AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR A SAFE BOSTON HARBOR

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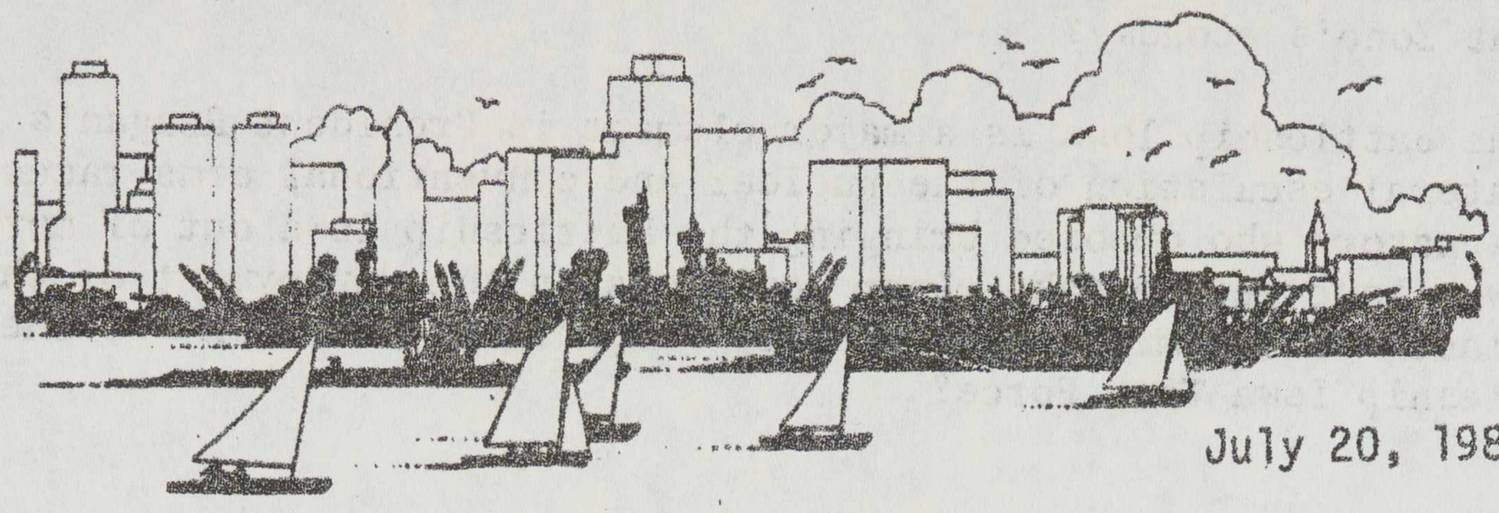

July 20, 1983

ELEVEN UNANSWERED QUESTIONS

1. Why have no supporters of the Boston Homeporting proposal for the Battleship Iowa Task Force informed the public that the Secretary of the Navy has testified the Battleship Iowa may carry "as many as 360" sea-launch cruise missiles?

2. Why haven't backers of the Homeporting proposal informed the public that the Battleship Iowa Task Force may bring as many as 500 sea-launch cruise missiles into Boston harbor, and that their combined destructive power - when armed with 200 kiloton nuclear warheads, would be equal to 33 MX missiles?

3. Will the Battleship Iowa Task Force be used for military intervention in Central America or the Middle East?

4. If Senator Pell or Rhode Island concedes "there's a contradiction" in supporting both a nuclear weapons freeze and a homeporting proposal for the Battleship Iowa Task Force, how can our Congressional Representatives continue to support both with a straight face?

5. How can the strategic nuclear warheads carried on the sea-launch cruise missiles be verified, thus making a bi-lateral nuclear weapons freeze possible, without inviting the KGB and the Soviet military into every U.S. port?

6. Will the Iowa Battleship Task Force be in Boston Harbor at the same time as LNG (liquified natural gas)tankers?

7. What would the impact of an explosion of an LNG tanker, or accidents in the power plants or fuel storage depots near the Navy yard be on the Iowa Task Force's strategic and nuclear weapons? Would they disperse plutoniumin a 28 mile long, 2½ mile wide cloud, as a Government study indicates might happen?

8. Will dredging operations called for in Boston's homeporting proposal disperse lead and PCB's in Boston's already filthy harbor?

9. If a Presidential Commission reported "the near-term local economic benefits of a major new military base may not be sufficient to offset the cost of required additional community facilities and services" what assurances do we have that the Iowa Task Force will not be an economic disaster for Boston?

10. If the Iowa will directly create only 325 jobs - yet to be identified -