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League of Women Voters of the Huntington Area

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action packed POLITICS

Huntington Area League of Women Voters

** BULLETIN **

Special Edition on National Security

October 5, 1983

C A L E N D A R

OCTOBER

11 at 9:30 am
Tuesday

UNIT MEETING: National Security Consensus
Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church, Green Oak &
Norway Ave. Babysitting Provided.

12 at 7:00 pm
Wednesday

UNIT MEETING: National Security Consensus (same as
Mtg. on the 11th), Cabell Co. Public Library, 5th
Ave. & 9th St. Plaza.

25 at 8:00 pm
Tuesday

Taping of "Providing for the Common Defense" at
WPBY Studios, Smith Hall, Marshall Univ. All members
are invited to be in the studio audience!

29 at 7:00 pm
Saturday

Broadcast of "Providing for the Common Defense"
on WPBY-TV, Channel 33. Don't forget to tune in!

NOVEMBER

2 at 7:30 pm
Wednesday

BOARD MEETING - Place TBA.

16 at 7:30 pm
Wednesday

PROGRAM: The Status of Public Education in our
Community, State, and Nation. Panel Discussion
at Cabell Co. Vocational-Technical Center. More in
next bulletin.

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The Quest for Arms Control: Why and How

Those of you who attended our Annual Meeting in March, 1983 and our National Security Units in May will recall lively discussions on U.S. defense policy, military spending, and national and global priorities for security. Consensus for Phase I of the League's National Security Study is now upon us and will be conducted at our October Unit Meetings. Prepare yourself by reading "The Quest for Arms Control: Why and How" and "Providing for the Common Defense: A Military Policy Reader". Both publications are available from Margaret Gerke, 529-4345. You will also want to read recent national VOTERS and keep up with newspapers, periodicals and television, doing a little research on your own. The Arms Control Consensus addresses the following questions:

What level of importance should the U.S. government give to each listed objective of arms control negotiations (e.g., limit quantity, prohibit possession, prohibit first use) to reduce the risk of war?

Which type(s) of negotiations or initiatives (multilateral, bilateral and/or unilateral) are most appropriate for achieving each objective?

What criteria should be used to evaluate arms control proposals, negotiations, and agreements - equity, verifiability, linkage, continuity?

+++++

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Update on arms control

The United States and the Soviet Union continue to negotiate on several sets of arms control proposals but with little real progress so far.

START In the *Strategic Arms Reduction Talks* the United States proposed earlier this summer to increase the number of land-based missiles (ICBMs) allowed each side from 850 to about 1,200, more closely matching the level proposed by the Soviets. (The Soviet Union has proposed a limit of 1,800 on missiles and bombers for each side, of which 1,450 could be ICBMs.) The United States continues to insist on overall warhead limits of 5,000, and the Soviets have indicated a willingness to consider such limits.

There appears to be no hope of agreement on the big, Soviet land-based missiles. Of the 5,000-warhead limit proposed by the United States, only half could be on ICBMs. And the United States also insists that the Soviet Union reduce the number of its big ICBMs (SS-17s, SS-18s and SS-19s) to 210. The Soviets are opposed to the U.S. proposals because they would reduce the Soviet advantage in land-based missiles while preserving the U.S. advantage in submarines and bombers.

The latest U.S. START offer is a response to congressional demands for more U.S. flexibility (in return for congressional support of the MX missile) and to the Scowcroft Commission's recommendation that the United States develop a less threatening, single-warhead missile. While the new, higher limit of 1,200 missiles proposed by the United States is needed to accommodate the single-warhead missile, critics suggest that a strong motivation also is the desire to retain more Minuteman III missiles, which the Administration feels are necessary to make up for the scaling back of plans for the MX.

The United States also is drawing up stringent new verification provisions—including on-site inspection—to attach to any new arms control agreement that may be reached.

INF The news from the *Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces* talks is no more encouraging. The latest Soviet proposal would reduce the number of Soviet SS-20 missiles in Europe to 162 (the number of British and French missiles) if the United States agrees to cancel deployment of the Pershing II and cruise missiles. The United States has rejected this proposal as unacceptable because it would leave the Soviet Union with 486 warheads on 162 land-based missiles in Europe as compared to none (in Europe) for the United States. In addition, the United States and its allies believe that British and French missiles, which are sovereign forces not necessarily committed to the defense of NATO, should not be counted in the INF negotiations.

The latest U.S. proposal is for an interim agreement in which the United States would substantially reduce Pershing II and cruise missile deployment if the Soviet Union would reduce the number of warheads on longer-range missiles (SS-4s, SS-5s, and SS-20s) to an equal level on a global basis (i.e., missiles in both Europe and Asia). The Soviet Union has reacted negatively to this idea because it does not account for British and French forces and does not count American aircraft in Europe and on aircraft carriers that are capable of carrying nuclear weapons. Meanwhile, public pressure in Europe against forthcoming U.S. missile deployments continues to grow, and massive public protests are planned for Europe, the United States and Canada to coincide with deployment in the fall and winter.

LWVUS September 1983 *Prospectus* 3, International Relations

What every member needs to plunge into the second phase of the LWVUS National Security study:

Dollars for Defense: Translating Military Purposes into Spending Choices (#534, \$1.25; 75¢ for members) supplements earlier National Security study publications with a more detailed look at U.S. military policy objectives and defense spending issues. Particularly emphasized are the budgetary implications of military missions and proposed weapons systems. A perfect piece for every-member reading.

