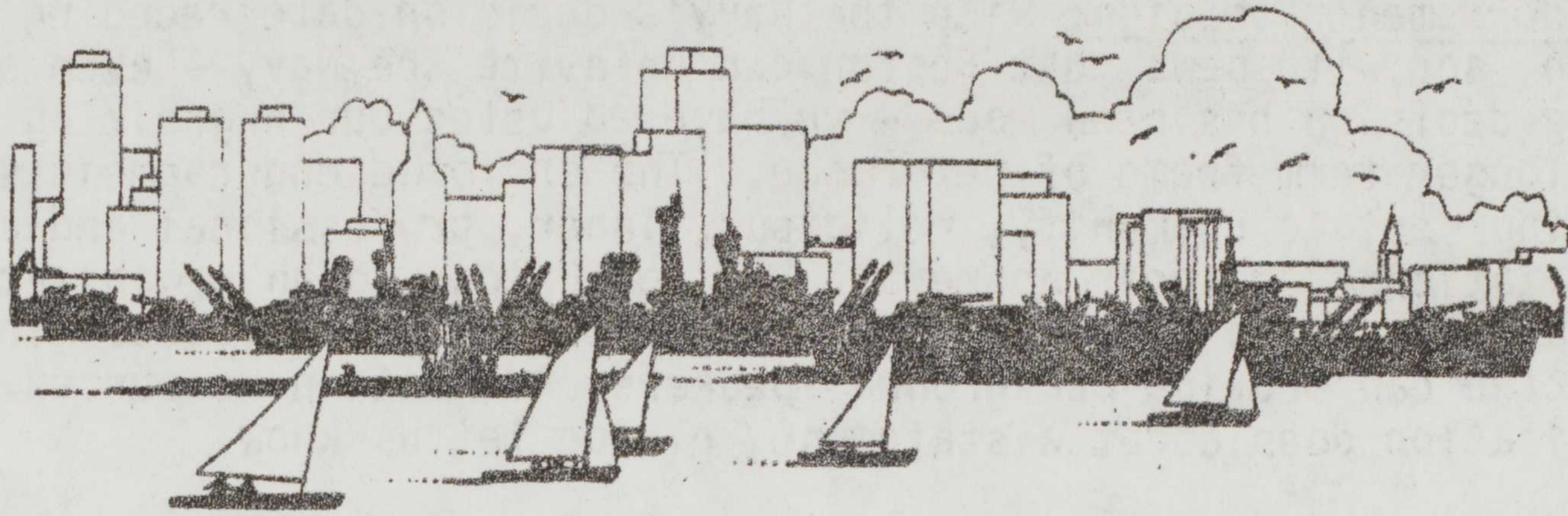


AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR A SAFE BOSTON HARBOR

c/o 2161 Mass Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02140 • 661-6130



July 18, 1983

Dear Friends & Supporters,

Popular opposition to the possibility of the Navy basing the Iowa Battleship Task Force and its sea-launch cruise missiles in Boston is building across the state, as it is in Rhode Island and New York. We are writing to bring you up to date on what has been happening and to let you know what you can do to oppose this escalation of the arms race which so affects our community.

1. Momentum: We have momentum. The June 25 teach-in was a major success. The speakers were excellent, as was the press coverage. Many who participated in the teach-in have since given their time to stop the Iowa Task Force. The fact that we are asking the right questions and making an impact was reflected in the July 6 & 7 editions of the Herald American. The Herald led with one of its infamous headlines and editorialized that readers should write Senator Kennedy telling him of their support for Boston's homeporting proposal.

The Herald's attack on us increased our visibility, and it won us interviews with local and national media. We need your support to continue the momentum.

2. New Information: The news is mixed. The good news is that the Navy will probably not decide between Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New York - or decide to drop its Northeast basing proposal - until sometime in August or this fall. This leaves us more time to organize. The bad news is that in recent hearings before the House Committee on Appropriations Secretary of the Navy Lehman testified that battleships may each carry "as many as 360" sea-launch cruise missiles. This figure, plus the probability that the three destroyers and the cruiser of the Iowa Task Force will be carrying SLCM's means that Boston may soon be host to 500 sea-launch cruise missiles with a destructive capacity equal to 33 MX missiles.

3. Write those letters: We do take the Herald American's attack seriously. With the backers of the Iowa Task Force on the defensive, they are mobilizing what support they can. We must continue to do the same. If you have not already written to Governor Dukakis, Senator Kennedy, your Congressional representative and your local newspaper, please do so. Phone numbers are included with the addresses listed below, should you rather phone.

4. July 28 Cruise to Stop the Cruise: On Thursday, July 28 at 7:30 the cruise boat Commonwealth will leave Long Wharf on a benefit cruise for the Disarmament Action Network and the Ad Hoc Committee for a Safe Boston Harbor. There will be dancing, chamber & folk music and a chance to learn more about the Navy's plans for Boston Harbor. For more information, phone the Ad Hoc Committee.