



Washington Hot Line

by Congressman Ron Wyden

The possibility of nuclear holocaust is rapidly becoming the most serious threat facing America and the world today.

Because of my concern about this issue, last week I introduced a resolution that would make the prevention of nuclear war a central security goal of the United States. Following is the full text of the floor statement I made in introducing that resolution:

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join the world's most distinguished scientists in issuing a plea to all nations to save mankind from the devastation that would result from a nuclear war—a devastation from which no nation is immune.

Last September, 67 of the world's leading scientists representing 27 countries met at the Vatican's Pontifical Academy of Science to discuss nuclear weapons and nuclear war. Their meeting was convened by the Pope, and included the President of the United States Academy of Scientists and his counterpart in

the Soviet Union.

This meeting was the culmination of a series of efforts by these scientists, which began with a meeting convened last February in Vienna by Cardinal Konig of Austria. The scientists then met at the Royal Society in London and again at the Pontifical Academy last June.

Never has such a distinguished group of scientific experts come together to use their creative energy to shed the light of science on a public issue. That they have done so now attests to the unprecedented danger posed to life on our planet by the existence of nuclear weapons.

It also reflects the awakening alarm in millions of citizens around the globe—millions of citizens who have joined together to call for an end to the peril of living on the brink of annihilation.

These scientists came together because they feel a special responsibility to mankind—after all, it is the perversion of their achievements which has resulted in the greatest known threat to mankind.

And after months of careful deliberation and study, they issued a final resolution, which they presented to the Pope. The delegates' inescapable conclusion was that there can be no higher moral or political obligation than to prevent the outbreak of a nuclear war. They recognized that no nation can be secure unless we reduce this threat, and they specified several steps needed to do this.

We cannot afford to let the fruits of this meeting of our great minds slip by us. The prevention of a nuclear holocaust will take all of the creativity we can muster—and it must be our most pressing goal.

That's why today I am introducing a joint resolution declaring the prevention of nuclear war a central security goal of the United States. This resolution, already introduced in the Senate by Sen. Alan Cranston, also calls on the President to give urgent consideration to the resolution developed by the delegates to the pontifical assembly in Rome.

I urge my colleagues to join me in

this effort. As Senator Cranston pointed out in introducing this resolution in the Senate, "whether you and I agree in whole or in part with the statements contained in this declaration (by the scientific community), they are of transcendent importance."

It is my hope that by focusing attention on the findings of this distinguished group we will all feel the sense of urgency we need to bring mankind back from the brink of nuclear disaster. And it is not a false urgency. As each moment passes our world, and that of our children, becomes less secure.

Again, I invite my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring this joint resolution. We must make the prevention of nuclear war the central security goal of the United States. We must explore with other nations alternative methods of resolving conflict. As long as nuclear weapons exist on our planet, we must make every effort to ensure they are never used.



From the Boardroom

by Gladys McCoy, County Commissioner

The last time Multnomah County dealt with significantly reorganizing the County was in May, 1974, when a consolidation vote was defeated. That effort would have consolidated unincorporated Multnomah County with the City of Portland. The vote came after a year-long study by a Blue Ribbon Panel, numerous public hearings, and dialogues with a wide range of community groups.

Many things have changed since 1974 to make it again necessary to review various options for delivering services to Multnomah County residents. The most compelling factor is: Change is inevitable. It continues to occur in unplanned ways such as the reorganization that occurred with Ballot Measure 6 at the May Primary. Four more positions were put up for election, jails were shifted to an elected Sheriff, terms of office were determined and a paid lobbyist was eliminated. These drastic changes took place with little, or no, public discussion.

The question now is how much change is necessary? When should the change occur? How will it occur? What are the major issues to be

addressed? By whom?

I submit to you the driving factor is the continued decrease in resources with a growing demand for services that include economic development and the fact that unincorporated Multnomah County is the only available land for this use; sewers are a very fragile concern in that a health hazard may occur if sewers are not installed; in urban subsidy there is the fact that city residents must reckon with double taxation for services, with roads and police services being the more costly areas.

The purpose of the Future of Local Governments Group (FLGG), which I initiated, is to develop a process that is orderly, timely, and allows elected public officials from the community to deal with the matter of solving problems of economic development, infrastructure, and urban subsidy in Multnomah County.

In a signed resolution, elected public officials unanimously agreed that the status quo of governmental structures in Multnomah County is unacceptable; that they must as-

sume a leadership role in structural problem-solving; that they cooperate with one another on this project; that they develop a specific plan to present to the public which addresses the problems existing in Multnomah County (with a target date of May, 1983), which may include a ballot measure for consolidation, or comprehensive annexation strategy or other service delivery modes.

While intergovernmental cooperation is required to solve these problems, it is critical that we have citizen participation in reaching our objective. The plan is to have public input on the five options that have been proposed by the Future of Local Governments Group. The options include City/County merger, comprehensive annexation, formation of a new city, consolidated functions, and service contracting. Detailed descriptions of these options are available at: Portland City Hall, Commissioner Mike Lindberg's office, 248-4145; Gresham City Hall, Mayor's office, 661-3000; Multnomah County Courthouse, my office (Room 605), 248-5219;

Metropolitan Service District, Ray Barker's office, 221-1646, ext. 352.

Testimony on these proposals will be heard from 7-10 p.m., Tuesday, December 14, Blanchard Education Service Center Board Room, at 501 North Dixon Street; and 7-10 p.m., Thursday, December 16, at Reynolds High School Cafeteria, 1200 Northeast 201st Avenue.

Residents of District II are hereby invited to avail themselves of this information and to participate. Please call Richard Ellmyer, my staff assistant, at 248-5239, to sign up to testify and/or for additional information.

