly with a stronger showing.

But town officials such as First Selectman Robert Ward of Kent and Selectman Jane Knowlton of Washington think the revote is a bad precedent since it challenges the legitimacy of all votes at town meetings.

"I do think the town meeting is total democracy, pure democracy," said (See NUCLEAR FREEZE, Page A-2)

Continued from A-1

Knowlton. "If something is voted on at a town meeting, it should stick, whether it is the freeze, or a road issue.

"A referendum costs the town almost \$500. It's a foolish exercise; I hope it doesn't set a precedent. The town meeting was open to all voters. They should realize that and they should recognize any vote and abide by it, or otherwise it is an exercise in futility."

The focus of the freeze issue itself, however, is whether there should be a bilateral freeze at present nuclear armament levels or after the United States has achieved a further arms buildup designed to achieve what the Reagan Administration calls parity.

A number of authorities, including Dr. Herbert (Pete) Scoville Jr. of Taconic and McLean, Va., contend that rough parity now exists and that the Soviet Union does not have defense superiority. Dr. Scoville is former director of the Armed Forces Special Weapons Project and former deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency for science and technology.

"I talked with about a dozen people on both sides of the issue," said Craig, the initiator of the revote, "and not one was aware of the similarity between the Washington freeze resolution and the Kennedy-Hatfield non-parity freeze resolution."

Craig said the Washington residents were unaware of and uninformed about the Warner-Jackson resolution that centers on a freeze at parity.

"I have confirmed in my own mind," said Craig, "that the people who had voted were uninformed about the options, but their moral goal is correct. I, too, support a decrease in the threat of nuclear weapons."

Craig said the initial vote was advertised but not well advertised, that there were no discussions on the issue to his knowledge. He said most of those who voted for the freeze were told to do so by their ministers, five of whom publicly endorsed the freeze resolution.

So, to inform the public, a discussion on the issue was held last Friday in Washington.

In Kent, First Selectman Ward does not see the need for a revote, despite the undercurrents caused by the two newspaper ads. He thinks the democratic process was served in the first vote, saying that he is not sure how legitimate or respectable a mail ballot from an ad would be.

"Any stranger or visitor in town could fill one out," Ward said.

He said there had been plenty of discussion on the issue in Kent and plenty of time for voters to make an informed decision.

"It was a well-laid town meeting with advance notice and discussion," Ward said. "I don't know where these people (the opponents) were at the appropriate time. Those gung ho against should have been there."

"Town meeting democracy is a fragile thing. Those who take part are those interested. If they are interested, why weren't they there at the town meeting?"

Bill Litwin, president of Kero-Sun and himself a former Pan Am pilot, and Hamilton O'Hara, who actually resides in New Milford, placed the ads in the *Good Times Dispatch* and *The Forum* of Kent. The ads read:

"Subsequent to the freeze vote, international positions have been dramatically established. 1. The

U.S.S.R. has spoken out in favor of a 'freeze.' 2. President Reagan has spoken out for bi-lateral arms reduction. The turn of events places those who voted in hasty meetings for a nuclear 'freeze' in the awkward position of supporting the U.S.S.R. for a HIGHER level of nuclear armament — as against President Reagan's proposal for a bi-lateral reduction.

"Therefore, this opportunity for a more representative town referendum is hereby offered. If you wish to add your vote, or change your vote due to recent events — here is your ballot."

Litwin said the freeze endorses Soviet nuclear arms superiority and does not address the total scope of reducing nuclear arsenals worldwide since, he said, other countries such as China and India have nuclear capability and could trigger World War III.

"We can find no fault," Litwin said Tuesday, "with those people who advocate their opposition to nuclear weapons. I just feel the issue of a so-called freeze is a political issue seized on by the Soviets as a propaganda weapon against the U.S., particularly against President Reagan."

Craig eluded to Communist efforts behind the freeze movement, as did John Harney, who had tried to block Salisbury's vote in favor of the freeze on grounds it was illegal for the town to vote on the issue.

"I have documented personally in conversations in Washington, D.C., and London," said Craig, "that this movement is inspired by Moscow through the World Peace Council. It is not a grass-roots effort. It is a highly orchestrated ploy to make the United States and their NATO allies vulnerable to Soviet military superiority."

"Very knowledgeable persons in anonymous positions with both governments (U.S. and British) told me," said Craig, refusing to divulge who these persons were.

Craig did say he had spoken Tuesday with a member of the U.S. State Department who was sending 1000 brochures pertinent to the nuclear freeze to him. He responded that he had not spoken to James L. Buckley, Under Secretary of State for Security Assistance, Science and Technology, and, in fact, had never met Buckley.

Harney said he is not planning to try for a revote in Salisbury, but he is not ruling it out.

"There is nothing concrete at this time," Harney said.

But he said that if the Washington vote is overturned he will be tempted to seek a revote.

"When and if we do," Harney said, "we'll go through an educational process and find out about the people deeply involved in the freeze movement."

Karin Kierke, co-director of the Nuclear Freeze Campaign National Clearinghouse in St. Louis, Mo., said Washington's referendum is the first time in the movement's one-year history that a town meeting vote will be reconsidered.

Until the vote in Washington, most opponents are watching and waiting. But for Craig, he already has planned for next week personal talks with members of the Committee to Prevent Nuclear War at its international headquarters in Washington, D.C., and European headquarters in London. In fact, the Pan Am pilot will vote when the polls open at noon Tuesday and then head for London.

Referendum set on nuclear freeze

By Andrew Gorosko
News-Times staff

WASHINGTON, Conn. — A local man who claims that the movement to halt nuclear weapons production by the U.S. and U.S.S.R. is Communist-inspired has gathered petition signatures to force a referendum on the nuclear freeze issue.

Michel W. Craig, of Ferry Bridge Road, has collected petition signatures for the referendum which has been scheduled for Tuesday. Machine voting is scheduled for noon to 8 p.m. in Bryan Memorial Hall.

Washington residents at an April 13 town meeting supported a resolution calling for a halt to U.S. and U.S.S.R. atomic arms production. The vote was 154-81 in support of a freeze.

But Craig was out of town at the time. On his return, after learning of the voting results, Craig began collecting petition signatures to force a referendum on the issue. Craig said that 105 people of 130 people to whom he submitted petitions signed it.

Craig, a senior pilot of Boeing 747 jumbo jets, was at work overseas on April 13.

Craig said last night he favors an eventual halt to nuclear arms build-up, but opposes the resolution which was presented to voters at the town meeting.

Craig said he favors President Reagan's position of having the U.S. continue nuclear arms production until it achieves nuclear equality with the U.S.S.R. and then halt production. He added he opposes an immediate halt to arms production as specified in the resolution approved by local voters.

Craig opposes an immediate halt to nuclear arms production because, he says, it would result in a wea-

kened U.S. hand at the nuclear bargaining table.

Asked about the claimed Communist-inspired nuclear freeze resolution, Craig said, "I don't think you've got a Communist in the town of Washington."

Craig said there is Communist sentiment in the higher echelons of the movement and area anti-nuclear activists are unaware of it.

He said the nuclear freeze issue is not a partisan issue pitting liberals against conservatives but an issue in which the "informed" face the "uninformed."

Voters at the April 13 town meeting were uninformed, he said.

According to a spokesman for the national freeze movement, Craig's effort marks the first time in the year-long anti-nuclear campaign that a town meeting endorsement is being challenged.

The Rev. Thomas Kelso, a local pastor, said he welcomes the referendum because he believes it will bring the movement an even greater margin of victory here.

Kelso strongly backed the freeze resolution at the April 13 town meeting.

As Craig gears up for the Tuesday referendum, nuclear freeze supporters are preparing up for a June 12 march and rally in New York City. The rally coincides with Second United Nations Special Session on Disarmament.

Representatives from peace, labor, religious, third world, environmental, and women's groups are expected to attend the rally, according to Peter Waasdorp Jr., a nuclear freeze organizer from Warren. Celebrities and entertainers are expected to attend.

Waasdorp helped organize support in Washington, Conn. for a nuclear freeze resolution.

6/4/82

Washington votes again

Washington, Conn., will get a second chance to decide whether it will endorse or oppose a freeze on nuclear weapons at their present levels. In Washington, as in other towns and cities around the state, town meetings and city councils have been besieged by the "peace" activists.

How representative this cadre is of the views of voters remains questionable. At the previous town meeting vote in Washington the freeze was backed 154-81. The town has 3,600 residents. This was a small enough vote so that the activists could distort the views of the populace. A new vote may well give a different reading of the voice of the people.

A substantial voter turnout is important in Washington on Tuesday. So far in this grand publicity campaign the freeze forces have been able to sway the few people at town meetings with their deceptive assertion that nuclear parity exists between the U.S. and USSR.

There is scant discussion of the weakness of America's out-of-date land based missile system and B-52 fleet, nor of the potential communications problems with U.S. nuclear subs. Nor is timing much considered, even though the peace offensive has blossomed at the moment of peak Soviet nuclear strength and maximum U.S. vulnerability.

Like a fight between the cavalry

and the Indians, the peace propagandists have again and again caught the advocates of an inviolate national defense flat footed, disorganized and unprepared. Their well executed blitzkrieg has worked in town after town.

This time in Washington the skirmish will be fought a second time. In this new stand defenders of national defense and sound deterrents should make a better effort to win the day. It probably won't get national publicity if the freezers lose, but it would have been worth it.

It is time for the voters to look at the facts behind the simplistic freeze argument and stand up for national defense.



Opponents of Nuclear Freeze See Soviet Ties

THE LITCHFIELD COUNTY TIMES

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FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 1982

VOL. 2 NO. 23

WASHINGTON—With the first nuclear freeze re-vote in the nation slated here for Tuesday, local freeze opponents have stepped up charges that the freeze movement is linked to Soviet-backed organizations.

Backlash against the freeze is also mounting in several other area towns which last month approved resolutions calling for an immediate bilateral nuclear arms freeze. Sherman anti-freeze leaders say they plan to send petitions signed by about 400 residents opposing the resolution to President Reagan, while a group of Kent freeze opponents is seeking a "second round" on the freeze through newspaper coupons to be sent to the President. Neither group says it plans to seek a second formal freeze vote.

First to Charge

The Sherman anti-freeze campaign is being led by Natalie Sirkin, economist and writer, who was one of the first freeze opponents to publicly charge that the freeze movement is backed by pro-Soviet groups. Both Mrs. Sirkin and Michel Craig, leader of Washington's anti-freeze movement, claim the arms-halt campaign was organized and is run by the World Peace Council (WPC), a group Mr. Reagan has described as "bought and paid for by the Soviet Union."

"The current freeze campaign was initiated in Moscow through the World Peace Council and is being run by 33 different anti-defense lobbies in the United States," Mr. Craig said in a letter to local newspapers this week. "...A 'yes' vote at (Washington's) June 8 referendum is a vote for the Soviet Government. A Government that does not believe in God, considers religion 'the

opiate of the masses' and who will start a nuclear war if they think they can win it."

Washington's referendum will be the town's second vote in two months on the nuclear arms halt. It is the result of a petition drive by Mr. Craig's group, which claims the first vote—a town meeting in April at which a freeze resolution was approved 154-81—did not represent the feelings of a majority of townspeople. According to national freeze information spokesmen, the town's referendum is the first re-vote on the freeze question in the nation.

Claim of Soviet Links

Mrs. Sirkin and Mr. Craig base their claim of Soviet-freeze links on what they cite as the origins of the freeze movement. In December 1979, they say, the Soviets launched a media campaign against NATO's announcement of plans to deploy medium-range Pershing-II and cruise missiles in European NATO nations. This was followed by an emergency strategy session of the World Peace Council Bureau, which sought to coordinate public opinion to prevent deployment of the "Euro-missiles."

The disarmament movement was then taken up by the American Friends Service committee (AFSC), anti-freeze spokesmen say. An old-line peace group, the AFSC helped organize the successful Vermont freeze campaign last year and spearheaded freeze efforts in many northwest Connecticut towns this year.

Area freeze leaders meanwhile describe accusations of Soviet links as "not worthy of response" and "gloves-off McCarthyism." Marta Daniels, a

statewide coordinator of the Connecticut Campaign for a U.S.-U.S.S.R. Nuclear Arms Freeze, said the 41 Connecticut pro-freeze votes have all occurred because of a grassroots movement of townspeople, not "highly organized" AFSC efforts.

Grassroots Movement

Mr. Craig is quick to point out that his charges of Soviet ties are not aimed at the local freeze leadership.

"I'm not accusing anyone in Washington who supports the freeze of being a Communist—I doubt there's one Communist in Washington," he stressed. "But what the Communist leaders do is to go around and pick people who are morally committed to peace, and who might be a little inclined, because of the emotion involved, to go along with a program that if they intellectually analyzed it, they might not pursue..."

"I can't say at what level the Communists come in," he said. "But somewhere along the line there is a transition from concerned individuals to someone who knowingly backs this Communist movement."

Phone, Mail Campaign

Mr. Craig said he and other members of his group are planning a telephone drive and possibly a mailing to encourage residents to vote in the referendum and to inform the public about what they see as the danger of the freeze in light of Soviet nuclear supremacy. Pro-freeze activists are also planning a telephone drive, and ministers supporting the freeze will be encouraging their congregations to support the resolution.

Tuesday's referendum will be held in Bryan Memorial Town Hall from noon

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36 Pages

Voters scrap arms freeze resolution

JEANNE SYMMONDS

WASHINGTON, Conn. — A nuclear arms freeze resolution approved in April at a town meeting was rejected by a vote of 394 to 341 Tuesday in a townwide referendum.

The turnout by nearly a third of Washington's 2,268 voters was triple that of the town meeting that approved the resolution 154 to 81 on April 13.

The referendum here was the first time the passage of a freeze resolution passed at a town meeting has been challenged, according to a national freeze campaign clearing house.

The resolution rescinded Tuesday called on the United States, Soviet Union and all other nations to halt production, deployment and testing of nuclear weapons.

Resident Michel Craig and others said they opposed the resolution because it doesn't provide for "parity" or equality in the nuclear arsenals of the superpowers before a freeze, leaving the U.S. at a disadvantage.

For that reason and because of the small turnout at the town meeting, Craig led a petition drive for Tuesday's referendum.

The group mailed letters espousing their

(See Page Four, VOTERS)

Voters —

(From Page One)

cause to voters last week and continued to hand out literature Tuesday outside the Town Hall polls.

Craig was unavailable to comment on the outcome. But the Rev. Thomas Kelso of the New Preston Congregational Church, an organizer of the freeze movement here, said he was "of course, disappointed."

He said the nation as a whole supports the freeze by a ratio of 3 to 1 and he is "sorry that the voters in Washington failed to vote with the majority."

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THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 1982

Washington rejects freeze

How representative have been the town meeting votes on a nuclear freeze? Judging by the only actual test of strength in this area, the answer is not very.

In Washington, Conn. a town meeting went full tilt behind a freeze proposal, 154-83. The blitzkrieg by the dogooders was very effective and the peaceniks could chalk up another small town in the "win" column. This is what papers such as The New York Times call grass roots support.

Unfortunately for the freezers, the roots on that grass aren't as deep as they thought. An agitated group in the town thought the earlier vote was unrepresentative and decided to put it to a wider test.

