lives, if need be, to help prevent the nuclear destruction of all the world's lives.

Third, in upholding the laws of God, which forbid killing and enjoin all to love of enemy, those involved in direct disarmament actions have inevitably violated the immoral laws of society, which protect nuclear weapons and legalize preparations for nuclear war. The criminal charges brought against them often have included "trespass" and destruction of property." But the truly criminal parties, guilty of trespass and destruction of property (and life) are actually the governments and the corporations contracting with the governments to design and produce nuclear weapons. The use of any place on God's earth for the making and storing of bombs intended for killing people is trespass against humanity and against God. The misuse of physical and intellectual resources to build bombs instead of, and at the expense of, solving critical human problems is a fundamental cause of poverty and death in our world today. Those who enter into the sacrosanct bomb factories and hammer on bombs are not destroying legitimate "property," for nuclear weapons have no right to existence or to ownership; they are, intrinsically, "anti-property" designed solely to destroy not only rightful property but also precious lives on a mass, indiscriminate scale.

Fourth, these actions have all been non-violent, and participants have all held non-violence to be at the heart of the truth acted out. Hammering on nuclear weapons is, as explained above, the very antithesis of violence. Extreme care has been taken to insure that the group would endanger or harm no one at the site; hammers have been laid down and hands raised in a vulnerable, non-threatening position upon being sighted by facility personnel. And participants have, insofar as humanly possible, made a sacred commitment to non-violence even in the possible case of others doing violence to a member or members of the group. Guards in many nuclear weapons plants are armed, and each person in a disarmament group must be prepared to face his or her own possible death, or that of another member of the group. Many precautions have been taken to insure that the groups' intent is clearly non-violent, thus protecting the safey of all who become involved.

Fifth, the actions have not only "beaten swords" but have begun the process of converting "swords into plowshares." Even as the weapons are rendered harmless, the very act of taking responsibility for disarmament into one's own hands is liberating and empowering for the actor and for all others who seek and recognize truth. From these eleven small communities of faithful people have sprung larger communties of faith, and renewed hope that something can indeed be done about even an evil as vast as the nuclear arms race. The hand of God is recognized in the safety, the success, and the true spirit of love which have characterized the actions and their members' witnesses in the ensuing court and prison experiences. The groups' commitment and willingness to risk have moved many others to study, prayer, and a deeper commitment to act to help end the reign of the nuclear arms race over our planet and our lives.

The eleven Plowshares/direct disarmament actions are considered by the participants to be part of the non-violent tradition established by Jesus Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Jr., Dorothy Day, and countless other less well-known people of faith. Those involved also take seriously their responsibility as world citizens and most recognize in international treaties (which by Article VI of the U.S. Constitution are the supreme law of the land) the mandate to take personal responsibility to act to prevent war crimes before they can occur. Still, it is only with the power of God's Spirit that they have found the inner resources to commit "what in law is a deliberate crime, and what appears to us to be the highest duty of a citizen" (M.L.King, Jr.). May faith, hope, and love make each of us restless within until we, too, have answered God's call to do whatever is our part of the urgently necessary works of actual nuclear disarmament.

(reprinted from Resistance News)

SILO PRUNING HOOKS TRIAL

On February 19, Carl and Paul Kabat, Larry Cloud Morgan and Helen Woodson go on trial in Kansas City, Missouri for disarming a Minuteman missile silo on Nov. 12. We extend our love and solidarity at this time. For info- Gaudete Ctr. 634 Spruce St., Madison, Wisconsin 53715.

THANK-YOU's TO AMOS HOUSE

The Amos House Soup Kitchen and Shelter on Friendship St. in Providence has been invaluable in their generosity and loving support. We offer our thanks and community as we work together for a disarmed world with peace and justice.