At a later date, the Future of Local Governments Group will choose the most viable option and return for further community input. The Group will coordinate with the Charter Review Commission to determine which issue(s) will be put to a vote of the people.

The FLGG consists of representatives from Portland City Council, Multnomah County Board of Commissioners, the Gresham Mayor-elect, and officers from Metropolitan Service District.

Reagan promises military aid

(Continued from page 2 column 3) of right-wing death squads. D'Abuissou was called a "psychopathic killer" by former U.S. Ambassador to El Salvador Robert White, and has been positively linked with the murder of Archbishop Oscar Romero through his diary which was captured by a former member of the ruling military junta.

El Salvador is torn with civil war. More than 32,000 civilians have been killed by their government in the past three years. In an already poor country, the fighting has brought an estimated \$625 million in damages to roads, bridges and buses and railroads, and to the electrical system; and a great loss of agricultural production.

The murder of thousands of civilian citizens continues in El Salvador, with the assistance of the U.S. government.

Reagan said El Salvador is making "great progress in overcoming human rights abuses" and predicted that the U.S. will continue military aid.

Honduras

Honduras is the poorest of the Latin American nations. About 500,000 children—one-seventh of the population—are malnourished and 1.5 million children do not have health care. About 40 percent of the people receive no health care and most of the others have inadequate health care.

The economic growth rate of Honduras during 1980-81 was virtually zero, a fact that has led to a sharp drop in production and a rise in unemployment. The public debt passed the \$900 million mark in

1980 and the 1982 budget deficit is estimated at \$200 million. Per capita income is less than \$500 per year; the unemployment rate is 64 percent.

In spite of its impoverished condition, Honduras is serving as the base for U.S. military aggression against Nicaragua. Honduras will spend \$200 million, along with \$21 million supplied by the U.S., to convert several civilian airports into military airports.

The Honduran government approved an invasion of El Salvador, to aid the El Salvador military junta, in June of this year. The Honduran Committee in Solidarity with the Salvadoran People revealed that 2,000 Honduran soldiers were in El Salvador, advised by U.S. personnel.

Followers of former Nicaraguan Dictator Somoza are harbored in Honduras, provided training, directions and equipment by the U.S. 10,000 mercenaries operate from 10 camps along the border with Nicaragua and are trained by 150 CIA officers, military officers and retired intelligence agents. This force is supported by the \$19 million authorized by the Reagan Administration to be used by the CIA to destabilize Nicaragua. Already more than 500 raids have been carried out.

U.S. military aid to Honduras has escalated since Reagan took office: \$3.6 million in 1980; \$8.2 million in 1981; \$15 million in 1982; and Reagan promised President Suazo Cordoba another \$17 million this summer. This money is not to buy schools and hospitals, but for helicopters, patrol boats, M-16s, airplanes, etc.

Honduran President Roberto

Suazo Cordova asked Reagan for double the \$35 million in economic aid allotted in the Caribbean Basin initiative that is as yet not approved by the Senate. Suazo reminded Reagan that part of Honduras' financial crisis stems from sinking sugar prices and the fact that the new U.S. sugar import quotas will decrease Honduras' sugar export from 85,000 tons last fiscal year to 28,000 this year.

Guatemala

The plight of the Guatemalan people is tragic; 81 percent under the age of 5 are malnourished; there is one doctor per 100,000 persons; 80 percent are illiterate; 76 percent of the homes in the capital have no running water; 90 percent of the rural homes have dirt floors and none have running water; prices have risen 300 percent since 1975.

Since the 1954 CIA-backed overthrow of the elected government of Jacob Arbenz, 83,000 people have been murdered. In 1981, 13,500 people were assassinated by the army and other branches of government.

In 1977 the Carter Administration cut off military aid to Guatemala because of repeated violations of human rights, but arms continued to flow from Israel, Chile and Argentina.

The Guatemalan oligarchy had close ties to the Republican Party and contributed to the Reagan election campaign. Soon after Reagan took office, U.S. government officials, including Vernon Walters, began trooping to Guatemala. UPI reported their purpose was to aid Guatemala to combat "leftist guer-

illas." Helicopters and other equipment for "civilian purposes" began to arrive and the State Department announced that the ban on military shipments would be reviewed.

The government terror was to obviate to finance so a farcical election was arranged. Before the new leader could take office, General Efraim Rios Montt overthrew General Romeo Lucas Garcia and took control.

In March of 1982 the guerilla organizations united to form the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity.

Approximately 8,000 people have been killed since Montt took power, 90 percent of them Indians, but Reagan embraced Montt, whom he called "a man of great personal integrity and commitment."

Reagan told the press that Guatemala has been given a "bum rap" and its human rights violations have been exaggerated. Asked whether the U.S. will increase military aid to Guatemala, he replied, "This will depend on the material he [Montt] gives us. I would think so."

The one accomplishment of Reagan's Latin American journey was to put his final approval on the military alliance of Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador (with U.S. assistance and direction) against Nicaragua. During his short visit he managed to talk to the presidents of Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador and Costa Rica cementing the alliance that will bring additional bloodshed to Central America. The words of Betancourt that outside interference in the affairs of Central America is not acceptable have long been forgotten.

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Election

N.A.A.C.P.

Portland Branch

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Bernard B. Richardson

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of the N.A.A.C.P.

The election will be held

Sunday, Dec. 12, 1982, 4 p.m.
Vancouver Ave. 1st Baptist Church
3138 N. Vancouver Ave.

INTERESTING
FACTS

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The total amount of tea Americans drink is only one-tenth of the amount of coffee that gets drunk each year.

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