

Locals rally support for arms moratorium

By MIKE RUST
Of the Emerald

A memorial in the Oregon Legislature is giving students an opportunity to speak out against the nuclear arms race.

Hearings for Senate Joint Memorial 5, which calls for a bilateral moratorium on the development and deployment of nuclear weapons, are scheduled for Wednesday evening at the state Capitol. Local peace and environmental activists hope students will join them in expressing support for the bill.

"What we're going to try to do is organize transportation up to the Capitol to get a good number of students to provide encouragement for the bill," says Kevin Thelin of the ASUO Survival Center.

The Survival Center, along with Citizen Action for Lasting Security, a local peace group, is coordinating transportation to Salem for the 6 p.m. Senate Judiciary Committee hearing. A meeting is scheduled at 4 p.m. Wednesday at the Homefried Truckstop to plan rides to Salem.

The memorial consists of three proposals asking Congress to request the following of the president:

- "To establish as national policy that the United States will never be the first nation to use nuclear weapons in international conflict.

- "To propose to the Soviet Union a mutual freeze on all further testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons and on missiles and new aircraft designed primarily to produce nuclear weapons.

- "If such a freeze is mutually agreed upon, to transfer the funds that would have been used for those purposes to civilian use."

The memorial has 24 sponsors in the Oregon Legislature with Sen. George Wingard, R-Eugene, the only holdout among Eugene lawmakers. Thelin and CALS member Tom Lynch both suggest that Wingard, in Lynch's words, "doesn't want to take a stand without checking with the party."

"People particularly need to write letters to Wingard," Thelin says.

Lynch says the idea for the memorial

came from a similar effort last year in Massachusetts. A ballot measure calling for a nuclear weapons testing freeze and a subsequent transfer of funds to civilian purposes received 65 percent of the vote in western Massachusetts.

"These people voted for Ronald Reagan, and then they voted for nuclear disarmament," Lynch says. "We thought that if we can give people an opportunity to express themselves on this issue, they'll come down on our side."

The memorial, which U.S. Sen. Mark Hatfield, R-Ore. recently endorsed, has a "good" chance of passing in the Senate, Lynch says. However, its fate in the House of Representatives may depend upon which committee reviews it.

Supporters of the memorial are hoping it will be reviewed by the Environment or Human Resources committees where it has a better chance of surviving, he says.

Thelin says passage of the memorial will send a message to the federal

government.

"If it were passed just in the Oregon Legislature, the biggest impact would be to show people in Washington that foreign policy does have an impact on the individual citizen," he says.

The principal local supporting group is CALS, which recently changed its name from Citizen Action for Peace. The change was made "to make a political statement of where security really lies," Lynch says. The organization grew out of Citizens for Safe Energy, a political action group that supported last year's successful effort to pass the nuclear moratorium ballot measure.

Lynch says environmentalists and peace activists are working together as they realize they have common goals.

"My background is in the environmental movement," he says, "but it's silly to be worrying about Crabtree Valley or French Pete if it's all going to be blown up."

Information can be obtained at the Survival Center or by contacting Lynch at 484-4117.

Plan cuts Reagan budget

WASHINGTON (AP) — The chairman of the House Budget Committee today proposed larger budget cuts than President Reagan has asked for 1982, and said the president wants to spend too much for defense but not enough for social programs.

The committee chairman, Rep. James Jones, D-Okla., also said Reagan's tax reduction proposal would cut too deeply into federal revenues.

Jones said in unveiling his alternatives to Reagan's proposals that he wants to "improve on" the administration's recommendations.

Jones would restore money for several domestic programs Reagan wants to cut, including programs for community development, health, education

and employment training and the federal food stamps budget.

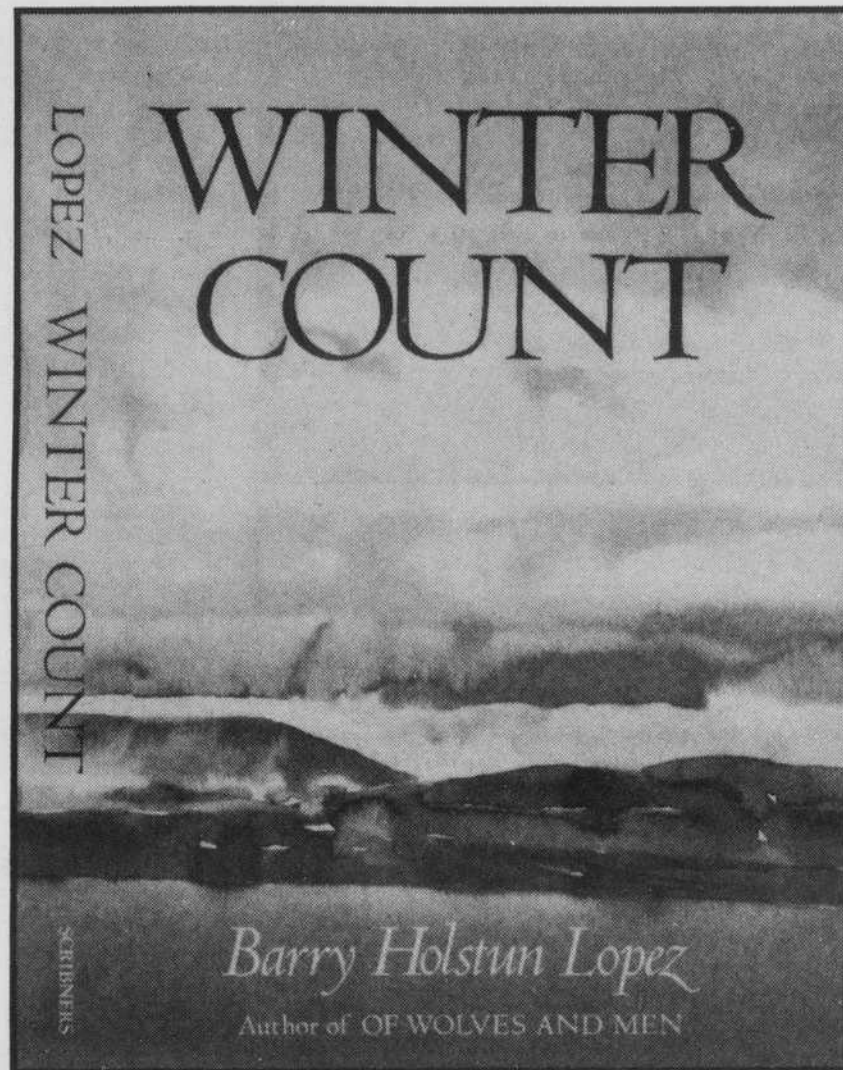
In defense spending, the president asked for \$188.8 billion, but the committee said actual defense spending would come to \$194.1 billion under his plan. Jones proposes spending \$189.7 billion for defense.

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