



23 DARTMOUTH STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116
(617) 262-2940

Peace Camp

The Peace Camp is a nonviolent witness mourning the deaths of those who died at Hiroshima and Nagasaki 42 years ago, asking forgiveness for having been the first and only nation to use an atomic bomb on human beings, and celebrating life by beginning to build the peaceable kingdom for the three days from August 6 until August 8, 1987.

The Peace Camp is sponsored by Ailanthus: a nonviolent witness for peace, a community which for over 8 years now, has been vigiling, getting arrested for nonviolent civil disobedience and serving time in prison. We are a spiritually based community who have chosen Draper because the first-strike weapons they develop there (Cruise, MX, and Trident II missiles) have set nuclear armageddon on a hairtrigger and because deep inside everyone knows that to threaten to annihilate the planet in the name of national self-interest or security is a crime against humanity and a blasphemy against God.

We chose Draper Weapons Laboratory because while the U.S. is proposing to spend close to \$300 billion on armaments, 42,000 children in Third World countries die every day from lack of food. We go to Draper to witness that there is another, nonviolent way to solve the world's problems; and that peace is indeed possible if we are willing to entrust our security to God's reconciling power, instead of to the weapons that enslave us.

We do not go to Draper to point a finger at the Bombmakers. We are all complicit in the arms race by paying taxes or by our self-aggrandizing life styles that require our nation to exploit have-not nations in order to underwrite our unheard-of affluence. We have made America an empire that needs the Bomb to enforce its dominance in the world. So we go to Draper in a spirit of humility, reconciliation and hope. We see ourselves (all of us) as victims of a violent, repressive society - so that if the witness succeeds, it succeeds in liberating all of us together.

