deterrence doesn't require that degree of accuracy, the employees at Draper are working on first-strike weapons.

Our weekly vigil is a public way of saying "NO!" to the entire militaristic system that is developing first-strike weapons. We vigil at Draper because it is an integral part of that system and because it is located in our city.

WE MUST SAY "NO!"

The militaristic policies of both superpowers and the weapons that are being produced as a result of those policies, go against the most fundamental values of our Judaic-Christian tradition. They contradict a loving God who seeks to create life, to enhance the dignity of people and invites us to love each other, especially the poorest and most vulnerable among us. Their development, possession and use are without ethical or religious justification. Nothing justifies the serious destabilizing effect of the newer weapons, like the Trident II, the massive destruction of human life of all these weapons and the extensive present suffering that is not addressed through the misuse of our human and financial resources.

The entire militaristic system spends $300b yearly. This misappropriation of financial resources, and misuse of human energy, intelligence and imagination is itself a moral evil. The values of our religious tradition dictate that such resources should be spent to assist the 600m people who lack even the minimum food, water, shelter, education, health care and clothing that is necessary for survival, much less survival with something resembling human dignity. The development and stockpiling of such weapons siphons off funds needed for all kinds of life-support programs at home and around the world. We continue to sacrifice the weakest among us in order to maintain America's preeminence in the world.

OUR COMPLICITY

Even as we assert these things, we also acknowledge our own complicity with the system that produces these weapons and the way of life they protect. We acknowledge the seeds of violence in our own hearts, the fears that keep us silent and hesitant to act on our convictions. We enjoy many of the enefits of affluent America, an affluence that is based largely on the exploitation of our Third World sisters and brothers and is p rotected by the very weapons we protest against. We also come to Draper to prayerfully acknowledge our collusion and ask forgiveness.

OUR FAITH

And finally, our coming to Draper is,for us, an act of fidelity to God. For us to refuse to be there would be a violation of our conscience, a failure of integrity. We come as followers of Jesus of Nazareth, who understand His life and teaching as revealing a way of nonviolent love, We are convinced that this way of nonviolence is the only path that will lead to personal and global peace. In light of this faith, we are commanded to say "NO!" to the militaristic policies of our nation and to offer to all who will listen the alternative of nonviolent love as a way to peace. Everything we do, be it our silent vigil, leaflets, or serving time in jail, expresses this faith.

Thank you for listening. All responses are welcomed.

Ailanthus: a nonviolent witness for peace.
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