

Peace Issues

Be all you can be at university

Unbeknownst to most, the Department of National Defence (DND) has an active role on Dalhousie and other Canadian campuses. Millions of dollars per year are spent on defence research on numerous Canadian university campuses. DND contracts and other funding are awarded for experiments, library material, and even programs at the university level.

The figures presented in the sidebars are only estimates as some military research is subcontracted out to universities by the private sector, which receives its funding from DND contracts. The US Defense Department also funds Canadian university contracts. Since 1982, an average of \$825,000 has been received by Canadian universities for US Defense Department-sponsored unclassified research. The extent of subcontracted military work is not known as neither private firms nor universities are required to reveal figures.

There has been a tremendous increase in Pentagon funding of prime research and development contracts in Canada. Funding increased from \$125,000 (US) in 1981, to almost \$22 million (US) in 1984.

During a period of seven years (1980-87), about three-quarters of DND contracts were awarded to ten Canadian universities. In 1986, DND announced a proposal of a 40% funding increase to Canadian universities for military research for the next five years, plus increases to cover inflation. This goal was achieved within the next two years.

Military Contracts (1980 - 1990) (in dollars)

1	Toronto	13 953 195
2	Queen's	7 639 751
3	York	5 729 018
4	McGill	5 290 497
5	UBC	5 119 535
6	Ottawa	5 102 564
7	Carleton	4 171 181
8	Concordia	3 810 629
9	McMaster	3 518 200
10	Laval	3 345 879
11	TUNS	3 049 498
12	UWO	2 489 125
13	Alberta	2 242 360
14	Waterloo	2 156 258
15	Victoria	2 123 639
16	Manitoba	1 665 659
17	Sherbrooke	1 575 794
18	Dalhousie	1 478 565
19	Windsor	1 212 445
20	Calgary	908 400
21	Memorial	708 393
22	Guelph	571 122
23	Saskatchewan	541 730
24	N. S.	394 811
25	Wilf. Laurier	194 187
26	St. Mary's	134 502
27	Winnipeg	124 000
28	Simon Fraser	116 527
29	Montreal	103 413
30	P. E. I.	91 480
31	Quebec	78 500
32	N. B.	75 290
33	St. Francis X.	11 695

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Military projects include research on HI-16 - which, according to the *Globe and Mail*, was conducted to test the longevity of a new nerve gas antidote, a low angle tracking radar, groundwave radars as remote ocean sensors, the response of fibre-reinforced plastic structures to air blasts, and the effects of nuclear blasts.

A program at the University of New Brunswick, which was originally developed for civilian surveying and navigating, provides a differential positioning program (DIPOP) for the US Defense Mapping Agency. This information is important to US nuclear war fighting strategies.

There is a Centre for Foreign Policy - one of 14 strategic chairs in Canada - on Dalhousie Campus which is integrated with the Department of Political Science. It operates mostly on a DND program which grants funding every three years. Fred Crickard, a research associate at the centre, said that although the centre is not directly controlled by DND, it has to report to it.

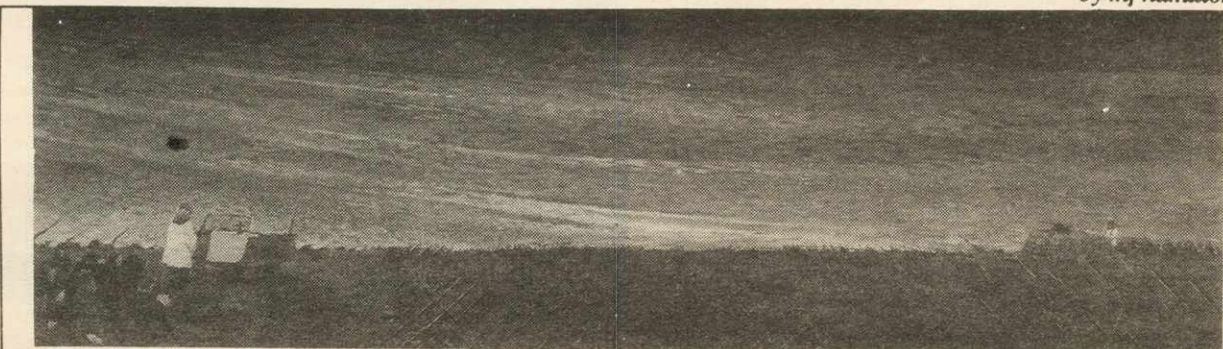
Crickard said that the centre's main focus in the last 3-4 years has been on oceans policy and Maritime security. This includes surveillance, monitoring, and enforcement issues. The centre also conducts research on Maritime oceans and marine policy, holds conferences and seminars, produces publications, and occasionally teaches cognate courses offered in departments such as history and the faculty of law.