This time the intricate issues represented in the attempt to reduce nuclear weapons were more thoroughly aired and a wider cross section of the town was involved. In the latest town vote, a freeze without parity in Soviet-U.S. arms was rejected, not by 250 voters, but by more than 700.

By a vote of 394-341 the decision of the earlier town meeting was

overturned. The turnout was over 30 percent of the towns 2,268 voters and is slightly less than last fall's town elections, about 800 when voted.

Considering the timing of this vote, it can safely be said that the turnout for an issue of this nature was very high.

The leader of the freeze movement, Rev. Thomas J. Kelso, couldn't go out quietly on this vote, however. "We're sorry that the people of Washington failed to vote with the majority in Connecticut, New England and the United States."

It is easy to talk about abstract majorities, but the fact is town meeting votes can be packed, particularly when the subject has no direct bearing on local government. Despite Mr. Kelso's assertion, the majority of the people haven't been asked to adjudicate this issue in Connecticut or New England or the country.

One suspects that town meeting votes elsewhere have been as far from the mark as in Washington on the Arms issue.

Washington Arms Freeze Defeat May Spur Other County Re-Votes

By LISA STENZA

WASHINGTON—The referendum vote Tuesday rescinding the April 13 town meeting vote in favor of a nuclear arms freeze may spark re-vote drives in other Litchfield County towns, freeze opponents say.

Voters here rejected the arms freeze proposal by a 394-341 margin, making Washington the first town in the county to rescind an earlier vote in favor of the measure, according to national freeze coordinators.

Pro-freeze voters in Washington expressed shock over the outcome, and some indicated that freeze supporters may conduct a drive to collect signatures for a second referendum.

Freeze Still Ahead, 9-1

Nine Litchfield County towns have passed an arms freeze resolution. Washington is the first in the county to reject the motion, although Torrington in effect rejected it when the city council refused twice to take a stand on the issue. Woodbury will vote Monday on the freeze proposal.

Voters at a town meeting in Bethlehem Tuesday approved a nuclear freeze resolution 69-29 after more than an hour of debate. Warren voters approved a freeze resolution, 64-47, at a town meeting last Friday.

Opponents of the freeze in Roxbury, Salisbury and Sherman, which is in Fairfield County, said residents may start petition drives for referendums in those towns.

Salisbury Action Possible

Salisbury resident John Harney, who opposes the freeze, said it is possible that residents may start a petition drive in that town. A freeze resolution was passed 276-45 at an April 16 town meeting in Salisbury.

Mr. Harney's anti-freeze group, the

Committee for Survival, was hastily formed a week before that town meeting, which left them little time to inform residents of their views. Mr. Harney said some members have argued that the Salisbury vote did not represent a large percentage of the population.

"What anyone (in the group) will do, I don't know," he said. "We won't be ready to make a decision (about starting a referendum petition) until we can assess what's really going on."

'Unnecessary'

William R. Harris, a Salisbury resident who also is a member of the Committee for Survival, said he felt the Washington re-vote proved the anti-freeze advocates' point, making a Salisbury referendum unnecessary.

"But it may very well happen that way—someone could call for a referendum vote," Mr. Harris said. He said if a re-vote was demanded, it would pro-

Continued on Page Thirteen

Con't.

Washington Arms Vote Reversed

Continued from Page One

bably be a member of his committee who would precipitate the drive.

Lorette Kibitz of Roxbury who spoke in favor of rejecting the freeze proposal at a May 21 town meeting where the proposal was endorsed 63-21, said she would support any attempt to call for a referendum vote.

Mrs. Kibitz said the town meeting vote represented a "minute" percentage of Roxbury's more than 1,000 voters. Although she had not considered starting a referendum drive herself and had not heard of any other residents considering it, she said it is possible that the Washington turn-around might encourage such action.

Sherman First Selectman Kenneth Grant, who opposes the freeze, said that to his knowledge there was no effort in Sherman to call for a referendum. "But you never know," he said. "There's always somebody out there who's willing to do it."

Mr. Grant said he hoped there will not be a referendum. "It's over and done with," he said, adding that he would not support a petition drive to collect signatures for a referendum.

A petition drive of a different sort was conducted in Sherman by local anti-freeze advocates, who sent a petition this week to President Reagan stating that those who signed it—some 400 residents—were opposed to the freeze despite the town's official vote.

Anti-freeze advocates in Washington started a drive to force the referendum after the freeze was approved in a 154-81 vote on April 13. They obtained 65 signatures more than the 200 necessary on a petition to have a re-vote.

Freeze supporters in Washington who were astonished with the defeat of the proposal said there is a definite possibility that they will petition for a second referendum.

Advocates of the freeze campaign said opponents of the measure successfully convinced Washington voters to reject the resolution through posters, literature and phone calls. If another referendum was ordered, they said, a comparable campaign by freeze advocates would have to be conducted.

When the Washington vote tally was announced, a gasp came from the 25 people gathered at Bryan Memorial Hall to hear the result. Peter Waasdorp, a Warren resident who helped organize the Washington freeze effort, immediately headed for the door. "Well, we'll just have to get our own 200 signatures," he said.

Judy Staubo, a Washington resident, said she was "very, very disappointed" with the result and that there was a "good possibility" that another vote will be demanded by freeze advocates.

Washington resident Elizabeth Miller

said she hoped another vote would not be taken. "I can't believe the results—I'm sick about it—but this has to stop." She shook her head. "It was such a simple proposal," she said.

The referendum proposal read: "To request a freeze on nuclear weapons by the United States, the Soviet Union and all nations."

The 742 voters in Washington's referendum represented almost one-third of the town's registered voters, a larger turnout than the school budget vote received, according to Registrar Jean Mahoney.

Washington Selectman Jane Knowlton was dismayed to hear about the possibility of another referendum. "This is an unnecessary expense," she said. Each referendum costs the town about \$450 for poll workers and for the

setting up of the machines.

New Preston resident Roderic Richardson, a proponent of the anti-freeze campaign started by Washington resident Michel Craig, a pilot who was out of the country when the vote was tallied, said the vote showed that "support for a nuclear freeze is not as unanimous as people think."

Mr. Richardson said he did not know if freeze supporters would petition, but he said he would not be surprised if they did.

Mr. Harney said it is too early to determine to what degree the Washington vote will affect surrounding towns. "I thought the re-vote was worthwhile," he said. "I don't know what's going to happen now. Maybe it's best not to pursue it—the point's been made."

Section II

WASHINGTON

Roxbury, Bridgewater

Warren

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354-2261

The New Milford Times

June 6, No. 22

30 Pages

Thursday, June 10, 1982

Voters reject nuclear arms freeze resolution

BY JOE FOSTER

WASHINGTON—The nuclear arms freeze resolution which was defeated at a town meeting vote 154 to 81 April 13 was rejected by a vote of 394 to 341 Tuesday in a town referendum.

It marked the first time that the passage of a freeze resolution at a town meeting vote was ever challenged, according to a town freeze campaign headquarters.

Washington becomes the first town ever to reject a nuclear arms freeze resolution passed by a town meeting.

Such Tuesday's referendum attracted considerable attention from the media. Channels 3 and 8 each shot film footage during the day. Channel 8 cameramen hovered over Bryan Memorial in a helicopter in the early evening, shooting footage of people as they entered the hall to vote.

Before the polls closed at 8 p.m. there were reporters and photographers from throughout the state waiting for the vote.

After the polls closed and before the vote was announced there

were at least two heated arguments among the bystanders waiting to hear which side won.

Doreen Brown, Washington, shook her finger at one of the anti-freeze promoters and shouted, "Just remember, there is no such thing as a nuclear victory."

The resolution that was defeated Tuesday requested "a freeze on nuclear weapons by the United States, the Soviet Union and all nations." Voters simply voted "yes" or "no."

Voter turnout was high for a town referendum. Nearly a third of the town's 2,268 registered voters as of Tuesday morning voted on the resolution. There were seven invalid votes.

There were 732 persons who voted from the voter list and 10 from the tax list, for a total of 742 who voted. Only 434 voted in the May 4 referendum on the \$4.4 million school budget.

Michael Craig, the airline pilot who spearheaded the drive for discussion on the call of the annual town meeting May 28 and for the referendum Tuesday, was in London Tuesday.

His family issued a statement by Craig which he prepared before he left town. It reads: "The previously silent majority of

Washington citizens have voted to stand behind the United States Government by voting no to a Kennedy-Hatfield type non-parity freeze which is backed by the Soviet Union.

"Our efforts to inform people in other towns will continue, and any person interested in following our lead may write IF (Informed Freeze), Box 130, Washington, Conn. 06793.

Prior to the referendum, Craig sent a letter to a selected mailing list in town. It read:

"The President of the United States is against the type of freeze resolution recently passed in Washington. The United States Department of State is against the type of freeze resolution recently passed in Washington. The majority of Americans recently polled by AP, NBC, The New York Times, CBS are against this type of freeze.

"We the undersigned citizens of Washington ask you to vote no freeze at the referendum Tuesday....Your NO vote is very important." This is followed by more than 50 signatures.

Craig, who pushed for the referendum because he felt the seven

percent who voted at the town meeting April 13 was not a fair sampling, has maintained all along that he is not opposed to a nuclear freeze.

He favors the Jackson-Warner resolution on the issue and also the nuclear arms reduction plan recently set forth by President Reagan.

He previously told The New Milford Times, "This is not a political issue nor is it a liberal-conservative issue."

The Rev. Thomas Kelso, one of the prominent pro-freeze advocates, said yesterday (Wednesday) morning, "Advocates of a bilateral arms freeze are sorry that many voters in Washington have failed to vote with the majority in Connecticut, in New England and in the United States, where pro-freeze preference is roughly 3 to 1.

"We lost a close one locally, but we are glad to be part of a national majority opinion and will continue to work for freeze, and for peace."

Rev. Kelso said to his knowledge there are no plans at present to continue the issue in Washington.

Call for Arms Halt Rejected, But Town Remains Divided

By SAMUEL G. FREEDMAN

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Conn., June 11 — Voters here have reversed their earlier adoption of a resolution calling for a freeze on the production of nuclear weapons.

The decision, in a referendum vote on Tuesday, was the latest skirmish in what one resident termed a "cold war" that began after approval of a freeze resolution at a town meeting April 13.

The result of the referendum — 394 votes against the resolution, 341 for — indicates how closely loyalties are divided in this town of 3,600 residents, who are not accustomed to controversy. But the tally alone does not show the intensity of the campaign, which included charges of smear tactics and outside agitation.

"If you wish to vote for the Brezhnev, Kennedy freeze," one resident, Michel Craig, wrote in a flier he distributed before the April vote, "I recommend you also vote to have Washington, Conn., renamed Marx, Moscow, or Misinformed."

Irritations Remain

Having won in the referendum, Mr. Craig has tempered his rhetoric. But advocates of the freeze are still irritated by the intimations that their number — including clergymen and at least one octogenarian — are well-meaning, but unwitting, pawns of Soviet aims.

"It's the old redbaiting idea, trying to link a grass-roots American movement to Russia," said the Rev. Thomas Kelso, pastor of the New Preston Congregational Church. "This brings back cold war fears. That's ridiculous, but it is extremely divisive."

Both sides agree that this community made an unlikely setting for such divisions. The town is placid (a current issue is whether one of its two post offices should be closed), prosperous (in the top 20 in the state in per capita income) and conservative (a better than 2-to-1 margin for Ronald Reagan in 1980).

It is hardly, they say, a harbor for subversives.

Even most freeze advocates, Mr. Kelso said, were surprised by how quickly the resolution came up locally. They expected a vote this fall; the Democratic Town Committee put the item on the agenda in April.

"It was premature," Mr. Kelso said. "We won, but we didn't have a chance to do much educating."

Still, the 154-to-81 vote hardly seemed controversial at the time. More than 400 communities nationwide have approved the same resolution — "To request a freeze on nuclear weapons by the United States, the Soviet Union and

all nations" — according to Karin Fierke, co-director of the Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign National Clearinghouse in St. Louis. So had 35 town meetings, 14 town councils and the General Assembly in Connecticut, according to the leaders of the state's freeze movement.

Only the City Council in Rome, Ga., had reversed an approval, said Miss Fierke, who added that the vote here was the first time an electorate had reversed such a resolution.

When it came, however, the tempest rose quickly. Mr. Craig, an airline pilot who was in Bombay, India, at the time of the first vote, began petitioning for a referendum to reverse the result within days of his return. He and nine volunteers gathered 65 more than the required 200 signatures.

Then Roderic Richardson, home for the summer from Columbia University, distributed 5,000 pamphlets propounding the deterrence viewpoint from a table in the downtown area. He got them from the Committee to Prevent Nuclear War, a group based in Washington, D.C.

Octogenarian Sets Up Booth

And Kay Faulkner — an 80-year-old who said her political life began with a 1952 drive to draft Associate Justice William O. Douglas of the Supreme Court for the Presidential nomination — set up her own booth with fliers advocating a nuclear arms freeze from the American Friends Committee.

"You don't know anything," she said one passer-by told her. "All of this is managed by the American Communist party."

Five local clergymen, including Mr. Kelso, issued a statement to their congregations endorsing the freeze resolution as the "moral position."

The statement ignited more controversy. Mr. Richardson, for one, contended, "They have no business giving ecclesiastical sanction to a political issue on which people disagree."

The disagreement apparently spurred Tuesday's high turnout — 735 voters, compared with 820 in the last municipal election. Even Mr. Craig managed to cast his ballot before flying to London.

When contacted there and informed of the results, Mr. Craig said he planned to meet soon with other activists who opposed a freeze. They hope to petition for referendums in other Connecticut towns, he said.

Mr. Kelso scoffed. "One so-called victory in Washington," he said, "does not cancel out a grass-roots movement. It's foolish to assume too much from it."

Few Towns Appear Willing To Vote Down Nuclear Freeze

By NEAL E. YATES
Courant Staff Writer

6/13/82
H.C.

WASHINGTON, Conn.— Pan Am pilot Michel W. Craig is flying high over his successful effort to reverse this small town's endorsement of a nuclear freeze, but the reaction against freeze endorsements he expects in other towns may not get off the ground.

"The point's been made in Washington," said John Harney, a close friend of Undersecretary of State James L. Buckley and leader of the anti-freeze effort in Salisbury. Harney said that, because Washington has shown that a pro-freeze vote can be reversed, he has no plans to seek formal reconsideration of the April 19 Salisbury town meeting vote that overwhelmingly endorsed the freeze.

Craig had been away from home on an overseas flight when Washington voted, 154-81, on April 13 to endorse the freeze resolution. When he returned and learned of the vote, he began a petition drive that resulted in Washington's referendum to reconsider the issue. Last Tuesday, the town voted 394-341 against the freeze — the first time in the freeze movement's history that any town meeting vote has been reconsidered, much less reversed.

But the victory may prove only a moral one, for few seem anxious to follow Craig's example.

"If it's gonna be done, it'll be done by someone else," said Hamilton O'Hara of Kent, who, with former Pan Am Pilot William Litwin, had placed large advertisements in local newspapers urging people to fill out an enclosed ballot supporting a revote. The ballots were published two weeks ago and brought in 30 responses, which as yet have not been opened.

