



B8.2.15

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Dear Friend

Koeberg Alert has recently been going through a phase of introspection during which we have had regular meetings at which our reasons for opposition to the nuclear state have come under the spotlight. We have examined our very personal feelings about the issue, moving away from the classical ideological-, economic- and health arguments onto a more individualistic base. This process has by no means reached its conclusion (hopefully it never will), but we are already the richer for the small degree we have moved. Currently we are beginning to situate the state's persuasion of the nuclear option in the context of a state under siege, a state which is developing a siege economy and creating a highly militarised society.

We believe that the nuclear issue plays a very important rôle in the debate, and that therefore anti-nukers may have a contribution to make at least in pointing out the dangers associated with the nuclear option. In the light of this realization an invitation to lead a workshop on South Africa's nuclear capability at the recent End Conscription Campaign's Peace Festival at Wits was readily accepted. Our input was met with a lot of interest, and people seemed to make the connection between the "military" and the "civil" nuclear program very easily.

Perhaps the time has come to take the nuclear debate out of its Cape Town based context into a nation-wide stage. Groups of supporters in Johannesburg, Pietermaritzburg/Durban and Grahamstown/Port Elizabeth have all declared support for such a move, and are gearing themselves towards launching local anti-nuclear organisations. It is likely that a meeting focussing on nuclear power will be held in Pietermaritzburg in the beginning of September and hopefully this meeting will also represent the launch of the local organisation. Similarly timed meetings and launches in the Transvaal and Eastern Cape areas could conceivably make quite an impact. We hope to have a representative from KA present at each of these.

Your name is on our list of supporters whose ideas regarding nuclear power are close to ours, even though you may be far from us in terms of space. In the past we have presumed to speak on behalf of you, without really knowing your opinion or having a mandate from you. We hope that the launching of regional anti-nuclear organisations will lead to a less centralized and more democratic structure within South Africa's anti-nuke community. Furthermore, such local groups should be launched by those who will be working in them. The local contacts who are attempting to organise a meeting and/or launch are:

PMB/DBN : Mark Gandar Tel. 0331-42668 (home)
0331-21345 (work)
JHB : Dave Jooste Tel. 011-837-8809 (home)
GHT/PE : Don Pinnock Tel. 0461-3492 (home)
0461-2023 (work)

Please phone them for particulars and, if you can, to offer some help. We believe that the emergence of an anti-nuclear front is a necessity for progress towards a just and peaceful society.

Best wishes

Thomas Auf der Heyde

THOMAS AUF DER HEYDE
FOR KOEBERG ALERT



Meeting in PMB at 7.30 pm
on Tuesday 10 October Sept
in MSLT Lecture Theatre
of Univ. of Natal - PMB campus

Please make Jhb + PMB ECC branches
aware of this.

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