Artwork courtesy of Geoff Butler

Dalhousie's Killam Library received part of a \$30,000 grant to update their Strategic Studies Collections. The money was to be used to purchase microform collections of documents and reports on military affairs, arms control, international relations, and diplomatic history.

These contracts and other DND-funded university programs have been seriously questioned. In 1984, the McGill Employees for Nuclear Disarmament (MEND) at McGill University expressed concern about research conducted since 1980 on fuel-air explosives. These are conventional weapons which kill through shockwaves of extreme intensity. Their effect is largely



That age-old rhetorical question will not go away; How can we be at peace with others if we are not at peace with ourselves? I am convinced that peace begins with the individual and radiates outward to our sisters and brothers and, in this way, to society at large. But what is true inner peace? Perhaps you would agree burden of personal insecurity causes our hearts and minds to be preoccupied with "the self". In such a frame of mind, we are concerned primarily with our own insufficiencies, and only marginally with other people's well-being. Indeed, inner peace includes a feeling of self-worth. For the Christian, however, inner peace is not merely this feeling, but the awareness of a fact: Jesus has "made peace through the blood of his cross" (Col. 1:20). Emotionally, the Christian may be anxious about a difficult situation, but intellectually he or she is aware of what God has done for him or her; on the strength of this fact, the Christian's inner tranquility cannot be shaken.

I see this personal peace as fundamental to world peace. Humanity has been waging war from time immemorial. Our advancements over that time only enable us to wage war on a much grander scale than ever before. This suggests to me that the problem of the lack of peace is bigger than humanity can overcome on its own, notwithstanding some magnificent efforts. Although international peace proposals are most certainly not to be sniffed at, they can accomplish only so much because they do not deal with disharmony on a personal, internal level. Again, we cannot be at peace with others if we are not at peace with ourselves.

Jesus, the Prince of Peace, spoke very little on international issues of war and peace. He had no specifically

similar to small nuclear bombs. MEND proposed a screening process which would "weed out" the more undesirable projects rather than ban all military research.

Other groups have gotten involved in the DND contract debate. Canadian academics have signed petitions against working on military contracts, and at least two universities have suggested proposals about military research. The Science for Peace chapter at Waterloo has also proposed that all university research and its funders be publicly disclosed.

Animal rights groups have complained about the types of military research conducted on campuses. LifeForce, a Vancouver-based animal rights group, discovered - through the US Freedom of Information Act - that research conducted on monkeys at the University of Western Ontario for the US Army was applicable to the study of the effects of lasers in battlefield conditions.

The research generated by universities (from monies received for military studies) are given to the Department of Supply and Services, Department of National Defence, the U. S. Air Force, the U. S. Navy, the Defence Research Board, and the Strategic Defense Initiative Office. The details of what is done with this information is unknown.

This lack of available information seems to be the main focus of concerns about military research. The results of military studies and what their intentions are, are dubious. It is not so much what the studies entail (in some cases it is, such as research involving animals and helping develop US nuclear war fighting strategies), but what is being done with the results. One of the main arguments against military research is that while it is conducted under the guise of defence, defence may also include offensive strategies.

Because of the amount of money involved in conducting military research and the ever increasing strangling of university funding, there is a lot of pressure on Canadian universities to accept military funding. In many cases, there may be no other alternative for funding other than the military.

by mj hamilton

political proposal to counter the oppressive Roman Occupation of his land. However the life of Jesus is arguably the most eloquent example of peace known to humanity and, I am convinced, the key to solutions to political and personal unrest. Jesus had an inner peace because he knew his father was with him. For this reason he was able to live at peace with all whom he encountered. The only violence of Jesus' life is that of which he was a victim. He was at peace, but the world was insecure with who he was, and perceived him as a threat. Jesus' response to the world's insecurity was not violence; instead he offered peace and forgiveness: "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do". (Luke 23:34) as the Son of God, he could have crushed them, but he chose, instead, to love them; and this self-sacrificing love is the essence of peace.

Of course, in the 2000 years since Jesus' death, many acts of war and violence have been perpetuated by the Christian church. One needs only to look at the simple life of Christ to realise that this abominable behavior in his name is nothing short of blasphemy. In fact, religious violence in the name of Christ is the work of Satan, and is a crucifixion and mockery of Christ.

I would suggest that real, lasting peace is bigger than anything humanity, without God, can achieve. It is beyond our limited understanding: "And the Peace of God, which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." (Phil. 4:7) Notice that he guards both our hearts, the seat our emotions, as well as our minds, where we can intellectually apprehend the fact of his peace. As such a guard, Jesus is, in U.N. terms, the ultimate peace-keeping force.

~Patricia Foley