WANTED: Studio Audience for "Providing for the Common Defense"

At WPBY-TV studios, Smith Hall Communications Center on 3rd Ave. at Marshall Univ., you will be able to participate in a League-sponsored, local PBS production. You will be on hand to ask questions of panelists, including Dr. Robert Maddox and League members Dr. Clair Matz and Isabel Paul. Taping is at 8:00 pm, Tuesday October 25.* The show will be broadcast Saturday October 29 at 7:00 pm on Channel 33. Plan to be there! For more information, contact Nancy Taylor, 522-3361 or Isabel Paul, 736-8427. Don't miss this fascinating and timely program.

*But plan to be there by 7:30pm.

**Take action.
Join the League of Women Voters.
Today.**

Publications are available from Margaret Gerke, 1805 Wiltshire Blvd., Huntington 25701, 529-4345.

Arms Control - Any unilateral action or multilateral plan resting upon explicit or implicit international agreement, which limits or regulates any aspect of the following: The production, numbers, type, configuration and performance characteristics of weapon systems, and the numerical strength, organization, equipment and deployment of the armed forces retained by the parties.

Continuity - A treaty has continuity if it continues the progress or builds on previous agreements.

Deterrence - The dissuasion of a potential adversary from initiating an attack or conflict, often by the threat of unacceptable retaliatory damage. This has been the traditional basis of U.S. military policy.

Equity - The terms of an agreement are mutually beneficial; i.e. no party is vulnerable.

Linkage - The "carrot and stick" approach to international relations: an attempt to tie progress in arms control to progress in other political issues, e.g., human rights.

MAD - Mutual Assured Destruction - a policy in which each nation would be capable of inflicting devastating damage on the other's population after surviving a nuclear attack.

MIRV - Multiple Independently-Targetable Re-entry Vehicle - a missile containing multiple warheads, each capable of being aimed at a different target.

Nuclear Triad - The deployment of nuclear weapons on land (silos), sea (submarines), and air (bombers).

Parity - A level of forces in which opposing nations possess approximately equal capabilities.

Preemptive First Strike - An initial attack with nuclear weapons by a nation which presumes ~~that the adversary is about to attack.~~

Proliferation - The spread of weapons, usually nuclear. "Horizontal" proliferation refers to the acquisition of nuclear weapons by nations not previously possessing them. "Vertical" proliferation refers to increases in the nuclear arsenals of those nations already possessing them. "Geographical" proliferation refers to specific zones currently free of nuclear weapons, e.g., Latin America, outer space.

Tactical Weapons - Short-range weapons intended for use in battlefield operations (e.g., tanks, artillery).

Theater Weapons - Medium range weapons intended for use in a particular geographical region, such as Europe or the Pacific (e.g., SS20's, Pershing II).

Strategic Weapons - Long-range weapons capable of traveling from one continent to another, and capable of directly affecting another nation's war-fighting ability (e.g., ICBM's).

- Glossary from the LWV of Wood Co., WV

**October is United Nations
month**

UPCOMING EVENTS - 1983-1984 HUNTINGTON AREA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS - check your monthly Bulletin for exact dates and times.

<p>OCTOBER 1983</p> <p>4 Board Mtg. 7:30pm 5 Bulletin 11-12 Nat'l. Sec. Units 25 WPBY Taping 29 WPBY Broadcast, "Common Defense" 7:00pm FINANCE DRIVE BEGINS THIS MONTH!!!!</p>	<p>NOVEMBER 1983</p> <p>2 Board Mtg. 7:30 pm 16 Education Program, Vo-Tech. Ctr. 7:30 pm</p>	<p>DECEMBER 1983</p> <p>5 LWVW State Bd. Mtg. 8 Board Mtg. 7:30pm 11 Afternoon with the Legislators 3:00pm</p>	<p>JANUARY 1984</p> <p>9 Board Mtg. 7:30 pm 11 WV Legis. convenes. 17-18 Units: Excise Taxes in WV</p>
<p>FEBRUARY 1984</p> <p>7 Board Mtg. 7:30pm 8-9 LWVW Days at the Legislature 14 64th Birthday LWVUS 21-22 Units: Nat'l. Security, Phase II</p>	<p>MARCH 1984</p> <p>8 Board Mtg. 7:30pm 10 Last Day, WV Legis. 12-13 LWVW State Bd. Mtg. 17 Annual Meeting - Topic: City Manager Gov't.</p>	<p>APRIL 1984</p> <p>4 Board Mtg. 7:30pm Voters Service Training and Registration Programs 10-11 Units: Local Tax Structures Publish Recreation Information</p>	<p>MAY 1984</p> <p>7 Board Mtg. 7:30 pm 12-17 LWVUS Convention 22-23 Units: Block Grants</p>
<p>JUNE 1984</p> <p>1-2 LWVW State Council 5 Election 6 Board Mtg. 7:30 pm</p>	<p>JULY 1984</p> <p>AUGUST 1984</p> <p>VOTERS SERVICE ACTIVITY IN PREPARATION FOR 1984 ELECTION</p>		

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**Security Through
Arms Control?**

SPECIAL BULLETIN ISSUE ON NATIONAL SECURITY