

Halifax protest marks start of cruise tests



by C. Spurr

The Halifax Committee Against Imperialist War protested the start of cruise missile testing at the U.S. consulate in Halifax on March 6. The relatively large picket of seventeen people held up cards reading "CANADA OUT OF NATO AND NORAD" and "NO TO CRUISE TESTS IN CANADA." Picket signs carried slogans such as "Words of peace cannot hide deeds of war."

A statement circulated by

HCAIW said:

"Trudeau's 'peace initiative' was organised to divert attention from these imperialist war preparations and create the grand illusion that peace can be achieved through negotiations and talks between the two superpowers. But it is not the lack of negotiations which is the cause of the danger of another world war. It is the rivalry for world domination—for markets, raw materials and spheres of influence—which is the source of this danger. Talks and negotiations will not eliminate this rivalry."

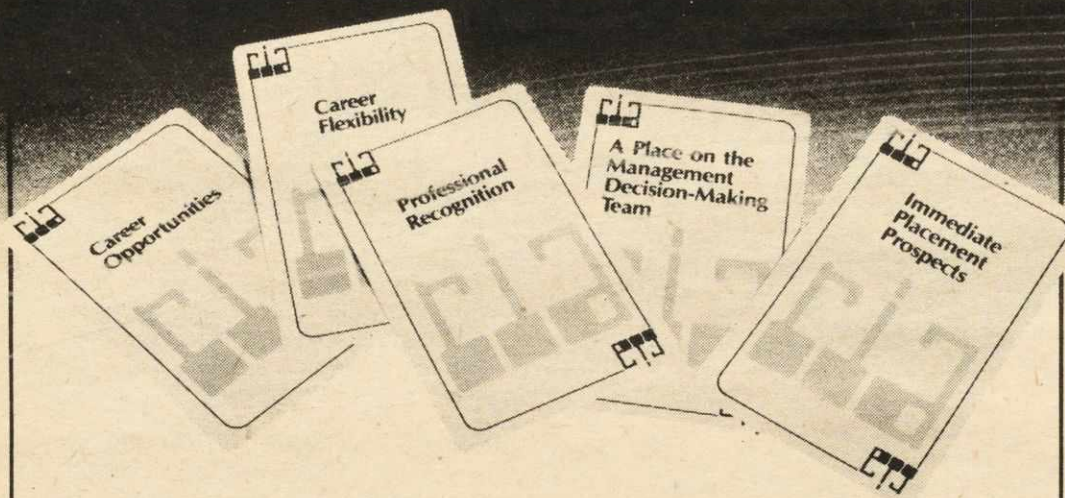
This timely protest was warmly received by passers-by, reflecting the wide-spread opposition to the cruise tests across Canada. One protestor commented,

"That the cruise testing is being carried out in spite of the mass protests last year shows the necessity for Canada's withdrawal from the U.S.-dominated NATO and NORAD."

Trudeau and his peace initiative were protested outside a Liberal rally held at the University of Toronto on March 5. Demonstrators called his effort a phony gesture.

Other peace and anti-war groups hastily organised a march through downtown Halifax to protest the cruise testing on March 10. While the turnout was poor due to inadequate publicity and bad weather, it further demonstrated that the Canadian people "will not be silent."

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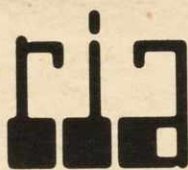
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ing everybody else look like fools on a lark, then the editor should be drawn and quartered.

I don't know who you think you are, editor person, for printing those morbidly unfunny cartoons—like the one showing MacDonald and Machum driving a stake through what appears to be Peter Rans (with a fly trying to nest in his hair) while the devil prods them on with his trident in their backs. I think you're an asshole. You see I believe that two very smart and funny guys, or two right wing guys who dress conservatively would be far more beneficial to Dal than a greaseball in an army outfit. But the point is that whatever I believed, I would make damn good and sure that my personal preferences and those of my staff did not interfere with the responsible reporting expected of my newspaper. And if I couldn't do that

responsibly then I wouldn't bother doing it at all.

The fact is that the Gazette did make some candidates look like "idiotic freaks," and it did make Geoff Martin (who writes important Latin America articles for it) look like Barry F-ing Manilow.

Dal students did not deserve Geoff Martin; they deserved better. And by a miracle they got it. Had the unfortunate occurred, however, I would have held the editor of this paper personally responsible.

The collective opinions of the Gazette staff should not be allowed to so obviously try to persuade the student body to vote, or not vote, for any candidate. In the last editorial in this rag the editor said "Trust us." How can he expect us to trust his paper with that infamous, but easily deportable communist Charles Spurr, on his staff? I would rather be flogged.

Hugh Paton

