

MISSILE ENVY - Dr. Helen Caldicott
The Arms Race & Nuclear War

U.S. Cruise Missiles are small, unverifiable, 100% accurate. They fly below radar, are undetectable. 50% of U.S. missiles in noiseless submarines - invulnerable. Soviet subs noisy - detectable. U.S., losing 90% of its missiles, could yet destroy all Russia. Radioactive fallout, from nuclear war, would kill all human life within months. 80% of U.S. would be consumed by fire. Resulting nuclear winter would destroy most biological systems - starvation. Sanitation, drugs, medical care would be destroyed. Fleas, lice, cockroaches and rats would feed on the dead, proliferating plagues, an unbearable stench. "...the living will envy the dead." Enlargement of our neocolonial empire is the purpose behind our paranoia buildup against the Soviets. Of 19 atomic weapon developments, U.S. initiated 17. NATO preceded the Warsaw Pact. Jerome Wiesner, president emeritus of MIT: "For years, America has been holding an arms race with itself." Soviet-American military expenditures equal. NATO outspends Warsaw Pact five to one. U.S. "authority" estimated "acceptable" Soviet losses in a nuclear war at 20 million, by theoretically spacing its population equidistant from each other over the entire country, located in a hole in the ground, covered with two doors and three feet of dirt; our estimated recovery from a nuclear war in about four years - the basis of our arms program.

"In July, 1980, the Russians agreed to on-site inspection during negotiations on the complete test-ban treaty." Superpowers agree that there is present strategic equality. "Peace Through Strength" coalition (42 congressmen belong). They produced frightening films of Soviet military strength, full of lies and half-truths, one viewed on TV by 50 million. No proven substantial violations of 16 nuclear weapons treaties, but propaganda persuades many that Russians can't be trusted, and are ahead of us. U.S. has supplied weapons to 130 of our 161 nations. The Soviets have significant influence in 19. Monroe Doctrine proclaimed U.S. exclusive right to exploit Latin America. We have 150 military bases and training schools there, and send in mobile units and advisers. Self-determination efforts are labeled "communist." Over 200,000 Latin American personnel have been trained in the U.S., and 35,000 officers in the School for the Americas alone - known as the "school of coups." CIA involvement in subversions of governments and political murder attempts may run into the thousands. In Brazil, it bribes journalists, politicians, conspires with the military, infiltrates and subverts the labor movement, and engages in propaganda campaigns. Military and economy strongly Americanized.

U.S. National Security Agency employs 40,000 military and 50,000 civilian personnel, and deploys enormous electronic gadgetry to monitor global communications, especially any opposing activity. Since 1976, 15 to 20,000 Argentine citizens disappeared. A civilian president replaced the military in 1983. The U.S. forced out and killed the liberal President Allende, of Chile. Tens of thousands were tortured and killed, using CIA techniques taught in Panama. An American-appointed dictator now rules. The country's wealth is in the hands of a few. A million - 10% - have fled. Many large American corporations benefit. (Under Batista, Cubans had a saying, that all they owned was their flag and national anthem) Castro greatly improved the economy, cured its many diseases, and made the country literate. U.S. refusal to trade with Cuba, or permit any ship that did to enter the U.S. ports, made it uneconomic for many others to trade there, forcing it into the Soviet orbit. El Salvador's common lands were expropriated, with great slaughter, under U.S. and European pressure, so that coffee exports could be increased to 95.5% of the total. When the market collapsed, leaving peasants no income, a rebellion was suppressed by killing 30,000. Six families own as much land as 80% of the rural population. 167,000 rural families are landless. Infant mortality 60%. Caloric intake lowest in Latin America - 40% below minimum. 90% earn less than \$100 a year. 40,000 murdered since 1979. Refugees, 800,000 - 20% of population. Doctors, nurses, patients, students shot; university equipment, records destroyed. A third of physicians left country. Arbitrary detention, tortured confessions. Most prisoners executed. No legal safeguards. \$100 million investment our excuse for calling rebellion "communist." U.S. trains its military and police, multiplying by many times its former weapons aid. United Fruit owned enormous acreage, railroads and a port, in Central America, Jamaica and the Dominican Republic, with tax exemptions, and tie-ins with landlords and the

