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Activist condemns missiles

By Paul Ertelt
Of the Emerald

The presence of more than 100 U.S. military bases makes England seem like an occupied country, says British peace-activist Carrie Pester.

But what bothers her most is that many of those bases are sites for U.S. nuclear weapon installations, whose presence could make England a target in a nuclear war.

"The missiles are controlled by the United States," she says. "We have no say on who's in control of these missiles."

Pester was in Eugene this week to publicize the work of the Greenham Common Women's Peace Camp, where thousands of women have camped out to protest the cruise missile base 60 miles West of London. The missiles can be equipped with either nuclear or conventional warheads.

"Each (nuclear equipped) cruise missile is the equivalent of 15 Hiroshima's," Pester says. "And we got 96 of them."

The people of England do not want the missiles in their country, Pester maintains. But the decision to deploy them was made by high-level officials of the British government without consulting Parliament, she says.

The women's camp originated in August, 1981, when 40 people marched from Cardiff, Wales to the common, 120 miles away. Their protest was largely ignored at the time, Pester says.

Then in December 1982, 30,000 women encircled the nine-mile perimeter of the camp to protest the missiles, Pester says. The protest was repeated the following December with 40,000 women.

Many women remained at the site, living at first in trailers and tents. When authorities removed those shelters, the women erected "benders" sheets of plastic hung from tree branches.

"Literally hundreds of thousands of women have been through the camps from all over the world," Pester says. "Some women have been there for two

says. This has led to several incidents.

"Many of the women have been strip searched," Pester says. "Not by our people, but by U.S. personnel." Also, many of the women have been arrested on minor charges.

But the "real criminals" are those deploying the missiles, Pester says. The women's camp, in conjunction with the Center for Constitutional Rights and the Lawyers Committee on Nuclear Policy, has filed a lawsuit against Pres. Ronald Reagan and members of his administration charging that the deployment of the missiles is a violation of both U.S. and international law.

Pester blames the Reagan administration for aggravating an already tense world situation and creating an atmosphere where negotiations are impossible. She also fears that military actions, such as the invasion of Grenada, could drag the world into nuclear war.

Pester also is concerned about what she calls "very provocative" military exercises to be held near the East German border in September. The "largest NATO exercises since World War II" will involve 500,000 personnel armed with conventional, nuclear and chemical weapons, she says.

"They are preparing for nuclear war," she says. "And these exercises are an example of that."



Carrie Pester

years."

But the Greenham Common camp is only one of 10 such camps throughout England where women have gathered to protest U.S. nuclear bases, she says.

"The authorities don't really want us there, naturally," she

Students' origins revealed

By Mike Sims
Of the Emerald

The spring term numbers are in on the Oregon student — individually and collectively.

According to figures compiled by Registrar Herbert Chereck, there were 14,187 students enrolled at the University (as of the fourth week of the term). Men outnumbered women 7,273 to 6,914. Undergraduates outnumbered post-baccalaureate students 10,594 to 3,593.

There were 698 fewer of them, all told, than during winter term. Some 698 people who missed the excitement of the NCAA track and field championships. Almost 700 people who missed Wheatgerm Campbell's erstwhile mayoral campaign. Nearly 35 score who didn't get to hear Brother Jed and Sister Cindy call them heathens, homos and 'hores. Pity them.

But give credit to the 13,774 who returned to campus from Palm Springs, Aspen, Mazatlan and Klamath Falls. Also pay tribute to the 413 spring term newcomers, for they have shown wisdom.

Part-time students, the industrious folk who balanced outside employment and/or family lives with academics, numbered 2,303. That left 11,884 who worked the aforementioned wonders and carried a full load to boot, or just carried a full load, got loaded and booted.

Most of them — 9,662 — came from Mother Oregon. Lane, the home county, contributed the bulk of the in-staters: 4,100 to be exact. The three counties that make up the Portland area — Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington — sent 2,835 students up the valley.

At the other end of this demographic spec-

trum, Gilliam County, over east, sent the University a paltry one individual. Neighboring Sherman, Morrow and Wheeler counties were a bit more generous: two, three and four students respectively. That's cattle and grain country out yonder. Those folks are big on OSU.

So is Benton County, but not so much that it couldn't spare the "southern branch" 129 souls...

From across the Columbia came 355 Washingtonians, and 1,233 Californians forsook the spring sunshine of the southland for an Oregon education. Idahoans numbered 78, while 34 Nevadans came to campus from that neighboring state. Two hundred sons and daughters of Hawaii left their island paradise, 195 students came from Alaska.

There were 101 Canadians and 1,222 from other foreign lands sampling the Oregon experience during the spring... ah, the huddled masses — yearning to breathe mass quantities of pollen.

Those 14,187 students signed up for 188,092 total credit hours during spring term. That's a decrease of 11,540 from winter. Maybe spring distractions (track, Wheatgerm, Jed 'n' Cindy) induce people to take fewer courses.

Chereck's figures don't paint a colorful picture, per se, but they give insight into the composition of the University: who the students are, from whence they came and why. With a bit of imagination, one can read anything he or she wants into these numbers... almost.

Why were there four times as many Californians as Washingtonians on campus?

Go figure.

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