He said he is not interested in revoting the issue in Kent, where an April 30 town meeting endorsed the freeze proposal 85-24. O'Hara said his primary interest was to show that many others in the town oppose the freeze movement.

Natalie Sirkin of Sherman, who sent petitions signed by 426 people opposed to the freeze to President Reagan and the Connecticut Congressional delegation following Sherman's town meeting endorsed the freeze in May 142-98. "I've done enough," she said.

Although she plans to contact Craig and offer to help, she said "I feel I've demonstrated my point conclusively."

Craig was not discouraged. "They're not gonna move unless

they have someone to get them together, give them some direction and guidelines," Craig said in a telephone interview from Santa Monica, Calif. Thursday night. "And I plan to be one of those people."

He said he plans to call a regional meeting when he returns to Connecticut and will be "in full gear" by the end of summer.

Craig believes that freeze advocates are unwittingly playing into the hands of the Soviet Union.

"The current freeze movement is backed by the World Peace Council (in Helsinki, Finland), a Soviet Union-controlled Communist front, which is conducting a worldwide peace offensive designed to have the U.S. freeze (nuclear arms development) at non-parity. A non-parity freeze may lead to an even greater chance for war."

The anti-Communist tone used by Craig and his supporters was dismissed as nonsense by freeze advocates — until Tuesday's defeat.

"The nerve of anti-communism they touched is one that's very deep in the American psyche — one that goes back into the early 1950s and McCarthyism, and it's a disservice to us all to use such a tactic," said Marta Daniels of Voluntown, coordinator of the Connecticut Campaign for a US-USSR Nuclear Arms Freeze, an arm of the American Friends Service Committee.

The pro-freeze campaign has experienced relatively smooth sailing with endorsements coming from more than 350 New England towns in the past year, including 51 in Connecticut.

She said her group will continue to list Washington's original endorsement on the record of victories, because, she said, Tuesday's referendum was not a revote, just a second opinion.

"In a town that's 4-to-1 Republican," Daniels said, the close referendum vote proves "it wasn't the great victory they claim."

There were 1,178 Republicans, 467 Democrats and 600 unaffiliated voters in Washington as of last month, said Town Clerk Doris Welles.

But Craig's talk of Communists, while perhaps successful Tuesday in Washington, didn't deter freeze support in nearby towns. Town meetings Thursday night in New Milford and Litchfield saw freeze resolutions endorsed by 10-1 margins.

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Selectmen reject proposal for bilateral arms freeze

BY PETER KOSTES

New Milford selectmen Monday night rejected the immediate bilateral nuclear arms freeze proposal overwhelmingly approved last week at a public hearing.

Instead, the board unanimously passed a resolution "urging" President Ronald Reagan to pursue a policy of multi-lateral disarmament.

Residents voted 126-7 in favor of a freeze proposal at Thursday's public hearing.

The defeated resolution called for an immediate and verifiable bilateral freeze on the testing, production and further deployment of all nuclear weapons and delivery systems.

In addition, the resolution requested the two countries join in a campaign to extend the freeze world-wide.

"I'm disappointed, but I wasn't surprised it failed," Rev. Reese Griffin of New Milford's United Methodist Church, one of the organizers of the local nuclear freeze drive, remarked this week.

Asked if he felt selectmen had passed a water-downed resolution, Griffin replied: "Yes, definitely."

The clergyman said the resolution, proposed by Selectman Gordon Littlefield, was too generalized.

"There's very few of us who couldn't agree with it, we all agree we don't want war," said Griffin.

"This doesn't do anything," he charged.

Griffin said his group's resolution is "specific" and addresses the two super-powers with the largest arsenals.

"Our two nations have to get (nuclear) arms under control," he said.

The next generation of weapons, Griffin said, will have almost no means of detection.

Victor Bernstein, another member of the committee which drafted the resolution, told the board verifiability is a problem as the nuclear arms race "miniatures" itself.

"Verifiability will be out the window—that's where people get a sense of urgency from," Griffin told The New Milford Times.

Contacted this week, First Selectman Clifford Chapin said he wasn't "surprised" the resolution was altered.

"I felt it needed to be a little more broad-based," he remarked.

"Considering what's happened in our neighboring town (Washington), it adds a little less surprise," he added.

An arms freeze resolution which passed at a town meeting vote was recently rejected by Washington voters in a town referendum.

Chapin, who did not attend the meeting due to the death of his mother, said he supported the approved resolution's call for multi-lateral negotiations for disarmament.

The first selectman said he was worried about the terrorists who might gain access to nuclear weapons and felt a resolution

should address them.

Littlefield made the same point when he made his proposal.

At Monday's meeting, selectmen voted down two resolutions by an identical 5-3 margin.

Besides rejecting the resolution modeled after the Kennedy-Hatfield, the board also defeated a motion endorsing the Jackson-Warner bill which supports a balance of arms before a freeze is negotiated.

Selectmen Vivian Harris, Lou White and Raymond O'Brien supported the first two freeze resolutions.

Ernest Seinfeld, an outspoken critic of the freeze resolution, disagreed with its proponents who said Russia has a good track record in past disarmament agreements.

"They don't keep agreements, they chisel continuously (at existing agreements)," Seinfeld charged.

He called the issue a "complicated technological and emotional" subject.

"You cannot come to an informed conclusion in such a short period," claimed Seinfeld.

Selectman James Dolan said he was "surprised" God had not been mentioned earlier in talks on nuclear disarmament.

"This (pro-freeze resolution) could have been written in the Soviet Union—not one word about the almighty in it," he maintained.

A spokesman for the bilateral freeze committee said the group will "look into challenging" the selectmen's decision.

Goshen Rejects Call To Endorse N-Arms Freeze^{6/18/82}H.C.

By NEAL E. YATES
Courant Staff Writer

GOSHEN — Residents of this northwestern Connecticut town voted 27-25 Wednesday night not to endorse a freeze on nuclear arms construction and deployment, marking the freeze movement's second defeat in this corner of the state.

More than 30 town meetings in Connecticut have joined to call on the United States and the Soviet Union to halt the production and deployment of nuclear weapons.

Prior to Wednesday's vote, the only setback suffered by pro-freeze forces in the state had come in nearby Washington, where a June 8 referendum turned down a similar resolution 394-341, and in New Britain, where the Common Council voted 10-2 Wednesday night against the freeze. The Washington vote reversed an April 13 town meeting that had endorsed the freeze 154-81.

Since January, more than 50 Connecticut communities have approved freeze resolutions, as has the General Assembly.

Kenneth Sarvis, who led the pro-freeze movement in Goshen, chalked up the loss to overconfidence.

"We were convinced that our cause was so right and just that people would just gravitate toward it," Sarvis said Thursday.

George Pappas, a local opponent of the freeze, said, "None of us want nuclear war. But we don't want to take any leverage away from the (Reagan) administration. We should demonstrate to the Russians that we have the determination to negotiate from a position of strength — outspend them, if necessary, to bring them around. It's just a matter of how best to achieve disarmament."

He said neither side of the argument was very well organized, though freeze advocates conducted a telephone campaign to get out the vote.

"They called me to make sure I was going to be there," Pappas chuckled.

Claims nuclear freeze would 'increase danger'

To the Editor:

In contrast to your usual balanced editorials dealing with this community, your last one advocating a nuclear freeze and chiding local leaders for lack of initiative in this matter, was ill-timed, ill-advised and counterproductive.

Such a freeze would not diminish but rather increase the danger of nuclear war or blackmail. It would paralyze the Geneva conference on medium-range missiles in Europe, which is threatened by 300 of them without having any to counter them.

While we reduced our defenses—both conventional and nuclear—the latter ones relative to the Russians—the Warsaw Pact has engaged in an unprecedented military buildup, surpassing even Hitler's frantic armament during the 1930's. This buildup far exceeds any defensive need and bodes ill for the future.

President Reagan's call for a complete elimination of medium range missiles in Europe was met with scorn and ridicule by the Russians—as was President Carter's offer of a sweeping reduction of all nuclear arms in 1979. Such a freeze would also preclude any meaningful reduction of nuclear arms in the future.

The island of Western civilization and democracy is getting smaller and smaller in this world. Nearly half of Europe has sunk into a sea of oppression and brutality. The rest would have gone long ago without our nuclear strength, and the danger would have knocked at our gate.

History has repeatedly shown that fear and lack of preparation never prevented a war; it was always strength and courage which kept the peace.

Ernest Seinfeld
New Milford

Critical of editorial on nuclear freeze issue

To the Editor:

My wife and I have enjoyed the editorials of the paper for some time. However, one of the editorials of the April 8, 1982 edition marks a sudden plunge in the quality of civil discourse.

In that editorial, the paper asserts: "There can be no question that an arms freeze is a necessity...." The column suggests neither fact nor reason in support of this brazen assertion. Moreover, the column completely fails to state the assumptions upon which the statement rests.

This is not reasoned editorial opinion but a blind appeal to emotion which if advanced by a politician should be condemned as no more than sheer demagoguery. Such an appeal is not only beneath the standard which editors should observe but does a substantial injustice to your readers.

In sum, if the editors of our papers will not insist on higher standards of reasoned civil discourse in their own writing, soon they will be wasting our time and their space with absurd letters to the editors about the nicknames of politicians.

William J. Wellman
New Milford

She's 'glad' there's no nuclear freeze move

To the Editor:

In reply to a comment on why New Milford wasn't "leading" the nuclear freeze movement:

I don't know why, but I am GLAD. Perhaps our town isn't full of hysterical pacifists, maybe one town has the sense to realize that a bunch of small towns "voting" for a nuclear freeze have no legal standing. Also that this protest sponsored by assorted churches does not back up our national policy, leaves us sitting ducks for aggression and must be making the Russians happy!

No one wants a nuclear war, any war for that matter, but if we can't retaliate we are lost. We have lots of nuclear warheads and missiles but how to deliver them? Our planes, silos etc. are either obsolete or antiquated beyond use.

Wake up, America! Let's see if we still have any red blood or good old-fashioned patriotism!

I am glad in a way for the Falkland Islands incident. It has awakened Britain from her sluggishness and rekindled her patriotism. Do we need another Pearl Harbor to get us out of our sniveling fear? I am not a Catholic, but I couldn't agree more when the Pope told his people to get out of politics.

A lot of these "freezers" will be pretty red in the face when they realize that these protests as well as those in Europe, are Communist-inspired. Their operators are very smooth and Americans are pretty dumb!

Leslie T. Kountze
New Milford

Arms freeze would 'promote chance of war'

To the Editor:

A nuclear-arms freeze? Our own President says no. The Soviet's President says yes. Whom do you support?

President Reagan says a freeze would be "dangerous." It would remove from the Soviets all incentives "to meet with us and reduce" the present arsenals of weapons.

Being ahead, they would have no inducement to reduce if they knew we were frozen into inferiority. And in Europe that inferiority is one to six. Brezhnev has an enormous delivery system for his nuclear warheads. Our NATO allies have precisely zero. It is in Europe that Brezhnev wants the freeze.

Proponents of a "freeze" say we both have enough warheads to knock each other out. Putting aside the fact that NATO has no delivery system, we should realize that a freeze cannot decrease the probability of nuclear war. What is needed is a dismantling of existing weapons, and that is what President Reagan offered the Soviets on Nov. 18.

The present "Call to Halt the Nuclear Arms Race" goes back to December, 1979, when NATO decided it wanted a delivery system and asked us to produce cruise missiles and Pershing IIs for that purpose. Five days later, the Soviet-controlled World Peace Council Bureau held an emergency session in Helsinki to coordinate "public opinion to act without delay to prevent the deployment of the new medium-range nuclear missiles." In other words, the "freeze" was unilateral disarmament.

mament.

One of the many organizations assisting in that "freeze" effort, particularly in Connecticut, is the American Friends Service Committee, AFSC. "AFSC asserts U.S. unilateral disarmament 'would provide incentive to other countries to stop nuclear weapons production,'" says Western Goals Report for September, 1981.

AFSC must think we're simpletons. In 1969, the President announced unilateral disarmament in poison gas. Did that provide an incentive to the Soviets to do the same? Far from it. They continued developing more lethal specimens and using them in Afghanistan, Laos and Vietnam.

In the fall of 1980, in the White House, Senator Sam Nunn (Dem.) said to President Carter: "Either you support us in our efforts to raise the defense budget sufficiently to meet the needs you say are necessary for this country, or you should go before this country and admit that you do not intend to fund even the minimal defense needs you say are vital to protect our interests."

President Carter did neither. Today the Soviets have a "margin of superiority."

An arms-freeze is perverse. It will take away from the Soviets any incentive they might otherwise have to dismantle nuclear weapons, will deprive us of our deterrent, and will promote the chance of war.

William S. Siskin
Sherman

Takes issue with Loebel statements

To the Editor:

In Herbert Loebel's letter of March 25, followed by a front-page article on April 1, he tells us that fascism and communism are just the same, echoing a sentiment that appeals to many anti-intellectual Americans who regard both as "foreign 'isms'" which can be treated as "bad guys" and dealt with as Western movies deal with all villains.

How simple. Only a few centuries ago, Catholics and Protestants each saw the other as an agent of the devil, to be dealt with accordingly. In this century, Communism is the devil. One only needs more atom bombs than the other side, plus "first strike power," and, with God on our side, the

problem is all fixed.

Where did Mr. Loebel get this idea? From his prison experience at Auschwitz? But it was the Nazis who imprisoned him, and the Communists who rescued him from prison. Why is he unable to tell the difference?

Nothing in the experience he relates explains this. True, the prisoners were taken on a forced march: not fun, perhaps, but not exactly like being left in prison. Somebody called someone "bourgeois;" again, not nice, but I've heard worse. And the Russians built wooden tops on American jeeps and put up curtains—oh come on! This is ridiculous! No one hates anyone that much for such silly reasons.

I suspect that Mr. Loebel's antagonism is based not on personal experience at all, but on what he's read in American newspapers—which he considers "too left-wing"—or heard from American politicians, who never stop talking about the Red Menace.

Someone else never stopped talking about the Red Menace, and that someone was Hitler. How many people remember today that he called his alliance with Japan and Italy "the Anticomintern League?" Or that he got himself appointed Chancellor by promising to mop up on the Reds? Or that he created the anti-Red hysteria himself, by having his buddies set fire to the Reichstag and claim the Reds were attacking?

This may be ancient history, but Mr. Loebel should remember, because he was there. Why, then, does he persist in Redbaiting as if he still believed the German newspapers?

South and Central American dictators know these tactics well. It's not just Salvadoran guerrillas who get the label, but also innocent refugees whose towns have been invaded by government and paramilitary troops, their young men dragged out and killed with machete knives and their women and children left homeless.

When missionaries like the Maryknoll Sisters try to help these refugees, they are called "a Marxist-Maryknoll conspiracy." When Ed Asner wants to help them, or to stop the killing by not sending the guns to do it with, Mr. Loebel cries that they're all reds and should be denied the right of free speech (which he enjoys for himself).

Once, it was the "international Marxist-Jewish plot" that Hitler screamed about. Have you forgotten, Mr. Loebel?

Dorothy Ferrier
Warren

Encourage support for nuclear freeze idea

To the Editor:

Your editorial of April 8, "How About New Milford?", deserves an immediate response.