military, paying minimal wages; its produce going to the U.S.; A reform president, in 1954, expropriated unused land, offering compensation; and unions improved wages and working conditions in Guatemala. U.S. officials and media claimed communist interference, and a CIA coup restored a dictator, with great slaughter, political arrests, abolition of trade unions and political parties. 80,000 civilians murdered since 1954, with much torture. Country described as a "charnel house." Reagan: "a bum rap." 50 to 80,000 fled the country in 1982 alone. (Economic and civil justice, not immigration laws, are needed).

The U.S. has exploited Nicaragua since the 1950s, until 1979, when, suffering great slaughter, a new government arose, achieved food self sufficiency, health care, literacy, land distribution. Our former puppet took most of the country's money. U.S. now trying to restore control, through attacks from Honduras. United Nations address: 784 hostile acts by U.S., against Latin America, since Monroe Doctrine. Hundreds of thousands of Cambodians killed by our bombings, destroying irrigation system and most of rice-growing area. More killed by later leader - 3 million altogether - until Vietnam intervened. U.S. - leaning coups in Afghanistan led to Soviet intervention, to protect its southern border. The U.S., Japan, South Korea and China plan to tie down the Soviet Pacific fleet, and 50 army divisions along the Sino-Soviet border, in case of war. The Soviets say that a limited war - conventional or nuclear - with the U.S. would lead to global war. Two-thirds of world children are malnourished, starving. 52 governments in developing countries are military; 49 practice torture. U.S. gives military support to 27. All nations sell arms to repressive regimes. During the sixties, military and civilian war deaths were equal; since then, 3 civilians per soldier. 65 major wars since 1960, in 49 countries, comprising two-thirds of the world population and 40% of its land area. More than 10,700,000 dead. 54 nations produce plutonium - nuclear weapons fuel.

U.S. superior or equal to Soviets in 19 of 20 basic technologies, influencing balance of power in next 10 to 20 years. U.S. quality superior or equal to that of Soviet weapons in 27 of 32 currently deployed systems. Half of U.S. conventional forces designed for Third World control - useless against Soviets. U.S. has 359 large military installations, in 21 countries and 8 U.S. territories; hundreds of smaller ones in many other countries. In the Philippines, an air force base controls western Pacific military air traffic, is a nuclear submarine facility, and is useful for Indian Ocean and Middle East action. Together with a ship repair facility, they cover 192,000 acres of arable land, badly needed by malnourished natives, subject to worst human rights violations. 15,000 native prostitutes serve our military. We exploded 66 bombs over the Marshall Islands, blowing up 6, others becoming uninhabitable. All U.S. long range intercontinental ballistic missiles were tested on the Kwajalein Island group. Once self-sufficient, U.S. now provides 90% of their needs. Micronesia and Palau are also menaced by our nuclear plans. Displaced populations and limited access to their lands work frightful hardships upon all these peoples.

Satellites can monitor all radio, telephone and other world communications, invading privacy of individuals and governments. The military and civilian control chain is subject to a variety of breakdowns. Together with numerous false nuclear alerts and mechanical failures, serious and uncorrectable misunderstandings and accidents are probable. NSA has 75,000 files on all who question U.S. policy as well as on security threats. No legal limits. We have 2,000 intercept stations around the world. The CIA arranged for the overthrow of Australia's prime minister. The U.S. has threatened use of nuclear weapons 9 times, all but one against the helpless. (The U.S. and Soviets are very careful not to let client states go so far as to threaten a major war. No one would profit by a destroyed country, even if it did not lead to a destroyed world, as it would. Profits must be our motive in nuclear arms buildup. Military purchases are so widely distributed that many states would protest against loss of such business. The solution is simple justice - an end to colonialism, monopolies of all kinds; grass roots ombudsmen supervision of government; representative mediation of domestic and international disputes, to replace adversary law and war; money restitution, to replace penology, not to exceed reasonable ability to pay; and full ground assessment, worldwide, to create nominally priced sites, and thus assure surplus jobs, a choice of ethical work.)