

Editorial

Plutonium Into Plowshares

The colored balloons made a charming picture as they drifted across the hot Colorado sky, but they carried a terrifying message: "... if you have found this balloon, you live downwind from the Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Plant, which has... released radioactive materials into the atmosphere several times in the past 20 years—radiation that is spread by the same wind currents that brought this balloon to your area."

The balloons were released in July, 1976 by a group of demonstrators standing on the grounds of the Rocky Flats plant sixteen miles from Denver, Colorado. This spring, on the 29th and 30th of April there will be another larger demonstration at the plant. Times have changed in the last two years. There is a nation-wide wave of concern over nuclear weapons and nuclear energy, and it is expected that the 1978 demonstration will draw students and anti-nuclear activists from across the country.

The Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Plant is known as the "nuclear crossroads" of the nation because it receives plutonium produced by nuclear reactors and turns it into "triggers" (explosive devices) for all U.S. hydrogen bombs. To its critics, it thus provides the perfect example of the dangerous relationship between nuclear energy and nuclear weapons. During the last 20 years, Rocky Flats has been the site of more than 200 fires and other accidents, some of which have released plutonium and other radioactive material into the soil, water and air of the Denver metropolitan area. These accidents have motivated protests by citizens' groups, a law suit by local farmers who seek to stop further contamination of their land, and a formal recommendation from Colorado Governor, Richard Lamm, that the plant be phased out of operation.

The April 29-30 demonstration is being planned by the Rocky Flats Action Group and two national organizations, the Fellowship of Reconciliation and the American Friends Service Committee. It will take place on the first anniversary of the Seabrook anti-nuclear occupation and is endorsed by the Clamshell Alliance. Many of the groups involved in the Rocky Flats action are members of the Mobilization for Survival, a national coalition of peace, social justice and environmental groups, which has been organizing and encouraging similar demonstrations across the country in preparation for the United Nations Special Session on Disarmament, May 23-June 26, in New York City.

On Saturday, May 27, the Mobilization plans a massive international demonstration in Dag Hammarskjold Plaza to support world disarmament. Earlier in the same week, the Fellowship of Reconciliation will open the Plowshare, a discussion center and coffee house, in the Church Center for the United Nations directly across the street from the U.N. Ambassador Andrew Young has accepted an invitation to make the opening address at the Plowshare. During the five-week U.N. session, the Plowshare will provide a meeting place for U.N. delegates and members of the public and a forum for lectures, discussions and workshops on disarmament and related subjects. Throughout the Special Session, the F.O.R. will also sponsor a disarmament vigil which will include music, street theater, disarmament petition signing.

The F.O.R. will be glad to furnish further information on Rocky Flats, the Plowshare, and Mobilization programs. Write to Endangered Human Species Program, Box 271, Nyack, N.Y. 10960.



ARTWORK by Gary Richardson

Road Repairs To Begin Soon

Have you ever felt that you were driving through an obstacle course to test your skill as a driver? Driving down Montreat Road compares to an obstacle course and the goal is to see how many potholes you are able to avoid. The roads in Montreat have had their share of bad weather this year. These roads, just like other roads all over America, are going downhill because of potholes and cracks due to bad weather conditions such as ice, snow, hard rains, and floods.

According to Nobert Tiemann, a Federal Highway Administrator, there is 'an acute need, not only to prevent further deterioration of existing roads and streets, but to substantially improve them for both capacity and safety.'

There was a lot of damage done to roads and streets in Montreat due to the flood this past fall. In November, the town of Montreat decided to apply for Federal Aid to repair roads damaged by the flood. The Town Council asked for approximately \$24,400 in Federal Aid. In an interview with

John Abbernethy, the mayor of Montreat, he said that most of the money has been received and the repairs will probably be completed by summer. The repairs will probably be started in early April or as soon as the ground thaws. Pete Post will be supervising the repairs. Some of the repairs will include fixing potholes and cracks, as well as replacing culverts.

If all goes well, Montreat Road will no longer be thought of as an obstacle course full of potholes and cracks, but as a good secondary road after repairs are completed.

