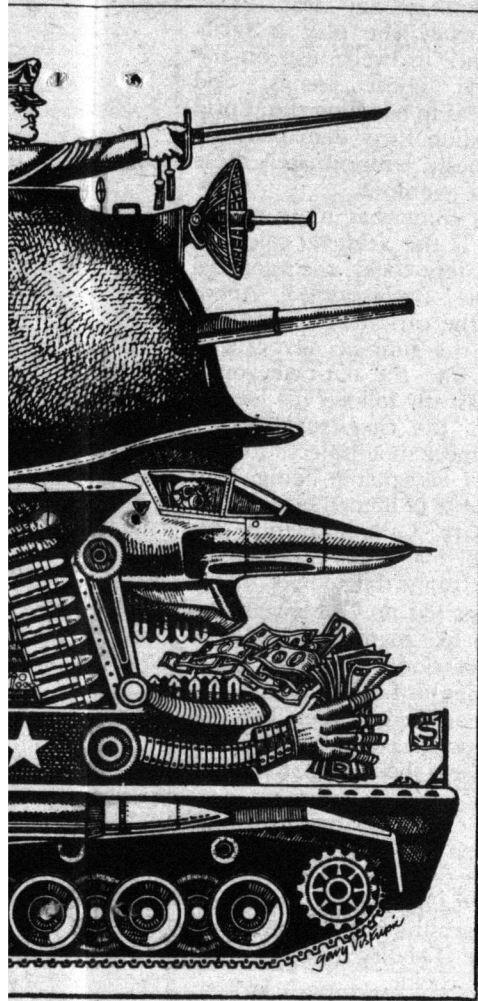


ature

new horizons in horror



argue for the neutron bomb proclaim that the bomb's effects can be limited strictly to military personnel because of its localized blast effects and is therefore more acceptable for use in densely populated areas such as Western Europe. While it is true that physical damage to cities can be reduced, the overall amount of death, disease and genetic danger to future generations per kiloton are actually increased. Strategists who maintain that the neutron bomb is the ultimate defensive weapon with which to wipe out enemy tanks in one's own territory consider the death of their own civilian population and the production of radioactive farmland within their boundaries to be of no real consequence.

To use the bomb in a defensive capacity would be considered by most countries to be suicidal, because it would kill far more defenders than aggressors.

The American electorate's swing to the Republican Party, while more probably due to a perception on the part of the voters that the Democrats are incapable of decisively dealing with that nation's economic woes rather than foreign policy, has nonetheless ushered in an era of foreign and military policy dominated by "peace through military superiority." It appears entirely likely that the Reagan administration will continue, and perhaps even expand on, plans to develop new threats such as the neutron bomb, the cruise missile, the MX missile system, the MK-

12A nuclear warheads and the Trident submarine missile system.

Since the advent of the atomic and hydrogen bombs a school of thought has existed on the premise that these bombs would never be used except in the apocalyptic event of a total worldwide outbreak of war. No person with any common sense would use these weapons, they say, out of fear of a massive retaliatory strike of the same nature, resulting in just as many deaths in your own population as in your enemy.

The neutron bomb, and its more localized nature, however, have lowered the nuclear threshold to the point of making its use thinkable. Atomic war, however, is not like a global chess game in which all the potential players know the rules and will agree to abide by them. There is

"... use of the neutron bomb is superior in that it leaves the factories, businesses and homes of the enemy intact."

absolutely no guarantee of any sort that an effective barrage of neutron warheads will not result in a retaliatory strike using atomic or hydrogen weapons. Perhaps the bottom line on this has been expressed by a scientist at Harvard University when he said that "some military strategists argue

that disciplined personnel (such as those exposed to neutron radiation by not being immediately killed) would resume participation in a battle ... perhaps even more recklessly than others, because they would know that there are the walking dead."

"Atomic war is not like a global chess game in which all the potential players know the rules and will agree to abide by them."

As with the atomic and hydrogen bombs, the whole post-war history of the arms race shows that whenever one world power gains a lead over the other, this advantage is lost again in a comparatively short time. The same will surely happen again with the neutron bomb; the production of this weapon by the U.S. will induce the U.S.S.R. to also develop the bomb out of self-defence. The net result is the re-establishment of the "balance of terror" on a higher plane than before, not to mention the diversion of funds already desperately needed for socially-beneficial programs to wasteful military development. It represents a destabilizing element at a time when the majority of nations in the world are working for disarmament.

The development of the neutron bomb, the Cruise missile,

and other new weapons systems already mentioned seem to indicate the direction the American administration would like to take in its relations with the rest of the world. These new weapons form a grave obstacle to the conclusion of agreements on the limitation of both strategic and tactical nuclear weapons. The main threat lies in

the fact that the limitation of strategic arms decreases in importance if the probability of regionally confined nuclear lightning wars becomes greater and if there is a shift in the borderline between the importance of strategic and tactical weapons. A German professor points out that "what we must do is reduce the level of armaments and tension and make it less probable that any weapon is used. On each of these three counts the neutron bomb achieves the very opposite."

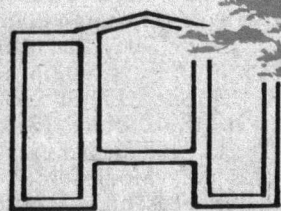
Fortunately, this latest twist to the arms race has provoked protests of outrage in nearly every country of the world. In thousands of communities the world over, organizations have sprung up around labour unions, church groups, student associations, farmer's unions and so on calling for the bomb to be shelved permanently in the interest of world peace.

The campaign against the neutron bomb has developed particular momentum in Europe, where peace forces rightfully see that the bomb, if deployed, will be deployed on their continent first.

Canada's most
UNIQUE
shopping experience



50
shops
&
services
to serve
you.



HUB Mall

89 Avenue & 112 Street

... where it's summer all year 'round'