We cannot speak for the leadership of New Milford, nor for its residents and voters. But we want you to know that our Quaker Meeting endorses without reservation the bilateral nuclear weapons freeze,

as a first step toward halting the threat of a nuclear war.

We hope that the other churches in New Milford will respond also, and that the people of New Milford, given the opportunity, will vote to support the freeze.

Miriam Swartz, Clerk
Religious Society
of Friends
New Milford

Urges good dialogue about nuclear freeze

To the editor:

Having recently read editorial calls to action and responding letters on the nuclear armament freeze issue, I was pleased to see that some New Milford residents are aware of this issue and, at the same time, concerned that there be some debate and discussion on this issue before it is rushed to a vote in this town.

We have an opportunity to look at an issue more vital to us than any local issue yet is ignored on a daily basis. Let us back this resolution with a clear majority and a clear head.

If we can take this opportunity to cut through some of the confusion and administration double-speak, if only for ourselves, then we're all better prepared to live in, and someday graduate from, the "Nuclear Age".

In the 165 or so New England towns that

have backed this resolution, much of the popular sentiment was focused through the local clergy. So one course of organized action would be to talk to your priest, minister or rabbi and find out what is being done or can be done to learn more about this issue. Secular groups can organize as easily as it is to find a few people who think that 50,000 nuclear bombs in this world are enough.

Establish a dialogue on this least addressed issue. Can we trust the common sense God gave us? Or do we really need more nuclear bombs when a fraction of what we have will destroy ourselves, the Russians and this planet?

It has to start somewhere—and every day we draw closer to the computer or operator error that will launch these arsenals.

John E. Kane
New Milford

Wonders about end result of arms freeze

To the Editor:

The right to disagree with the President of the United States is one of the rights which makes this country great. The right to disagree with our President while agreeing with Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev, is a different matter.

The Washington, Connecticut, citizens who promoted and voted for the United States nuclear freeze have endorsed the wishes of a man who presides over a totalitarian government responsible for the execution and starvation deaths of tens of millions of its own people and the brutal suppression of freedom movements in Hungary (1956), Czechoslovakia (1968), Afghanistan (1979) and Poland (1982).

The Soviet surge in production of nuclear weapons, poison gas and conventional weapons has occurred during reduced United States production and the Non-Proliferation treaty; the Seabed Arms

Control treaty; the Salt I Agreements; the Biological Weapons Convention; the threshold Test Ban Treaty; the Peaceful Nuclear Explosions Treaty; the Environmental Modification Convention; and the negotiated, although not ratified, Salt II Agreements.

If the "grass roots" support for a nuclear freeze for the United States results in the Soviets reducing the number of missiles aimed at us and agreeing to on-site inspection, God bless all of those who voted for the freeze.

If the Soviets reject this gesture, our President has been placed at a disadvantage. Our country and ourselves have been placed in greater danger of that which we all fear. May God have mercy on all Americans.

Mike Craig
Washington

Says nuke sessions act in 'state of ignorance'

To the Editor:

I attended the Washington town meeting to hear the "debate" on the nuclear-arms-freeze resolution. Surely, I thought, Washington had enough enlightened citizens who would understand the issues and explain them well.

Wrong. One churchman spoke for the freeze, made five points (two, errors; three, irrelevancies). Slogans, not rationality, were the order of the evening.

Silence. Then a man from the unorganized amorphous opposition rose to fill the

void, said he didn't have a speech (meaning apparently he really hadn't intended to speak and so hadn't much thought about it) and implied that with a freeze, we would no longer have a deterrent.

Then another man from the unorganized opposition rose, spoke of the loss of freedom in East Germany and Poland, and urged the town meeting to support the President (who has said the freeze would be "dangerous").

A lady implied it would be insane not to vote for the freeze, and the discussion was

at an end. No one else had anything to offer.

None of the essential points against the freeze was brought out: that it would freeze the Soviet Union into a position of superiority (according to both President Reagan and the Soviet President, who would otherwise not have openly backed it); that Soviet superiority would increase after the freeze because they would increasingly be able to prevent our ancient B-52s from entering their air space. (Their surface-to-air missiles and interceptor aircraft are not nuclear and so could continue to be built. Our B-1, supposed to replace our nearly-obsolete B-52, could not be built).

And some other essential arguments: That from their superiority, they could threaten us with nuclear war; that with a freeze, they would refuse to bargain for weapons-reduction which our administration offered on Nov. 18, and which is on the bargaining table now in Geneva. So that a freeze is the first step, not towards not the elimination of nuclear war, but the elimination of one of the nuclear powers—us.

And on further reflection, I believe it is in the nature of case that the opponent, without a superhuman effort, will lose as they have already in every town meeting in which the subject has come up.

All the proponents have to do is frighten the people into irrationality, which they can and do do with a few slogans (we both have overkill; a bilateral freeze is the first essential step towards disarmament) and, sometimes, a scary propaganda film which erroneously implies that the way out is through a nuclear weapons freeze.

On the other hand, the opponents have to do the impossible. They have to present a one-semester college course in ten minutes that explains arms, arms-control, history of Soviet-American treaty-making and treaty-breaking, and why the Russians believe they have superiority.

Who among the opponents is that arms-control expert? Who could explain the complexities of this subject in the turmoil of a town meeting which has not done its homework? What town meeting could or would undertake to do its homework.

In this state of ignorance, are we about to box the administration? To send our disarmament negotiator into the ring in Geneva with one hand tied behind his back by this freeze?

What's to be done? This is one of the reasons why in our town we have petitioned the selectmen to disallow the pending petition for the nuclear-arms freeze, which they can do by state law.

Natalie Sirkin
Sherman

Sees Washington 'freeze' vote as small minority

To the Editor:

In a recent issue of your paper you ran a story to the effect that the town of Washington voted in favor of a freeze on nuclear weapons. It also commented that the normally conservative town did a flip flop, or whatever words you used.

That peaked my curiosity so I peeked into the facts. The clerk's office in Washington advised me by phone that

there are more than 2,200 registered voters in the town. One hundred fifty-four people, seven percent of the total voters, voted for the freeze. Ninety-three percent did not vote for the freeze.

Whaddya say, guys, how about telling it like it is?

Dick Ericson
Roxbury

'Arms' counter-movement saddens him

To the Editor:

I was saddened but hardly dismayed by last week's news of a counter-movement against the Sherman Nuclear Arms Freeze campaign.

We mustn't expect to immediately convert all Reagan supporters of a nuclear arms race. What is sad is that these good folks, who are undoubtedly opposed to a nuclear war, seem as undoubtedly commit-

ted to the continuing manufacture (by both sides—U.S. and Russia) of the very missiles that make nuclear war not only possible, but probably.

But take heart, Shermanites for Peace, you are on the side of the angels. Keep up the good fight. Read, learn, educate!

Karl B. Landt
Bridgewater

Takes issue with 'rocking chair alarmists'

To the Editor:

This focuses upon a couple of rocking chair alarmists.

Our area's most vociferous example, Natalie Sirkin, has intemperately gorged herself upon Reagan's erratic warnings about Russia's might as opposed to America's feebleness.

Having come to such an extremity, the lady is choking with enmity toward advocates of peace.

She berates even the Quakers who, throughout their history, have done more for peace than have all the world's combative nationalists.

Another agitated woman, Leslie T. Kountze, a hurler of exclamation points, surges to attack "hysterical pacifists."

Ladies, shame on both of you.

Charles Czap
Sherman

Believes patriotism means saving lives

To the Editor:

Well-informed specialists, including top former members of the Departments of State and Defense, agree that at least 10 million Americans would suffer terrible death should a nuclear war occur.

It is hard to understand why people who want to avoid this almost unimaginable catastrophe are sometimes charged with lack of patriotism.

The highest obligation for those who love their country is to ensure the survival and

well-being of their fellow Americans through disarmament and determined international peace negotiations.

We need to spend money to keep people alive, not to kill them, and a nuclear freeze seems a good first step in that direction. New Milford should be proud to join the growing number of Connecticut towns approving that humanitarian step.

Margaret Cooper
New Milford

More warheads would only 'bounce the rubble'

To the Editor:

I was happy to see that our esteemed neighbor, the soundly conservative town of Washington, overwhelmingly approved a resolution calling for a freeze on nuclear arms by all nations, including the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.

Clearly, it has become not only respectable, but downright upright (as a TV commercial might put it) to support a freeze. This is not to deny that many arguments advanced by opponents are also worthy of respect. I shall try here to respond to a couple that are most commonly advanced.

The first is that by demanding a freeze, we are pulling the rug from beneath the President in his dealings with the Russians. Well, maybe we are and maybe we aren't. I note that of 33 western Massachusetts towns which recently vote for a freeze, 30 had voted for Reagan in 1980.

Maybe, far from seeking to pull the rug from beneath the President in voting for a freeze, they were seeking to pull the President—and with him, themselves—off a dangerously skidding rug. It is, after all, the lives of all of us that Mr. Reagan is discussing with the Russians.

A second argument is that, unless we increase our nuclear arsenal, a Russian first strike could destroy our retaliatory power. And if the Russians don't have to fear retaliation, what's to deter them from striking at us any time they wished?

But 75 percent of our nuclear warheads are carried by submarines and bombers,

both largely invulnerable to a Soviet first strike. What does this mean in terms of retaliatory power?

According to Time Magazine, each of our Poseidon subs carries 16 missiles; each missile carries eight to 10 warheads; each warhead is four times as powerful as the Hiroshima bomb. It has been said that one such sub could wipe out every large and medium-sized Soviet city.

I'm no expert, and I can't vouch for that. But it seems reasonable to suppose that after five or six of our subs have each unloaded 150 warheads, each four times more destructive than the Hiroshima bomb, any additional warheads on the Soviet Union would do no more than bounce the rubble.

Would a freeze, freeze us into permanent nuclear inferiority to the Soviet Union? "...the United States and the Soviet Union are roughly equal in strategic nuclear power," says the U.S. Department of Defense annual report for 1982 (page 43).

Since both we and the Russians are both blessed (cursed?) with multi-overkill capacity, isn't this just the right time to call a halt to nuclear idiocy?

That's why I'm grateful to The New Milford Times for taking the initiative in calling for discussion, and to the quickly formed ad hoc committee that arranged a meeting at town hall for Thursday evening, April 29, at 7:30 o'clock, to which all of New Milford is invited.

Victor H. Bernstein
New Milford

He urges 'preserving peace through strength'

To the Editor:

Having read Jim Stuart's "Reporter's Notebook" with usual interest on April 22, and disagreeing thoroughly with his stand on the nuclear freeze, I nevertheless decided to follow his advice regarding the meeting of the organizers of a "freeze resolution" stating "let's hope, too, that people from ALL POINTS OF VIEW (capitalization) will turn up and sound off." So, I came to this meeting on April 29 which planned to frame a resolution for a nuclear freeze.

According to Mr. Bernstein, one of the organizers, The New Milford Times fathered the idea of this resolution. Unfortunately, The Times intellectual offsprings not only did not care to listen to "all points of view," they made sure that none other was presented.

The main speaker gave a long, blood-curdling and simplistic (this is your term, Jim) description of this complex question including a vivid description of New Milford's vaporization and concluded with the statement that he "does not believe in scare tactics." His presentation seemed to be characteristic of the substance and methods of the freeze movement.

When I asked to be permitted to present the other side of this question, my request was first refused and finally I was given five minutes—very grudgingly. How can one do justice to such an important and involved issue in five minutes? I for one could not.

With your paper coming out so strongly for one side of this issue, I believe it would be proper for you to afford your readers a more balanced view than is possible by the limited format you permit in the Letter to the Editor columns.

For a start let me quote from a recent editorial, "How Much is Enough" (4-11) in

the New York Times, that "radical", "militaristic" "chauvinistic" tabloid. "What now passes for 'debate' of nuclear strategies is understandably passionate, but it is becoming romantic, confused, even irrelevant."

"Still, the rhetorical techniques of the (nuclear arms) opposition are hollow. With the future of arms control in the balance, the Russians can think of nothing better than cheap propaganda against the U.S., as though they bear no responsibility in the arms race. Western politicians leap to the front of the disarmament parade with barren formulas to freeze the race."

"The problems are 'How much is enough', and 'Enough what' " "Secretary of State Haig says enough means enough to deter the use of nuclear weapons anytime, anywhere." "Deterrence is immoral, contends Jonathan Schell in a taut tract, 'The Fate of the Earth' ". "But the rest of us are left in a real world, stuck with the only available alternative to catastrophe. Deterrence it will have to be." "And no matter how unsettling the risk of catastrophe in 20 minutes, it has kept the industrial world at peace for the longest stretch in this century."

These short excerpts give only the gist of this editorial, and the editorial itself covers only a limited spectrum for the case and means of preserving peace through strength. We are faced by an aggressive adversary bent in the past and now on expansion and intent, in the words of the blunt Krushchev "to bury us."

Your editorial view of this matter is long on good intentions and short on realism. Why not study and rethink this question and encourage your readers to do likewise?

Ernest Seinfeld
New Milford

'Ignorance surrounds' nuclear freeze issue

To the Editor:

Having been absent from Washington only a brief while and not having heard of it before departure, it seems to me that the nuclear freeze proposal went through this town with the speed of one of Einstein's famous bullets capable of moving at the speed of light.

Questioning people on both sides of the issue and reading your paper, my impression is that the ignorance surrounding this topic is yards thick; that it is now hardened into concrete by the polarization process. There will not be much understanding until basic information is studied by individual brains rather than reacted to by emotions.

The information the thoughtful resident needs on this topic falls under two heads. The first deals with weapons and strategy, while the second concerns the worldwide and domestic anti-nuclear campaign itself. Should you be so generous as to allow me the opportunity, I would like to cover the first topic here and the second in a subsequent letter.

The most misleading and dangerous line of reasoning in this debate is packed into the question, "Since we already have the nuclear bombs to annihilate the USSR several times over, why are we spending more money on nuclear weapons?"

That is a logical question, but it is totally irrelevant. Only a small fraction of the additional funds being routed into defense ends up as net new nuclear explosive material. What is really at issue is credibility, creating the certitude in the minds of those governing Russia's vast slave empire that America could withstand a first strike and still destroy their society.

For 37 years, U.S. strategy has been based on the theory that nuclear war could best be prevented by making it clear to the Soviets that they could not win. However repugnant this concept to sensitive people, they cannot deny that it has worked.

But under cover of our preoccupation with Vietnam, Russia has concentrated its best brains and a much heavier percent of its GNP on building a nuclear capability together with a sophisticated civil defense system. The net of this is that experts today estimate that a Soviet first strike could destroy up to 90 percent of our land-based missiles.

After that, an American President would face the grim options of either trying to destroy Soviet cities with submarine-launched missiles, knowing that the Soviets still had the power to demolish most of our urban centers, or of surrendering. Credibility therefore depends on creating a delivery system capable of surviving a first strike. Hence, the increase in defense outlays is going mainly into delivery systems.

Freeze proposal activists have capitalized on the natural fear we all share of nuclear conflict. They have obscured, indeed, "hidden" by non-mention, the important distinctions made above. And they have neglected to explain that a freeze would lock the U.S. into a permanent disadvantage, laying America open to nuclear blackmail. My guess is that only a tiny minority of those voting for the freeze proposal understood the above elements of our military posture.

