

Peace movement is now a haven for phonies

by Brian Jones and Sarah Cox, a news feature from *The UBYSSSEY*

VANCOUVER (CUP)—Our portable Sony lies awkwardly on the speaker's table, surrounded by a dozen fancy microphones and wires. The pros thrive on the importance of the occasion, rushing to set up cameras, lights and other electronic gadgetry. We put our knapsacks on the best four seats, right up front.

It's the press conference before the finale of Target Seattle, a Week-long anti-nuclear extravaganza that blitzed Seattle in early October. It's big news and reporters scramble for seats even as seven of the finale's main speakers enter the room, ready to face the press for a question and answer session.

Helen Caldicott, a Harvard medical professor and founder of the anti-nuclear group Physicians for Social Responsibility, sits quietly at the end of the table. She knows that her fame as a leader of the peace movement makes her the main attraction of the week's disarmament activities.

Four of the six other notables are actors: Not 10 feet away from the tips of our pens is Lois Lane, who emotionally says that nukes are a danger to the future. And here are three familiar TV faces, names unknown, saying that the arms race is not a good idea. Three and a half hours on the bus from Vancouver and what does the press conference offer? Hollywood radicalism.

We sit and wait for the well-trained mouths to close so Helen can speak. It is, after all, Caldicott whom we have come to hear.

She speaks, and our pens hover above our notebooks. Students are apathetic, she says. University campuses are no longer active, students are ignorant, young people choose to ignore the potential annihilation of cities, countries, the earth. Students make no contribution to the disarmament movement; it's happening without their help.

Stunned by this insightful knowledge, our pens remain still, our pages blank. They said 30 minutes, and they meant 30 minutes. Run with cold efficiency, the press conference ends exactly at 3:30 p.m. "I see no one is taking notes, so I'll call this briefing to a close," says the chair. We head straight for Caldicott. But she has no time for amateur journalists, and brushes quickly by in search of bigger and better cameras.

Not easily discouraged, we follow her until the commercial biggies have had their fill, and swoop in, identifying

ourselves as Canadian student journalists. Caldicott deems to spend a few moments with us.

Helen, you say students are apathetic—how do we get students to be concerned about the arms race? "Make them want to cry."

But how do we get them involved? "Touch their souls."

How can we get them to act in large enough numbers? "Be motivated, be leaders."

As she left for more television cameras, she turned to us and said "do it, okay?" The press conference was over.

"Kingdome please." The taxi-

Solidarity marching in Montreal

MONTREAL (CUP)—Under the pall of the Polish government's banning of Solidarity, more than 800 demonstrators marched through Montreal streets Oct. 13 to show their support for the threatened Polish movement.

The marchers bore candles, Polish flags, placards of Lech Walesa, and the *solidarnosc* logo. They shouted in French "Solidarity lived and lives" and "Down with the military regime, free the prisoners" as they marched from a downtown park to the Polish and Russian consulates.

Boycott Ron's Big Macs

WINNIPEG (CUP)—The McDonald's hamburger chain has come under fire from the University of Manitoba Students' Union (UMSU) over imported hamburger buns.

A recent decision by the hamburger megacorporation to buy its buns from a U.S. supplier has meant the loss of 60 bakery jobs in Manitoba.

UMSU approved a motion at a recent meeting stating: "UMSU council supports the concept that international corporations doing a

substantial amount of business in this county should be encouraged to purchase supplies from Canadian sources, wherever possible, in order to protect Canadian employment."

But council representative Greg Hawrysh admitted his motion was "a bit gutless," since it does not call for the boycott of McDonald's.

"I believe we should boycott," said Hawrysh. "I don't like being hypocritical."

The crowd consisted of people of all ages, both Poles and other Quebecers were on hand to give their support to Solidarity. The demonstration, organized by the Groupe d'Action *solidarnosc* of the Polish Canadian Congress (PCC), marked the 11th such protest in Montreal since martial law was imposed in Poland Dec. 13, 1981. Since then, demonstrations have been held on the 13th of every month in Montreal and across Canada.

"We can't let the issue die," said organizer Stan Latec.

once again limps into action.

Nukes are bad for your health. They hurt the economy. They can kill your husband, your wife, your children, your dog. They contaminate the air, the water, the earth. Civilization as we know it is threatened. Together we can make the world safe—just convince the governments to stop being greedy and sit down to some friendly negotiating.

We laugh when Caldicott tells the masses that America, the greatest democracy on earth, must lead the world to peace.

After two hours of boredom, we dig into our knapsacks for the large

Soviet and American flags we just happen to have for the occasion, and droop them upside down from the press gallery. Long live advocacy journalism.

Three hours after they opened, the famous mouths are still going strong. The former vice-president of American Telephone and Telegraph asks the crowd to cough up money for the cause. Great—a business person asking for money so we can buy peace.

But we aren't buying. Today's disarmament movement is no longer questioning, no longer challenging, no longer making progress. It won't either, until it regains its grassroots originality, inspiration and focus.

plan on inviting Estonians, Lithuanians and Czechs to our next demonstration. It's all part of the same struggle," said organizer Wojtk Wybranowska.

"The monthly marches will continue to be held until the demands of Solidarity—reinstatement of Solidarity, release of political prisoners, and an end to martial law, are met by the Polish government," said Wybranowska.

"But if something happens earlier we'll have to do something before next month," he added.

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The Clifford Olson case in British Columbia brings into question the usefulness of jail as an effective means of dealing with criminal activity.
Speaker: Bob Wrigley — Chairman of the Board of the John Howard Society.

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