

PROJECT PLOUGHSHARES

Swords into Ploughshares



"Development, justice and peace are not abstract concepts but a tightly knit web of pressing issues which require cooperative and collective action." Ruth Sivard



A JUST PEACE

Project Ploughshares was launched in 1976 as a research project on militarism and underdevelopment. Its founders were convinced that further progress in international development would hinge on deep cuts in world arms spending and on a pledge to discourage the spread of militarism in the Third World. Project Ploughshares has thus focused its work on monitoring the activities of the arms sellers and on documenting the social and economic effects of military spending and arms production.

The escalation of the nuclear arms race, with the major powers' growing reliance on nuclear weapons, soon became an additional focus of energy. Research, education and advocacy programmes now include attention to such issues as nuclear modernization plans, the crisis in deterrence and alternatives to Canada's nuclear involvement.

OBJECTIVES

Ploughshares' programmes are guided by a commitment to:

- * **study** the foundations of peace with justice;
- * **analyze** existing defence, industrial and development policies;
- * **propose** alternatives to inadequate existing policies;
- * **advise** churches, development organizations, government and the general public; and
- * **encourage** the nonviolent pursuit of life-affirming objectives.

Ploughshares' current activity is organized into three broad themes:

1. militarism and underdevelopment, including the relationship of justice to peace;
 2. military industry and economic conversion, with a focus on Canada; and
 3. alternatives to militarized security, through arms control, the peaceful settlement of disputes and alternate defence strategies.
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PROGRAMMES

1. RESEARCH

The research and documentation centre in Waterloo contains resources covering a wide range of issues related to militarism and development. An extensive vertical file system includes current background materials on economic, disarmament, military and political issues. Similar files on the rapidly changing military industry in Canada, complement a computerized database that documents the activities of over 2,000 arms contractors.

3. PUBLICATIONS



The Ploughshares Monitor

June 1983
Vol. VI, No. 1

...and they shall have their rewards like ploughshares...

Star Wars Update
Four Critical Points for Canadians to Ponder
by Ernie Riegler

Canada has expressed interest in the "strategic" phase of US President Ronald Reagan's "strategic defense initiative" (SDI) and is considering their participation in that phase. This period of a "strategic defense" involves the ability to destroy incoming strategic and non-strategic missiles. It is a continuation of the development in the space race and the ability and ability to destroy the missile in the atmosphere in order to destroy the missile before it reaches the earth. The SDI program is a major element of the US defense strategy and a major element of the US defense strategy. The SDI program is a major element of the US defense strategy and a major element of the US defense strategy.

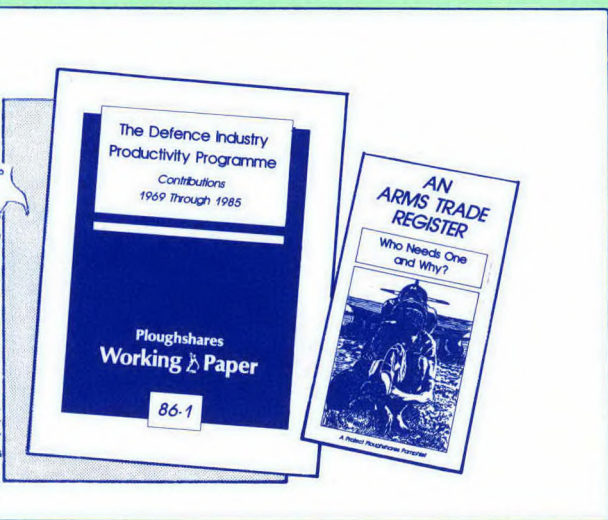
In This Issue...

- 1 Canadian Defense initiative
- 2 Ploughshares on the move
- 3 Two new studies by US
- 4 Canadian military arms update
- 5 SPECIAL: NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION SECTION
- 6 The NPT is in trouble
- 7 Canada's nuclear trade
- 8 Trilateral Canadian reaction for the book

Detailed, accurate information is indispensable to the disarmament movement. For this reason Project Ploughshares has created a wide range of educational materials in a variety of formats and media. The central publication is the quarterly **Ploughshares Monitor**, which covers the entire span of our interests with informative articles on development, defence news, arms contracts and disarmament campaigns. The **Working Paper** series approaches some of these same topics in greater depth,

2. EDUCATION

Ploughshares has developed a prominent profile as a disarmament and development commentator, with staff frequently called upon for speaking engagements and media interviews. The project also organizes workshops to share the results of its research and to improve leadership and organizing skills within the peace movement.



giving authors the opportunity to delve into the intricacies of public policy. Ploughshares also produces a series of concise and easy to read **pamphlets**, each of which surveys a fundamental disarmament issue. The project offers for sale or rent a unique series of video interviews on **alternate security** policies for Canada, as well as **cassettes, tapes** and **films** on other topics. A listing of all these materials is available by mail from our Waterloo office.

4. ADVOCACY

Our Ottawa representative keeps us in close touch with elected and civil service officials in the nation's capital, providing them with useful digests of our research and giving us an up-to-date reading of political developments. Ploughshares representatives regularly testify at Parliamentary hearings and present briefs to government. High-profile campaigns are also organized, some of which call into action our *rapid response network* which unites local Ploughshares groups in phone and mail campaigns aimed at influencing public policy.



5. LOCAL GROUPS

Ploughshares groups have been established in over 45 Canadian centres. These groups initiate local activities, carry out educational events, conduct training workshops, disseminate information and, through delegated board members, help to direct our overall programme. Four regional staff workers coordinate these activities and link them with the national programme.

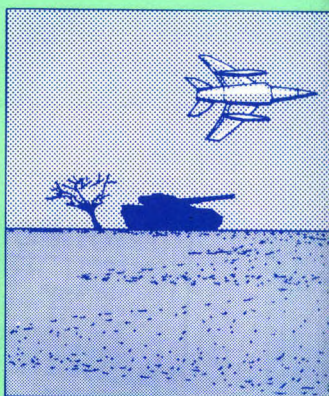
Write to us for a full list of local groups and for information on how you might start a local Ploughshares group.

ASSOCIATES

You are invited to join in our research and educational work by becoming an Associate of Ploughshares. For an annual tax-deductible fee of \$20.00 all Associates receive the *Ploughshares Monitor* four times each year.

For more information contact us at:

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SPONSORS

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