R. Randolph Richardson
Washington

Thursday meeting turned him against freeze

The second question was given the academic or professional runaround answer. I left when they started forming committees.

If anyone in town is forming an anti-freeze group, I would like to see if I could help.

Freedom is maintained only in convalescence.

The first questions were shouted down but, I believe, because of Mr. Chapin's presence was invited to speak for five minutes, at the end of which he was shouted down again.

I was at the meeting last Thursday evening in the court room at town hall. I had considered maybe supporting the nuclear arms freeze, but am definitely opposed to it and its movement.

The first questions were shouted down but, I believe, because of Mr. Chapin's presence was invited to speak for five minutes, at the end of which he was shouted down again.

David P. Milligan
New Milford

Calls for United States commitment to peace

To the Editor:

There have been some pretty strong adjectives directed recently toward those of us who have been seeking some reasonable means of halting the mad rush to oblivion through nuclear proliferation. We've been accused of "self-righteous rantings. For my part, I consider the recent activities necessary alternative to frustration.

The commitment of our country to peace has never been even remotely matched by our dedication to winning wars. Indicative of this, even today, is our willingness to support the government in the expenditure of a trillion dollars on the defense (read that "war") budget, but we have never spent a cent for a Department of Peace.

A hearing was held in Washington last week asking for a small percentage of that amount for a National Peace Academy—it barely made the papers. We glibly talk about peace, but we aren't really willing to try it.

We trust weapons power more, in spite of the fact that each war embodies within itself the seeds of future wars. If we really believe that peace is anything more than an abstract word, then it's time we, as adults—parents, grandparents, politicians, teachers, everyone—began to find some time from our TV watching, sportswatching, garden clubs, book clubs, bridge clubs, golf dates and various other organization and group meetings for the more urgent job of working for a peaceful future.

Otherwise, we have absolutely no right to demand or expect the sacrifice of our sons for patriotic reasons in some future war which we haven't taken the time to try to prevent. And there are numerous programs already in place that might produce

miraculous results if enough individuals cared enough to become involved.

In initiating the People-to-People program some years ago, President Dwight Eisenhower said: "If we are going to take advantage of the assumption that all people want peace, then the problem is for PEOPLE to get together and leap government—if necessary to evade governments...to work out not one method but thousands of methods by which people can gradually learn a little more about each other...we firmly believe that peace should be everybody's business."

As for the nuclear freeze movement, there are those who predict it will "fizzle." Don't believe it! This concern has been a long time building—at least 25 years in my case. It will continue until the shouts you're hearing now become a roar that will not only be heard in Washington, but will penetrate the Kremlin wall, maybe even crumble it. We're no longer willing to trust the future of the earth and our children to the bureaucrats. They're too shackled by power politics to listen. It's more important to take action as individuals—people-to-people.

Norman Cousins, in his book "Anatomy of an Illness," said: "The human species is unique because it alone can do things for the first time. We can reasonably argue, therefore, that human beings are equal to their need, that a problem can be resolved if it can be perceived, and that the crisis today in human affairs is represented, not by the absence of human capacity, but by the failure to realize that that capacity exists."

I have to believe that.

Jeanne F. Delohery
New Milford

Czap responds to Leslie Kountze 'pepper'

To the Editor:

My brief note concerning Leslie Kountze caused that renowned lady to respond with plenty of pepper.

She mistakenly accuses me of viewing her in an "armchair." What I did write was that she occupied a "rocking chair," a type of furniture that often creaks, and the action of which may induce the sitter to doze, and suddenly come awake with a healthy snort.

Now, Leslie, since I, as usual, am up and awake, I'm not writing for the "birds." You, however, appear to follow and approve the expensive flights of the Pentagon's "hawks."

In regard to "hangups," the important one who still is hanging is Jesus, transfixed where many Christians apparently are content to leave him. It's amazing how many thousands of religious folk who profess to believe in him and his counsels nevertheless go on and on endorsing satanic nuclear armament.

You point out that "the coffee of the mo-

ment stinks;" but an even greater stink will rise if human bodies suffer nuclear attack.

Leslie, you possess a great deal of energy. Do try, as a noble experiment, to channel that energy in the cause of peace that doesn't depend upon armaments, threats and suicidal enmities.

Now to the encyclopedic Natalie Sirkin. She's not the only one who does research. My extensive and up-to-date file concerning nuclear power and nuclear warfare, pro and con, goes way back to the blasts in New Mexico, Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The record is awesome, startling and barbaric. Few people know the extent of it.

In closing this partly-joshing, mostly-serious exchange with Leslie Kountze, I will defend, to her very last exclamation point, her right to swallow and grow wise upon whatever propaganda her favorite authorities concoct.

Charles Czap
Sherman

'Freezers' are not the only ones concerned

To the Editor:

It is important to realize that we all have fears about nuclear war. No one has a monopoly on concern for humanity, not the congregationalists, not the nuclear freezers, not the Moral Majority. No one.

But many freezers seem to have taken the position that you are only moral, pro-humanity and against nuclear war if you are for a nuclear freeze. (I hear many astonished gasps: "Why... isn't that true?"). I would suggest that many people are practicing a form of moral ostentation without really considering the consequences.

In truth, the only rational and morally rigorous question is: "Which will sooner lead us away from nuclear holocaust (and towards arms reduction), nuclear freeze, or a policy recognizing that our current defensive position is needlessly dangerous and inadequate, and that the Soviet Union will sooner come to the table to discuss serious, verifiable arms reductions if there is a definite consequence to not coming to the table (i.e., a stronger America that could credibly retaliate and an undesirable arms race)?"

It is obvious what the nuclear freeze does for certain American's moral self-esteem. The question is what does it do to our position vis a vis the USSR? Where does it freeze us? Does it halt the "arms race"?

I must say I agree with the freezers: we do not need more total megatonnage, since

we already have enough to blow the world several times over. But currently, it is also true that a Soviet first strike would destroy 90 per cent of our land-based silos (these things were designed for 1950's technology, for God's sake!) leaving us with most of our population momentarily intact and the choice between initiating genocide and surrender to totalitarian monsters (i.e., Moscow: The Home of Yellow Rain).

Because our system can not even defend itself adequately, it can only be presumed to be a weapon of offensive escalation. The system itself gives the Soviet Union an excuse for proliferation! The only good defense is a truly defensive defense, which does not necessarily consist of just more bombs.

I am a Columbia student who goes to school only 3 1/2 miles away from Ground Zero in Manhattan. Needless to say, I'm concerned. Yet I believe over-stockpiling by 10, 20, 100 or 1,000 times is rather irrelevant to the likelihood of (or defense against) nuclear war, per se.

But I greatly fear nuclear annihilation when one power believe it can get the best of another, even in the short steps up until the threshold. And what does a freeze do but weaken America's will to defend herself and give the Soviets of the Yellow Rain every reason to double-speak and delay at the negotiating table? (During Salt II negotiations, Soviet deployment of SS20's went on at the rate of one every five

days).

There is some awfully fuzzy and chic moral and pseudo-strategic reasoning being put forward by Soviet spokesmen, militant pacifists, clergymen, gravy-train politicians and some honestly concerned and frightened citizens. I can only advise

and urge it would do everyone well to THINK.

Roderick R. Richardson
Students for Peace and
Security
Washington

(Continued from Page 4)

Points out Soviet use of poison gas

To the Editor:

Did other readers note the biting sarcasm the two New Milford High School seniors included in their report of the question-and-answer period with the two Soviet delegates to the U.N.?

"The Soviet Union never cheats on treaties," Smidovitch said adamantly. "We take our treaties very seriously."

Soviets have used poison gas against Afghanistan despite the ban of 1925, an agreement that "The Wall Street Journal" of May 14 dubbed "the granddaddy of all arms control treaties."

The Journal added: "In Laos and Cambodia, Soviet-supplied forces have been using 'yellow rain,' and testimony exists that Soviet officers have participated in these attacks.... 'Yellow rain' contains biological toxins derived from molds. The production, possession or transfer of such toxins was explicitly outlawed by the Biological Weapons Convention of 1972.... the same year that President Nixon and Chairman Brezhnev signed SALT-I."

Michael Caroe
Washington

Offers support for equal time assembly

To the Editor:

By the logic of Darwin's theory, we may not survive as a free people. We're simply too dumb, too oblivious of even recent history to continue free in a world where thugs rule nations and nice guys wind up in forced labor camps.

A teacher at New Milford High asks the U.S. State Department for a speaker on disarmament. And he makes a similar request of the Soviet U.N. Mission. State dallies, can't be bothered, and won't pay expenses. The Russians reply promptly, sending two speakers and paying all expenses.

The Soviets do the expected. The hoary propaganda theme of a Russia frightened by prospects of invasion sails into an unprepared schoolboy audience.

According to the account, no questioner rose to ask why, if the U.S.S.R. "takes its treaties very seriously", it is today using ghastly bio-chemical weapons against defenseless civilians in East Asia and Afghanistan. And nobody told these youngsters that it's relevant to note that the United States today has about half the nuclear explosive tonnage it had in 1960.

Most important, no one explained the

Marxist Aesopian definitions of "peace" and "oppressed countries" (which includes the entire non-communist world).

There's little point in one American pointing out propaganda ploys and supplying facts to counter lies. Sooner or later, he or she will be denounced as a latter day McCarthy and lazy minds crippled by emotion will snap shut.

I think it outrageous that American students gain much of what little knowledge of the U.S.S.R. they will carry away from their education from trained Soviet propagandists. There's a very great deal they and their elders need to know about Soviet propaganda and disinformation activities. And of equal importance, what it is like to be a citizen of a communist state.

To further this end, I offer to locate and pay 25 percent of the cost of bringing a Russian or East European dissident to New Milford High to address the same six-school audience on the topics so cleverly discussed by Messrs. Smidovitch and Kudryavtsev.

R.R. Richardson
New Preston

Local physicians endorse nuclear arms freeze

To the Editor:

The undersigned New Milford physicians fully endorse the pursuit of a bilateral, verifiable US-USSR nuclear arms freeze. In doing so, we associate ourselves with thousands of physicians, both here and abroad, who regard the nuclear arms race as the path to incomprehensible tragedy.

As physicians, we concur with the Physicians for Social Responsibility, whose nearly 10,000 members have concluded that:

1-Even a "limited" nuclear war--if such were possible--would result in death, injury and disease on a scale unprecedented in history;

2-Medical planning for nuclear war would be meaningless. Most hospitals would be destroyed, most doctors and nurses dead or injured, most supplies destroyed and most "survivors" doomed to horrible suffering and ultimate death;

3-There could be no effective civil defense. The blast and/or the thermal and

radiation effects would kill even those in shelters; fallout would contaminate much of the globe for generations and, in conjunction with other atmospheric effects, would severely injure where it did not altogether destroy all living things;

4-In conclusion, there could be no winners in a nuclear war.

The Board of Trustees of the American Medical Association succinctly stated: "There is no adequate medical response to a nuclear holocaust." Our signatures attest to our concern in establishing a verifiable US-USSR nuclear arms freeze.

S. Zafar Naqvi, M.D.
Morris Clark, M.D.
Thomas Danyliw, M.D.
W. F. Lahvis, M.D.
Jeffrey Ferris, M.D.
John M. Street, M.D.
Harold J. Kamm, M.D.
Joseph J. Burton, M.D.
New Milford

'...you can't trust those Americans

To the Editor:

In response to those who would not vote for an immediate bilateral nuclear arms freeze because, "You can't trust the Russians,":

In the past 21 years the U.S. and USSR have signed 14 consecutive, lasting agreements which the Soviets did not violate. These include the 1963 Nuclear Test Ban treaty, the 1967 ban on nuclear weapons in outer space, the 1968 Non-Proliferation Treaty, the 1971 ban on placing nuclear weapons on the ocean floor, and the 1972 Salt II Treaty.

Even though the US did not ratify Salt II, the Russians have honored it. Under its terms the USSR was to dismantle a specific number of its Delta-class submarines by May 1980, AND THEY HAVE DONE SO.

On the other hand, the U.S. has not kept some of its treaty commitments. We invaded Nicaragua, excusing our actions under the guise of the Monroe Doctrine. We joined the Organization of American States in agreeing not to interfere in the domestic affairs of American countries, but in 1965 we sent troops to the Dominican Republic. We signed the Potsdam Agreement to prevent German rearmament, but today we have U.S. nuclear

missiles in Germany.

I'll bet right now there are two Russians heatedly debating the immediate bilateral nuclear arms freeze, and one of them is saying, "...but you can't trust those Americans."

Janet M. Hill
Washington

Resident 'shocked' by Pentagon plans

To the Editor:

Sunday's New York Times (5-30-82) front page carried an article which chilled me to the bone. The caption reads: "Pentagon Draws Up First Strategy For Fighting a Long Nuclear War". I was shocked and horrified by the gall of the minds which have drafted the plan designed to show that we can survive a protracted

nuclear arms confrontation.

Nuclear arms have changed the face of warfare forever. We can no longer assume another war the scale of World War II is "survivable".

America has not really felt the effects of war. Aside from Pearl Harbor, we have not known the devastation war brings to a land and the psychology of its people.

There is no doubt in my mind that a nuclear confrontation would find its way to our shores. There is no protection from the bombs in existence

today. The devastation of Hiroshima and Nagasaki are nothing compared to that which our present nuclear devices are capable of.

Even if we can manage to survive the explosions in safety, I must ask, "Survive for what?" To come out of our bunkers to a land devastated and poisoned for years thereafter? How can we plan for the future with this threat hanging over our heads? Is the Soviet Union so terrible that we must submit ourselves to nuclear destruction in the name of freedom and human rights?

What good is freedom if we have no future in life as we now know it? If communism is the alternative to nuclear confrontation, I would rather live under such a regime with the sun rising and falling over fields of life than in a democracy standing on silent radioactive land.

Nuclear power in any form is evil and more life threatening than any plague or pestilence this world has ever encountered. The nuclear arms freeze is just a beginning. Because we did not have the sense to hold on to this deadly knowledge until some way was found to control the power and dispose of the waste effectively, we are already suffering from the effects of "peaceful" uses of nuclear power.

We must put an end to this madness. There is too much threatening the ability of people to live sane, just lives to be playing war games which threaten the very existence of life on this earth. Why can't the great minds being put to the invention and implementation of death machines be put to work on solving environmental and economic problems? It is time to think of future generations and to understand that all nations share one planet.

Catherine Schereschewsky
Washington

Clergy supports bilateral, verifiable freeze

To the Editor:

As people who have dedicated our lives to proclaiming a God who lovingly created this world, we would like to voice our support for genuine efforts for world peace.

We see the continuing arms race as a threat to peace and human survival. Estimates of the many millions who would die in a nuclear war make such a prospect irreconcilable with our belief in the dignity of human life.

With God's grace, peace is possible. All human beings, as custodians of God's creation, must work to advance the cause of peace.

We view the bilateral and verifiable nuclear arms freeze proposal, to be presented at a public hearing on June 10, an important step in the process of eliminating the threat of nuclear war. We encourage people to support this proposal.