Doris Cooper

Music Please...

by Doris Cooper

Will, who is a freshman and lives on first floor Davis, cannot ever seem to get anything on his radio except constant static. The poor fellow even has to wake up to the sound of static because he is unfortunate enough to have an alarm that wakes one up to the sound of music rather than just ringing. If one had this kind of alarm anywhere else besides Montreat, then they would not be unfortunate. Seeing as how Montreat is surrounded by mountains on every side, it is almost impossible to get any music on the radio, so others are in the same boat as Will.

There is an optimistic side to Will's predicament. He has a friend, Mike, who lives on third floor Davis and is high enough up that amazing as it may seem can tune into some music on his radio. So, Will goes up to Mike's room when he is in dire need of some music and dire need it must be because the radio stations that Mike gets are a little bit to be desired. The reason for this is because Mike's radio is AM only and the type of radio station, on AM in the vicinity of the metropolises of Montreat and Black Mountain are mostly country western, "fire and brimstone preacher"; or "static rock".

Mike is always fortunate enough to get the radio station of Black Mountain loud and clear. The Black Mountain radio station sounds something like this, "Why howdy folks, here's a little Loretta Lynn for you C.B.ers and country western fans out here and stay tuned for some

Charlie Pride." Then there are some other stations which Mike gets, but he does not know the names of the stations because he does not listen to them long enough. They sound like this, "You'd better accept Jesus Christ right now because if you don't, the devil's gonna come drag you down to hell by your shirt collar and throw you into those eternal fires forever." The other type of radio station Mike gets is what one might call "static rock". It would be great rock music if only it would come in clearer, but the static overpowers it and every once in a while a C.B.er cuts in somehow or other and carries on a conversation with his "good buddy west-bound on 40."

After going through a series of stations like this, Will and Mike both give up the fight to get a good rock station on AM. That is when they come to the conclusion of going down the hall to Scott's room to see if by some humongous chance they might get something on FM. Now every so often, in good weather, on a clear night, with a good radio like Panasonic, Sound Design, or Sony; one is lucky enough to tune into the rock stations of Charlotte, Greensboro, or Nashville.

It is obvious that there are those in Montreat who have good AM-FM radios who are envied by others who are not so fortunate. The only solution for those who envy students with good AM-FM radios is to get a good AM-FM radio made by Panasonic, Sound Design, or Sony; or else take their own radio (if they have one) to the top of Lookout every time they want to listen to some good rock music.

SUMMER JOBS: FREE Fifty State Summer Employer Directory. Send a stamped, self-addressed, business size envelope to: SUMCHOICE, Box 530-S, State College, Pa. 16801.

Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor:

Montreat-Anderson has set down certain rules and regulations like other colleges. But I have found out that these rules are bent to meet the needs of "certain people". This person has been absent for over two weeks. Yet the person will be allowed to continue classes when they come back. This individual hasn't even made up last semester much less continue this one. Why is one given such personal attention? Even though this person is sick, they are more or less having classes handed to them on a silver platter and this is not fair to the other students on campus.

The handbook (p. 30) says, "In no case shall a student have more than 20 percent absences in any class." As far as I'm concerned this rule has been "stretched" to meet this person's need. If rules are going to be misused then we shouldn't even have any.

Name withheld

Dear Editor,

One thing that has been absent from the college community this year at Montreat has been the presence of a Student Center. Many students have voiced this need. A need for a place

for students to gather for meetings, parties, or just to talk. The Student Government Association and the Student Christian Association in reaction to this need sought the administration's help and acquired a college owned house to use as a temporary student center. Part of the agreement was that the college would provide the material and the students would fix it up. The house is the one with the large porch next door to MA Hall on the right side, it is called Crosby Adams House. We have decided that for right now we will renovate the front two rooms and the front porch. To do this renovation we need your help. The main jobs that need to be done and the people in charge of them are Bruce Powl--raising the ceiling, Roger Cardinal--painting, Genise Gruner--curtains, John Baker--furniture, Rex Hoffmon--carpet.

We hope to have the renovation done by the beginning of April. If you or your organization can help see these people or me. This is one way we can express our need for a student center and/or willingness to help in getting one.

Thank you,
Rex Hoffman

Policy For Letters To The Editor

1. Maximum of 150 words.
2. No obscene language.
3. Letters must be signed, but signature will be withheld upon request.
4. Letters are subject to editing.

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