Rev. Archie B. Altheason
Associate Pastor
First Congregational Church

Rev. A. Russell Ayre
Pastor
First Congregational Church

Rev. Richard Curci
Chaplain
Canterbury School

Rev. Jeffrey A. Fillian
Pastor
Gaylordsville United Methodist Church

Rev. Reese Griffin
Pastor
United Methodist Church

To the Editor:
Rev. Robert Halliqu The deadly play of nuclear weaponry consists of three critical stages (1) to think the unthinkable (2) to speak the unspeakable, and finally (3) to do the undo-

Norman K. Raab The second stage was completed on Sunday, May 30, when in the New York Times some of the contents of a 125-page unpublished first strategy by Pentagon

Rev. Benjamin R. Priests policy-makers for fighting a protracted U.S.-Soviet nuclear war appeared, including a strategy under which the military forces would be prepared to strike

Rev. Robert E. Sand the Soviet homeland and Soviet Allies such as Cuba, Vietnam and North Korea in the event of a long conventional war with the Soviet Union.

Rev. Frank W. Thurston The release of such vital information is certainly not conducive to finding ways to reduce tensions between the U.S. and the Soviet Union, particularly when, one week

Rev. Frank Watt Pastilateral, President Reagan will address the First New Milford U.N. special session on disarmament.

Baptist Church More important, it holds out a challenge not only to the Soviet Union but to all Americans. Are we as willing as some of our leaders to sanction a nuclear first strike under such conditions, or any other conditions?

In World War II, President Truman acting in secrecy, in what he believed were our best interests, accepted responsibility for the damage inflicted by two atomic bombs dropped on Japan.

This time our nuclear strike intentions have been made public and they are no longer a secret. It therefore is up to each and every American to voice any objections that he or she may have to the President and the Congress before we do the

Encourages attendance at June 10 hearing

To the Editor:

I have been asking all my friends and neighbors to support the Bilateral Nuclear Freeze Committee. The Committee is holding a public hearing at the high school on Thursday, June 10 at 8 p.m. to pass a resolution for a freeze on nuclear weapons.

We need the votes of everyone. I urge everyone to attend and be a part of this necessary action.

Doris Pick
Gaylordsville

'Voice objections' before play gets deadly

To the Editor:

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David R. Stewart
Gaylordsville

defense before voting

To the Editor:

During a town meeting in Washington on Friday, May 28, there was discussion of a resolution calling for "a freeze on the manufacture, deployment, and testing of nuclear weapons by the United States, the Soviet Union and all other nations," which had been passed at a town meeting on April 13 and is to be re-voted by referendum on June 8.

Michael Craig, originator of the petition calling for the re-vote by referendum, expressed the hope that all voters would become well-informed before they cast their ballots, and following the meeting handed out a questionnaire—with answers—which he had prepared. Numerous flaws in Mr. Craig's "answers" were obvious to those who had made an effort to become informed.

I would like to direct attention to part of Mr. Craig's answer to his Question 9, which read: "The United Nations actually designated 1969 through 1979 as 'The Decade of Disarmament.' During this time the United States and other United Nations countries slowed their arms buildup. The Russians in the meantime built the most massive military threat the world has ever seen."

Right-wing groups in the United States, such as the American Security Council, have asserted that while the Soviet Union has been moving rapidly ahead in military capability in the past two decades, the United States has been unilaterally disarming or engaging in unilateral restraint.

These charges of American military weakness were so grossly inaccurate that the Pentagon felt compelled to respond. The specific charges of the American Security Council and the Pentagon's responses have been reprinted by the Center for Defense Information in *The Defense Monitor*, volume IX, number 8A, 1981. Among the points made by the Pentagon in this 12-page publication are:

"U.S. military strength remains second to none."

"Since 1967 the total number of (nuclear) warheads in the U.S. inventory has more than doubled, and the number of missile warheads has quadrupled."

"The charge that the Soviets cheated on SALT I is inaccurate."

"General Singlaub's statement (that out of 27 summit agreements with the Soviet Union, they have broken or cheated on 26) is nonsense."

I recommend *The Defense Monitor* to Mr. Craig and to anyone interested in factual information about U.S. and Soviet military power, particularly the following issues:

Vol. IX, no. 5, 1980 American Strength, Soviet Weakness.

Vol. IX, no. 8A, 1981 Pentagon Rebuts Charges of U.S. Military Weakness. (This issue was prepared in response to questions submitted to the Center for Defense Information by members of Congress and others.)

Single copy of any issue is available for \$1.49 from Center for Defense Information, 303 Capital Gallery West, 600 Maryland Ave. S.W., Washington, D.C. 20024.

'Strength in U.S. has never led to war'

To the Editor:

Many of us who have served in the military know the value of a strong defense. World Wars I and II could have been prevented or certainly shortened if free world countries were as strong as "Nazi" Germany and "Remember Pearl Harbor."

The communists never would have invaded Korea or South Vietnam if they didn't feel they could win. Strength in the United States has never led to war. Weakness in the United States has engulfed us in four major conflicts in this century. Let's make sure there aren't five.

If the President of The United States says "no" to the Washington, Conn., type freeze resolution, I'll go along with him before going along with the President of the Soviet Union. The front page headlines in the Sunday May 30th New York Times States: "72 PERCENT IN POLL BACK NUCLEAR HALT IF SOVIET UNION DOESN'T GAIN".

If you vote "yes" on the Washington freeze resolution the Soviets do gain. If you vote "no," the Soviets do not gain and our country can pursue other freeze resolutions and eventual reduction in nuclear arms. Vote with our government and the majority of

Americans. Vote "NO" on Tuesday, June 8.
Norman "Rip" Hannibal
Washington

'A 'no' vote is a vote for a safer world'

To the Editor:

The recent articles and letters to the editors of Connecticut papers regarding the Washington town freeze revote have been thought provoking.

To approach an issue of international importance based upon moral commitment without fact is equivalent to an airline captain leaving New York bound for London with no consideration given to weather, fuel or route. The pilot who expects to cross the ocean and land safely because it is the morally correct thing and thus pays no attention to the preflight facts is a dangerous pilot.

The same is true for people who go out and vote without learning the facts. Those who would vote "yes" for a Washington type freeze resolution do three things.

1. They vote against the President of the United States and against the United States Department of State and against our NATO allies.

2. Their "yes" vote is a vote in support of the communist military machine.

3. They do not decrease the chances of a nuclear war, they increase the chances.

A "no" vote at the Tuesday, June 8, referendum at Town Hall is a vote for a safer world.

Chuck Smith
Washington Depot

'Yes' vote is 'vote for Soviet government'

To the Editor:

As one of the more visible proponents for a referendum on the nuclear freeze issue in Washington, I would like to summarize the issues. The following are easily verifiable facts.

The President of the United States and the United States Department of State do not back either the Washington, Ct. freeze resolution or the similar Kennedy-Hatfield resolution because of non parity with the Russians. Leonid Brezhnev and the Soviet military do back this type of freeze resolution, because it maintains their strategic advantage of better delivery capability.

The current freeze campaign was initiated in Moscow through the World Peace

Council and is being run by different anti-defense lobbies in the United States.

The Soviets want this freeze because they know the U.S.A. is dangerously behind the U.S.S.R. in delivery systems, and our triad system is vulnerable. Our land-based missiles are vulnerable to first strike, our current bomber force potential victim to the Soviet anti-ballistic missile system and our submarines cannot launch their missiles before receiving orders through communication satellites, which are vulnerable to Soviet killer-satellites.

A "yes" vote at the June 8 referendum is a vote for the Soviet government. A government that does not believe in God, considers religion "the opiate of the masses" and who will start a nuclear war if they think they can win it.

A "no" vote (no freeze) supports the United States, our NATO allies and all free world countries. Only our strength and not our weakness will decrease the threat of nuclear war.

Michel W. Craig
Washington

Freeze groups have 'dreams of socialism'

To the Editor:

Prof. V. Bukovsky, survivor of Soviet forced labor camps, writing in Commentary (May), dates the Soviet origin of the present worldwide anti-nuclear campaign from a September 1980 meeting in Sofia, Bulgaria, hosted by the World Peace Council.

He tells us that the current campaign was triggered when the Soviet hierarchy concluded that the U.S. was determined to regain the ability to survive a first strike with sufficient nuclear capability to cast into doubt the survival of the Soviet leadership.

Months of careful planning ensued, but it was not careful enough. As soon as the major demonstrations in Europe got up to speed, a number of "accidents" revealed the communist hand.

In Denmark, the Danes indicted two organizers for accepting Soviet funds and expelled the Second Secretary of the Soviet Embassy. In Germany, an environmentalist group known as the Greens, which had joined the demonstrations, sent representatives to an organizational meeting in Bonn on April 4, 1982. They were sufficiently incensed by the goon tactics used by the communists to control the meeting that they recounted their experience to the press and it received wide coverage in Europe, though next to none here.

Edward Leigh, formerly correspondence secretary to Mrs. Thatcher, remarked, "There is absolute proof of Soviet funding of some elements of the European 'peace' movement." He and others have noticed that American journalists have surprisingly little interest in these connections.

The campaign in the U.S. is the familiar mix of communist fronts (The U.S. Peace Council, the National Lawyers Guild, Christian Peace Council) and a host of organizations which seem to be persistent fellow travelers (the American Friends Service Committee, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Women Strike for Peace, the Fellowship for Reconciliation).

In and behind such organizations is a very special breed of humans that have such bright dreams of world socialism and other stout delusions that reality cannot reach them. They exist only in free societies and they serve communism enough to make their help essential. Lenin termed them "useful idiots". They are the last among free men to learn the truth. And among the first to be shot after a communist takeover.

Urges Washington to support President

To the Editor:

On June 29 the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. will commence strategic arms reduction talks. START. Three weeks prior to that date, the town of Washington will have the opportunity to support their President and country. A vote for nuclear disarmament at this time, would be a vote for Soviet superiority.

The Kremlin has been a strong supporter of the World Peace Council in Helsinki. It is believed that over \$100 million in Soviet funds have been spent to promote the nuclear disarmament of the free world.

The Kremlin would love for us to disarm here and in Europe. They now have on their western front 300 SS20 missiles as well as many SS4 and SS5 missiles. The SS20 has a range of 3000 miles and 3 nuclear warheads. We must then assume, that some 900 cities in Europe are set for destruction if we do not keep some balance of arms.

I would recommend that anyone who wants to vote for nuclear disarmament read two articles in the June Reader's Digest.

1. Ban Whose Bomb? by William E. Griffith

2. Master of Manipulation, by Frank Chapple

Both articles are under the topic Perspective on the Peace Movement. I am sorry that our news media tends to address itself to the ban movement and not pick up on articles such as the aforementioned.

I do strongly support nuclear disarmament, but it must be done by those who know what will keep a safe defense

against a Soviet buildup. Our towns should not be voting on matters such as these. We are, for the most part, too ill-informed or ill-advised to render an intelligent vote on disarmament.

James W. Heemstra
Washington Depot

At the local level, the nice young man across the street, the daughter of a friend, and some of the local ministers (whose ministries seem to consist mainly of participation in an endless succession of political crusades), you discover, are active fighters for peace. Unsullied by any communist connections, they are involved for many understandable reasons. Their concerns are sincere and so diverse as to have only two common denominators: They have a penchant for simple solutions. And none realize that the tune they're dancing to is being played on a

R. R. Richardson
New Preston

Urges 'no' vote in Washington's revote

To the Editor:

The freeze issue in Washington, Ct. has brought our town to the attention of many citizens throughout the state. The results of the June 8 revote referendum, which is the first in the nation, will cross state lines.

Every vote on Tuesday is important. The freeze vote recently passed in Washington and several other Connecticut towns was voted on by small percentages of people opposed to nuclear war, who were largely uninformed with regard to the freeze facts.

America's deterrence policy has maintained peace in Europe for the longest period since the fall of the Roman Empire. This policy would be undermined by the current freeze vote.

I urge all to vote "no" and let the word go forth that Americans back the free world countries and not Soviet Russia. A strong America is a safe America. A weak America invites nuclear war.

Harold Meyer, Jr.
Washington

Student claims politics, religion don't mix

To the Editor:

Last Sunday five ministers in Washington abused their spiritual trust. In seeking to mix politics and religion, they substituted moralistic gesturing for hard reasoning, failing to admit that persons of equal moral worth have valid reasons for opposing a nuclear freeze. I refer to their joint statement released to the press and distributed in their churches.

Moralistic gesturing has no place in our politics. Politics has no place in our churches, even in those of Rev. Neuhaus, Nargesian, Sundell, Kelso and Crews. Mere opinion should not masquerade as ecclesiastic sanction.

People opposing the freeze have engaged in no similar self-righteousness in claiming a monopoly of morality for their position.

They point out that what's at issue has nothing to do with whether or not the U.S.S.R. and America have enough nuclear explosives to destroy the world.

The crux of the matter, never mentioned in the peace movement's propaganda, is that we have half the explosive tonnage we had in 1960 and likely could not survive a Soviet first strike with enough force intact to provide a rational reason for not surrendering. The opponents of a freeze believe it would simply lock in Soviet superiority and that a freeze would help insure, not peace, but an eventual nuclear war.

Rod Richardson
Students for Peace
& Security
New Preston

Neither Side Wins

To the Editor:

In the June 4 issue of your newspaper, one of the articles and some of the letters to the editor credited the Russians with initiating the idea of freezing production of nuclear weapons. This was news to me, since I had thought it was our European allies who started the movement and that it spread from there to here. Have we let the Russians beat us again? Sputnik, putting a woman in space, thinking up the idea of a nuclear arms freeze—why are they always first?

The article and the letters go on to tell us that the Soviets are running the freeze movement in the United States. I am a freeze proponent, but to date I have not received any communications from Moscow. Furthermore, I doubt that any of the other pro-freeze folks I associate with are Russian stooges either.

However, I cannot help but wonder

who is behind the anti-freeze movement in the United States. Could this be a Russian-inspired program? It would be devilishly clever of the Soviets to urge America through such people to spend billions upon billions on the strategic weapons that we don't need and can't possibly use (since in using a few too many of them, we would destroy ourselves, too). We are already overstocked; the Department of Defense assures us that we could destroy Russia several times over. If we build more nuclear weapons, we will drain our national bank account to the point of making ourselves desperately poor and weak. We will deprive the American people of money that is badly needed for education, for helping the jobless, the sick and handicapped, the poor, the elderly, the environment. Is the anti-freeze movement helping Russia? I wonder.

The freeze resolutions that are being approved in community after community of this country are asking that the Russians quit producing nuclear arms, too, and insist that the shut-down be verifiable. Can the anti-freeze people be in opposition to that?

Instead of speculating about the possibility that either the freeze proponents or those opposed to it are under the influence of Russia, let's all think seriously about nuclear war and its consequences. There's no way either side would win. The results of such a war would be unspeakably horrible. So, let's quit wasting money getting ready for one.

Question Anti-Freezers

To the Editor:

After reading the front page article (June 4, 1982) by Candace Port headed, "Opponents of Nuclear Freeze see Soviet Ties," I feel that your readers should be made aware of the following:

One of our freeze workers sent to Natalie Sirkin for material on which she bases her charges. He received a sheet labelled: "Antifreeze Command Post." The title in itself is revealing.

On this sheet the reader finds suggestions on how to oppose the freeze.

In light of Candace Port's article let me quote verbatim from the material.

"Expose them as a left group (What about being hit with the charge of McCarthyism?) What do you have to lose? Get a few people thinking about it. And state your case strongly as if you know what you are talking about."

This excerpt from the antifreezers' directives says it all.

Fortunately, I believe that your discerning readers will not fall for this line of thinking, no matter how strongly it is

J.L. Reynolds
Woodbury

Helen Raymer
Southbury

For Peace

To the Editor:

Always I have hoped and prayed that someday we might see our world at peace with no more war and no more killing... hoped that mankind might mature enough to care about each other and their children. But whenever I've worked in any peace movement there have been those who claimed the Russians were behind it all. Can't we Americans ever be given any credit for wanting peace and a good world for our own? Isn't it possible that there are millions of caring Americans who really want peace and not war... who really are frightened by the possibility of a nuclear war? I do not need a Russian to tell me that it's a matter of life or death. If Russia has 7,000 nuclear war-heads and bombs and we have 9,000 it will not make any difference in a nuclear exchange because neither country will have a chance. The ONLY answer is that the whole idea is complete insanity and both countries must agree to ending the nuclear weapons build-up!

Why are some people frightened by an Arms Freeze? I can understand their

concern for this country... but when both countries sit like small children ready to throw deadly "blocks" at each other, it is time for an adult to step in and say "STOP... put down your blocks!" Violence and killing are evils and only mature love and understanding can prevent them. SOMEONE HAS TO BEGIN! Ask yourselves, "Would Christ have condoned a nuclear build-up, or would he have been one of the peace-makers?"

Perhaps someday soon the war-makers and the makers of killing weapons, and those responsible for training soldiers to kill other human beings will be called on to pay in some way for their part in the genocide they call war, and for their lack of concern for the commandment which comes first in most religions of the world... THOU SHALT NOT KILL!

Dallas Cline
East Canaan

Halt 'Double Suicide'

To the Editor:

The superpowers today are like a couple locked in long, acrimonious divorce proceedings, oblivious to all else except getting even and/or destroying the other, even if their children are the victims.

This state was described by General MacArthur as the "double suicide" bind, when he said that "nuclear weapons have destroyed the possibility of war's being a medium for the practical settlement of international differences...it contains only the seeds of double suicide."

I believe a verifiable halt to the production of nuclear weapons by the United States and the U.S.S.R. will provide an intervention, a breathing space before the next round of deadlier, more destabilizing weapons pushes U.S. still further down the road to the war that nobody can win, or even survive.

I intend to vote "yes" on the nuclear freeze proposal at my town meeting June 14. It's a vote for life.

Jill Smith
Woodbury

Enough is Enough

To the Editor:

Recent letters to editors of local newspapers opposing the growing support for a nuclear arms freeze seem to echo a common theme, i.e. that citizens who support such a freeze are uninformed, have no business presuming to instruct our Government on defense policy, and/or are dupes of a worldwide Communist propaganda campaign.

As a member of the Woodbury Nuclear Arms Freeze Committee, which has conducted a community education program on the issue, I resent such characterizations and believe they do a disservice to the process of dialogue which should be taking place in our democracy regarding this vital issue. We need not be defense specialists to realize that both the United States and the U.S.S.R. have sufficient nuclear arsenals to destroy each other several times over, so that no one would be left to push the button to deliver any additional weapons we might now add to our stockpiles. We have every right, and duty, as citizens of a democracy to tell our elected officials in Washington that at a time of 9.5 percent unemployment, when we can't afford to provide assistance to the needy in our society, we want them to stop pouring billions of dollars into these superfluous, devastating weapons.

Yet, the present Administration responds to this growing outcry that "Enough is enough" by claiming that to stop now would freeze us into a position of inferiority because the Russians have a greater nuclear capability than we. This is the kind of "fact" that freeze opponents feel supporters are ignorant of—yet, it is not supported by statistics from the Department of Defense, which show each side as having certain advantages in individual weapons systems, but portray an overall balance in our respective deterrent capabilities. In fact, many Defense Department and arms control officials maintain that virtual parity now exists between the United States and U.S.S.R. Now is the time for a mutual freeze on all nuclear weapons and this is the message we should be sending to our leaders, before it is too late.

Contrary to the accusations of freeze detractors, I believe the facts of the issue can be ascertained by ordinary citizens and that such facts support our instinctive abhorrence of the growing possibility of a nuclear holocaust. We in New England have a unique opportunity to send our message that "Enough is enough" to our nation's leaders through the forum of our town meetings. I urge all Woodbury voters to exercise this right by attending the June 14 town meeting to support the resolution calling for an immediate, bilateral, verifiable U.S.-U.S.S.R. freeze on the development, testing and deployment of all nuclear weapons.

Margaret A. O'Dea
Woodbury

A Vote for Herself

To the Editor:

Pro-nuclear freeze or anti-nuclear freeze apart, I am becoming extremely tired of Ms. Sirkin and Mr. Craig telling me what to do and implying that I am uninformed if I do not vote the way they want me to. As it happens, I will not be voting for Russia. I will be voting for myself and the people I love. Furthermore, I am entitled to do so. I will not even say they then behavior smacks of McCarthyism, for that would be sinking so their deed.

Victoria Chess

Congratulates town for freeze rejection

To the Editor:

I am writing to congratulate the people in Washington, Connecticut for their wise and intelligent decision to reject the

nuclear arms freeze resolution.

Nuclear disarmament is something we all want. However, people who think that passing nuclear arms freeze resolutions in town meetings will bring this about are naive.

What the people in Washington seem to realize is that a nuclear arms freeze would only put this country at a disadvantage. From a negotiating standpoint this becomes even more apparent. The arms freeze resolution many towns have endorsed sends the wrong message to the Soviets and other nuclear powers. We are tying the hands of our President to conduct foreign policy.

Negotiations for reductions in nuclear weapons are needed. But for the negotiations to be effective we must be in a position of strength. Other nuclear powers must know that though we are willing to reduce our arsenals, if they reject our efforts we have the determination to match them.

Unfortunately there are no petition drives in Moscow, Peking, India, Pakistan, Libya, Iraq or in many other countries with nuclear capabilities. Unless all countries agree to reduce and hopefully eliminate their nuclear arsenals, efforts in this country for nuclear reductions would only end up being an act in futility.

I hope that other com-

munities will make the same positive decision as the people in Washington, Connecticut regarding nuclear arms freeze resolutions. The United States motto should be "Peace through strength." This is the best way to guarantee everyone's future existence.

John Morris
Morris

Movement started by neighbors, not 'Reds'

To the Editor:

The nuclear arms race that prevails among nations, with the Soviet Union and the U.S.A. markedly most involved, reveals the extent to which barbarism is fashionable among governments and large segments of populations.

Enslaved by the concept of military strength as a means to "peace," "innocent," "foolish," "ignorant," "uninformed," "frenzied," "stupid," "disloyal."

Such jabber rises from minds that fizzle with a sense of superiority, authority and intellectual ascendance. This arrogance, however will not serve to subdue the ever increasing thousands of thoughtful humans who are rising to contest the primitive policies of governments run by men who cannot be trusted to establish a free civilization.

The industrial-military-political framework, based upon greed monopoly, excessive production, connivance and manipulation of thought through cunning propaganda, is a framework now subject to question and investigation by a population driven to resentment.

People are tired of being lied to, of being ignored, of putting up with the burden of protracted economic disaster. It is evident that the system under which they strive to live is dominated by powerful and moneyed cliques of successful predators.

Hence, now on the rise is much rebellion; rebellion domestically inspired that has nothing to do with the Russians. This despite the often-heard contention that all rebellion is inspired by the Reds. The fanaticism of crediting a great deal of evil to the Communists is comparable to what the medieval populations credited to the Devil.

Fortunately, sanely throughout much of the western world, there is a protective movement rising among common people. Millions of them are not strangers, not aliens, not Reds. Look around you. They are your neighbors.

Charles Czup
Sherman

Woman relates timely town meeting story

To the Editor:

Despite the narrow margin of defeat in the June 8 Washington re-vote on the nuclear freeze, I want to remind Michel Craig and his conservative coalition that very nearly half of the voters oppose his pronuke views.

The unprecedented grassroots response that is growing in the nation for an immediate and unconditional, bi-lateral nuclear freeze is no better expressed than the testimony offered by an old man in Ver-

mont at a town meeting similar to Washington's own:

"This nuclear arms race reminds me of a story about Calvin Coolidge," he said. "He came home from church one Sunday and his wife asked him what the minister had preached about. 'Sin,' he said. His wife then asked him what the minister said about sin.

'Well,' said Calvin, 'he's agin it.' The old man continued: 'With these nuclear weapons we got, we're preparing to kill thirty or forty million people. The way I figure it, that's a sin, and I'm agin it.'

No more nukes, Mr. Craig. No more nukes, Mr. Reagan. Me and a few million others, and God—we're agin it.

Susan Gould Tidyman
Washington

Resident terms verbal attacks 'mud-slinging'

To the Editor:

One of the virtues of the American political system is that it permits opposing views to compete for public support. That virtue is subverted when citizens attack the motives and allegiances of persons with whom they disagree.

A case in point is the current debate over a recommended bilateral freeze on the creation and deployment of any additional nuclear weapons over and above those already on hand. Recently anti-freezers have attacked pro-freezers "for not supporting our President."

It has even been suggested that those who want such a freeze are "fellow travelers" or "supporters of Brezhnev" or that their views have been unduly influenced by alien organizations. This is mud-slinging, not rational debate.

I thank God that in America it is not required that we always agree with our President or with our Secretary of State or with our Secretary of Defense. Many New Englanders are unimpressed by statistics which speak of "Soviet numerical advantage" in weaponry when most people know that the destructive power of even one nuclear bomb is one thousand times that of the one which fell on Hiroshima.

The way to begin a long-range bilateral effort to prevent mutual destruction is for both sides to stop adding to the existing stockpile. All that a New England town can do is send a message to our leaders urging them to seek bilateral agreement to that effect. If this step can be taken, other steps may follow.

Covington Hardee
Washington

Resident asks, 'where is democracy?'

To the editor:

A question of apathy has risen in our country. The lack of support for one issue or another. The lack of confidence in a political leader.

What ever happened to the voting population? If the voting population was ever in attendance at Monday's night's New Milford board of selectmen meeting, I know where the apathy comes from.

When a town's population overwhelmingly approves a proposal for a bilateral nuclear freeze 126 in favor and 7 opposed, and the selectmen blatantly ignore all manner of the proposal, where is the democracy? When the opposing side of the issue, the losing side, mind you, leaves the meeting with smiles on their faces, where is the democracy?

What is wrong with the New Milford town charter when the wishes of the majority are wiped aside? The elected officials in this community obviously reject the democratic process.

Whether you're for a nuclear freeze or opposed, whether you're for woman's rights or opposed, whether you're for tax reform or opposed, you have every right to expect that your elected officials will represent you. This is not the case in this town.

As Mr. Dolan so wisely put it, shouldn't we trust our elected officials to do the right thing? Well Mr. Dolan, the town trusted you, did you heed the wishes of the community? Definitely not!

As the nuclear freeze issue steam rolls across the country, I hope our public elected officials will notice the CBS poll which found that 72 percent of the population is in support of the freeze. One can only hope so. Something needs to be done to show this community that we are united in support of the original freeze proposal.

Write your letters to the selectmen, sign petitions, but show the selectmen that apathy is not alive and well and living in this community. Show the selectmen that the democratic process did not die last night in New Milford.

Jeffrey Kilberg
New Milford

Washington freeze supporters face choice

To the Editor:

We who supported the nuclear freeze in Washington now have a choice: do we call for a re-vote hoping to convince those that didn't vote

that we are not communist dupes voting for Breshnev, but only citizens asking for a stop to nuclear escalation on both sides; or shall we say—enough and hope that people will educate themselves to the dangers of a nuclear buildup?

One nuclear warhead is equal to one thousand Hiroshima bombs. How many do we need? Radioactive waste is already leaking into Lake Erie from barrels designed to last 50 years.

Our economy is facing economic ruin with large deficits causing high interest rates as we continue to spend billions on the military. I would think the Russian leaders would prefer that end

to a nuclear freeze.

Diane Hardee
Washington

(Note-the only pro freeze letters in this issue were a "complete and corrected" version of Charles Czap's June 18 letter and one condemning the selectmen for their freeze rejection.

'Strong America will decrease threat'

To the Editor:

The recent area "freeze" dialogue and decisions have pointed out that there are three options open to those who want to decrease the threats of nuclear war. The New England towns that voted for the "freeze" were voting for the Kennedy-Hatfield resolution with no option to vote for either the Warner-Jackson "freeze" resolution or our president's START proposal (Strategic Arms Reduction Talks).

I would suggest that all three options be placed on any future town resolution. If not the results could be numerous revoke referendums such as the one in Washington, Conn. and in several other towns where the question will soon be brought back to the voters.

In last week's letters to the editor in The New Milford Times I was accused of referring to Washington residents as "fellow travelers" or "Communist dupes." In the Danbury News Times of June 3 I stated "I don't think you have a Communist in the town of Washington." I was quoted in the June 4 Litchfield County Times, "I'm not accusing anyone in Washington, who supports the freeze, of being a Communist. I doubt there is one Communist in Washington."

There is a great deal of material to support the fact that at higher levels the cur-

rent "freeze" movement is backed by Communists through The World Peace Council. Read "Tools of Manipulation" in the June 1, 1982 Readers Digest. In Barons May 17, 1982 on page 11 it states "the Institute For Policy Studies, to Communist fronts, including the World Peace Council, organizing for the peace campaign has been underway for months." In the book "The Soviet Peace Offensive" the President of the United States refers to the above mentioned efforts as "Bought and paid for by the Soviet Union." Vermont Royster writes in the June 16 Wall Street Journal "There are those I know, who think it 'better red than dead' and would willingly leave themselves defenseless before the Soviet Union. For them there is nothing worth dying for, not for country, not for liberty or freedom, not even for the preservation of civilization..."

I believe a strong America will decrease the nuclear threat. If we back our president instead of the President of the Soviet Union we'll be backing the finest country this planet earth has ever seen.

Michel W. Craig
Washington

P.S. Of all the area newspapers to cover the freeze issue I wish to compliment the New Milford Times and especially reporter Joe Foster for objective coverage.

Selectmen did represent the town

To the Editor:

Recently the Selectmen of New Milford voted against the proposed freeze resolution, following a public hearing in which the public was given an opportunity to vote and did so by 126 to 7 in favor of the resolution. The Selectmen have been attacked as unresponsive to the will of the people.

But the question is, was the public hearing representative of the people of the town, or just of the people who want the freeze?

The fact is that people who do not want the freeze, stay home. They do not believe it is the business of the local town meeting to take up this national question. Or they don't see that the vote of one town is significant in the national picture. Or they believe that the Reagan Administration shares the objectives of the people and is doing a good and conscientious job in representing them. Or for some other reason they are not motivated to attend the town meeting to vote against the freeze.

On the other hand, the people who want the freeze are highly motivated to attend. They may believe that the freeze would bring guaranteed peace. Or they may have

other reasons for wanting the freeze, some of which may be wholly unrelated. For the issue has become a political issue, and in some towns there is a lining up for the freeze by the Democrats, led by Democratic selectmen or the Democratic Town Committee.

Since the freeze town meeting does not represent the views of the people of the town, in Sherman what the Ad Hoc Committee for Peace Through Security did was to gather signatures on a letter to President Reagan saying that the Sherman Town Meeting vote of 142-98 in favor of the freeze does not represent the views of the people of the Town, and the Ad Hoc Committee collected on the letter 426 signatures, which was three times the number who had voted for the freeze at the Town Meeting. (The letter was mailed to the President with the 31 pages of signatures on June 4, and a copy was sent to our Congressional representatives.)

In my view, therefore, one cannot say that the Selectmen of New Milford do not represent the people of the Town.

Herbert Loebel
Sherman

Inventory of opinions needed

To the Editor:

In our pluralistic society, although division in opinion is inevitable, means for finding a consensus do at times seem questionable. And decision in government necessarily moves with the masses if sensitive to a movement.

The nuclear freeze movement often refers to its massive majority. Statistics are often suspect. The New York Times of June 13 shows how questionable it is to quote the figure of 72 percent. Other percentages include 87, 30, 26 and 18. The numbers are "iffy."

Crowds in the streets are out of touch-as Art Buchwald neatly showed recently-with the very people they might be persuading to listen to them. Protests chiefly polarize.

Democracy requires that we move slowly.

In 1969, again in 1977, I suggested the advisability of using our electronic means for increasing the input and output to and from between people and our elected officials. Stores can advise shoppers of their inven-

ories by computer, and clients can place their orders, can we perhaps develop a system that will also enhance the electorate's communications with our leaders?

A computer center might be created into which citizens with a pass could enter their votes. An inventory of opinions to which the Selectmen could refer. Voting more often might encourage us to talk openly and regularly.

That I hold the nuclear freeze movement untimely because it ignores our NATO obligations may be of interest to a Selectman or more properly to Mr. Toby Moffett or to my immediate friends. That it may place other potential friendships in jeopardy is currently caused by the system by which we seem to expect government to act: spasmodic talks in town meetings, protest marching and countermarching, even information given to the press. All the time, not just at referenda, we should be talking WITH our officials and elected officers and ONE ANOTHER.

Michael D. Dore
Washington

FYI
Copies to

Stan Evers

Paul Weyrich

Larry McDonald

file

Nuclear freeze

To involve more voters

Arms freeze referendum sought

WASHINGTON, Conn. — Several residents are considering circulating a petition to bring the recently passed nuclear arms freeze resolution to a referendum vote in June, Michel Craig said Wednesday.

The purpose of the drive would not be to rescind the resolution, which passed by a ratio of nearly 2-1 at the April 13 town meeting, but to give more people the opportunity to vote on it. After the town meeting, the selectmen sent a letter on behalf of the town to President Reagan and to Connecticut's two senators and six representatives in Washington, D.C.

The resolution, which called upon the United States, the Soviet Union and all other nations to freeze the nuclear arms race, passed by a vote of 154-81. Craig pointed out only 7 percent of the town's 2,245 registered voters supported the resolution.

"Does that represent Washington? I don't think 7 percent represents anything," he

Force to get new detective

said.

But he conceded that a machine vote could result in the freeze resolution passing by an even larger margin.

Craig, an airline pilot, has been out of town frequently during the past week and has not had time to organize the group of four or five people he said would be necessary to circulate petitions. He will decide in about a week whether to proceed with the petition drive.

He mentioned that Michael Caroe, who spoke against the resolution at the April 13 meeting, might be one of the petitioners. Caroe could not be reached for comment

Wednesday.

Craig must collect at least 20 signatures by May 14 to get the resolution on the agenda of the May 28 annual town meeting, said First Selectman John A. Marsh. He must then collect at least 200 signatures before the town meeting to have the issue adjourned to a referendum.

Although there would be no vote at the town meeting, "I plan to make a very definitive statement about what I think," Craig said. He declined to elaborate Wednesday, but in a letter to an area newspaper he wrote in part:

"If the 'grass roots' support for a nuclear arms freeze for the United States results in the Soviets reducing the number of missiles aimed at us and agreeing to on-site inspection, God bless all of those who voted for the freeze.

"If the Soviets reject this gesture, our President has been placed at a disadvantage. Our country and ourselves have been placed in greater danger of that which we all fear."

Craig said he would have addressed the issue at the town meeting, but he was in Bombay.

THE LITCHFIELD COUNTY TIMES

FRIDAY, MAY 7, 1982

WASHINGTON GROUP WANTS TO RESCIND ARMS FREEZE VOTE

SEEKING A REFERENDUM

Residents' Move to Negate Town Meeting Decision May Be First in Nation

By CANDACE PORT

WASHINGTON—Residents here have begun what is probably the first petition drive in the nation to rescind a town meeting vote approving a resolution for an immediate bilateral nuclear arms freeze.

Michel Craig, an airline pilot living in Washington, said this week he and six other residents have begun gathering the 200 signatures required for a referendum "revote" on the nuclear freeze resolution, which was approved by a Washington town meeting three weeks ago.

Mr. Craig said his group had hoped to bring the question before a May 28 town meeting, and then to a town-wide machine vote. But group members discovered their petitions' wording was not legally correct, and according to Mr. Craig, "will probably" begin a new petition drive shortly for a later town meeting.

Vote Reflects Minority

"I've talked to a lot of people who weren't happy with the fact that only 7 percent of the town's registered voters carried that freeze resolution," he said. "And besides, the issue is a Congressional matter—it has no place in a town meeting. But the opposition has gone ahead and done it, and we can't pretend it hasn't happened. Let's find out what the silent majority—instead of the vocal minority—is thinking."

Pro-freeze organizers at the state and national levels were taken aback considerably by news of the Washington revote drive. They acknowledge that opposition in some towns has been strong, but say they have heard of no other movement for a freeze recall.

"It's the first I've heard of," said Betsy Taylor, director of the Nuclear Information and Resource Service in Washington, D.C. "There have been some counter demonstrations under the banner of the Committee Against the Present Danger—a very conservative right-wing group—but I've heard of no other counter referendum or re-vote."

Re-Vote Called 'Sour Grapes'

Marta Daniels, a statewide coordinator of the Connecticut Campaign for a U.S.-U.S.S.R. Nuclear Arms Freeze, which now involves groups statewide, said Washington, to her knowledge, is the first town to see a re-vote drive.

"We've heard vocal, organized opposition to some town meeting votes, but when the debate is over and people vote their minds, then it's over," Ms. Daniels said. "It sounds like sour grapes to me."

Washington passed its freeze resolution by a resounding 154-81 votes, the first of four towns in Litchfield County, and the fourth in the state to formally back a resolution sponsored by Senators Ted Kennedy, Democrat of Massachusetts, and Mark Hatfield,

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Washington Group Seeks Re-Vote

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Republican of Oregon, which calls for an immediate halt to the nuclear arms race. The Washington freeze proposal—a simple resolution by Democratic Selectman Jane Knowlton—came in sharp contrast to freeze votes in more than 200 United States towns, where months of public education and debate often polarized pro- and anti-freeze groups. Given more time, and more discussion, Mr. Craig and other anti-freeze organizers say, the resolution would have met far greater resistance in this overwhelmingly Republican town of 3,657.

According to Mr. Craig, it is "too early to tell" whether his group's move to rescind the freeze resolution would pass or fail in a townwide vote. But he and other freeze opponents say the drive is symptomatic of a mounting backlash against the freeze—a backlash that has sparked bitter skirmishes in Salisbury, New Milford and especially Sherman. Although only the Torrington City Council has in effect rejected the proposal by refusing to take a stand on it, freeze opponents predict there are more defects to come.

Local proponents of the nuclear freeze meanwhile say they are not surprised by the drive for a Washington re-vote. They say they are optimistic the re-vote will reaffirm—and perhaps strengthen—support for the freeze resolution.

"As far as the pro-freeze vote goes, I feel we have nothing to fear," said the Reverend Thomas Kelso, who helped spearhead Washington's freeze drive. "Nationally, Americans favor a nuclear freeze, four-to-one. So the more people we get out—and a referendum will bring out more—the larger the vote for the freeze will be."

"I think there's one very important thing to remember," said freeze organizer Peter Waasdorp, of Warren. "That (first) freeze resolution was spur-of-the-moment. We were shocked when Jane Knowlton presented it—we had hoped to have much more time for education. Now, we welcome the referendum, because it will give us more time. I think the anti-freeze people will be shocked at just how great the pro-freeze vote will be."

But as the pro-freeze movement gathers strength, so does the backlash against it. And as many observers predict, the two are headed for major showdowns in several Connecticut towns.

The confrontation will perhaps be the bitterest in Sherman. Led by Natalie and Gerald Sirkin, who have organized the Ad Hoc Committee for Peace through Strength, opponents of the freeze have launched a three-pronged attack against the pro-freeze movement the Sirkins describe as "hysterical."

The anti-freeze group in Sherman first tried to block the freeze proposal by challenging the legality of a town meeting vote on the issue. They also began mailings and petition drives to press home the dominant anti-freeze messages: that the United States should not consider an arms race halt because the Soviet Union's nuclear arms strength exceeds that of the United States; that a freeze would be impossible to enforce; that it would cost the United States the trust of its allies; and that the Soviet Union, whose goal, they say, is world-domination, cannot be trusted to hold up its end of the bargain.

The third line of attack, however, was a new one to nuclear freeze clashes in this area. The Sirkins claim that the freeze drive is not the locally-based movement it bills itself as, but a skillfully organized power play by the far left.

"The freeze movement is not the grassroots thing they make it out to be," said Mr. Sirkin. "It is being carefully orchestrated by a highly organized, Soviet-backed organization. The people may be naive about the Soviet backing of the movement, but it's there."

Like many other opponents of an immediate freeze, the Sirkins favor a resolution proposed by Senator Henry Jackson, Democrat of Washington and Senator John Warner, Republican of Virginia, and backed by President Reagan, calling for a freeze only after the United States and the Soviet Union have reached a "parity" in nuclear strength.

"The freeze opposition is not a rallying behind the President," Mrs. Sirkin said. "It is something more important—something to save this country from becoming a vassal of the Soviet Union, which could be the result of the politics of freezing nuclear arms."

Informed of the Sirkins' charges, Ms. Daniels said accusations concerning her group's leftist involvement are "not worthy of response."

"None of those (town meeting) votes could have occurred without the work of local people. We have not organized one town meeting vote," she said. "Accusations like that are not even velvet-gloved

McCarthyism. They're gloves-off McCarthyism—the ultimate refuge of those who can't speak with clarity and truth on an issue. Instead, they malign their opponents."

But while few of the freeze advocates expect opposition as heated as that in Sherman, they are nevertheless anticipating the backlash will continue to grow—especially as the likelihood of a full-fledged U.S.-U.S.S.R. arms summit meeting this fall increases.

"People may start to feel more satisfied with Reagan's stand on arms, and that definitely will cut into the force of the freeze movement," said Ms. Taylor of the Nuclear Information and Resource Service in Washington.

The freeze movement may also suffer from its own "too much—too fast" success, Ms. Taylor and other observers say. Though Ms. Daniels predicts opposition to the arms race will maintain its momentum and, with the economy, become the top issue in the November elections, Ms. Taylor says freeze advocates may find it difficult to implement the policy they have been so successful in spreading.

"Right now the leaders of the freeze movement are finding themselves wrestling with some tough questions," Ms. Taylor said. "One is, how do we define victory? There are some very different attitudes in the camp over whether the freeze proposal is an arms-negotiations proposal, or whether it should stop at being an educational tool. They're also asking how they can maintain the political strength to force the implementation of the freeze and, later, a control policy.... We just didn't anticipate the extent of the activism, or that we would be so successful so soon."

For freeze opponents, however, the question is more simple; they say the freeze will die as soon as people realize it just won't work.

"I personally think they (freeze proponents) are suffering from the ostrich syndrome," said Mr. Craig. "They mean well, their goal is correct, but their methods are wrong. To put their heads in the sand, to believe the Russians will go along with something that won't lead to total Soviet domination of the world—that's naive."

"Their side has only superficial and emotional appeal," said Mr. Sirkin. "If enough towns like Sherman get the intelligent criticism out to the public, this stampede—and it is a stampede—will stop, and the nuclear freeze movement will end."

Milford Times

Section II

WASHINGTON

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Warren

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Craig spearheads drive

Resident seeks nuke referendum

BY JOE FOSTER

WASHINGTON—The recently passed nuclear arms freeze resolution will more than likely come to a referendum vote at the annual town meeting May 28 at 8 p.m. in Bryan Memorial Hall.

Michael Craig, Ferry Bridge Road, has spearheaded a drive for the referendum. He now has well over 100 signatures for the 200 required for a referendum.

Craig last week had more than the necessary 20 signatures required to get the nuclear arms freeze on the call of the town meeting.

Craig, an airline pilot, was in Bombay April 13, the night of the special town meeting which passed the nuclear arms freeze resolution by a 2-to-1 margin.

When Craig returned from India, he was shocked to learn that only seven percent of the 2,245 registered voters in town had voted for the freeze at the town meeting. "Seven percent of the voters is not a fair

sampling," he said.

"The interest in town for a revote is surprising even to me," Craig said earlier this week.

He said there are 10 petitioners—one in New Preston, three in the Depot and six in Washington—seeking signatures for the referendum.

The petition reads: "Because an estimated 93 percent of the voters of Washington did not vote for the resolution passed...April 13 calling for a freeze on nuclear weapons by the United States, the Soviet Union and all nations, the undersigned petition:

1. That the same resolution be presented for discussion on May 28 in a Washington town meeting; and
2. That a referendum be held June 5 by machine ballot for the voting to be conducted for or against the aforesaid resolution."

Any voter who wishes to sign the petition may contact Craig at 868-0174 or Terry Stevens at 868-2835.

Craig praised The New Milford Times for its edition last week highlighting the nuclear freeze issue on two full pages and for presenting and defining the Kennedy-Hatfield and the Jackson-Warner resolutions.

Craig is "vehemently against" the Kennedy-Hatfield resolution, but he is for the Jackson-Warner resolution and for the new U.S. proposal to reduce nuclear warheads on both sides. He is not opposed to a nuclear freeze.

"With the recent U.S. proposal to reduce nuclear arms," Craig said, "the freeze vote became a vote for more nuclear armament. Under the new proposal, the U.S. would have to reduce about 2,000 warheads and the Soviet Union somewhat less. The moral goal of the freeze advocates, in my opinion, has always been correct.

"After talking with a number of townspeople who voted for the freeze, I was shocked to find some who didn't even realize that their 'yes' vote was for the Kennedy-Hatfield resolution. These same

people were unaware of the Jackson-Warner resolution, which also leads to freeze."

Craig continued, "One resident on the other side of the issue said he had mentioned to one of the pro freeze leaders that the whole issue as it then stood made about as much sense as passing a resolution to ban the gypsy moth."

Craig said, "The religious leaders in town have been advocates of a morally just cause and they apparently felt the Kennedy-Hatfield resolution was the best means to this end. But they now have a newly opened option to back the President of the United States in not only stopping the arms race but actually reducing the number of nuclear warheads."

He said there will be discussion at the May 28 town meeting, but no vote will be taken.

"This is not a political party issue nor is it a liberal-conservative issue," Craig said.

Upheld 9 to 1