

Your Choice: B-1 Bomber or \$50 Billion for You and Me!



What is it? A manned strategic bomber to replace the B-52 for nuclear war and future Vietnam.

How much? \$50 billion or more.

Whose is it? Ours, unless we stop it.

Why stop it? In order to build a more peaceful world, we must call a halt to investing our resources in war machinery. We need to use our resources for housing, employment, education, public transportation and the general welfare of all people. Money for these areas of human need has been drastically cut from the federal budget while millions of dollars are spent on war planes. The U.S. is the world's leading military power but we are 16th in doctor-patient ratio, 15th in literacy, 15th in infant mortality and 26th in life expectancy.

With its noise, atmospheric pollution and sonic boom, the B-1 bomber would be harmful to the environment. In addition, the tremendous fuel consumption of a fleet of 241 B-1 bombers would use up fuel that is essential for civilian needs.

The effectiveness of the B-1 as a deterrent to war is both unproven and unlikely. The U.S. already has 300 more long-range bombers than has the U.S.S.R. Where military confrontations have occurred, as in the Cuban missile crisis and the Berlin crisis, compromise—the work of diplomacy—saved us from military threat. The more we rely on weapons, the less we rely on diplomacy.

When you get right down to it, who really needs the B-1 bomber? Senator William Proxmire says, "The fact is, among intelligent defense experts, the B-1 is a joke. It is a public works project for the aerospace industry rather than a needed weapon for the defense of the U.S."

Who Wants it? To answer that, we must ask other questions. Who would profit most from its construction? Three U.S. corporations—General Electric, Rockwell International and Boeing—have major contracts to build B-1 prototypes. Rockwell has a \$1.37 billion contract to build the airframes; G.E. has a \$458 million contract to construct the jet engines; Boeing is under contract for \$77.4 million to provide the electronic equipment. If a final decision to go ahead on the bomber is made, it will mean billions of dollars in contracts for these three corporations. An estimated 4,100 subcontractors will share in the profits.

Why does the Air Force push for it? If the Air Force gets the B-1 bomber, it will enhance its prestige among the other branches of the military and hold on to its share of the military budget. The U.S. Air Force has continually waged a campaign for a new strategic bomber. After the Secretary of Defense rejected its B-70 bomber in 1962, the Air Force started again by promoting the B-1.



If B-1 bomber construction is stopped, what will happen to the economy?

If the right decisions are made, the economy will improve. Economists say that dollars spent for civilian use provide more jobs than dollars spent for military use. Conversion of the economy from military to civilian production is also necessary to meet human needs. Legislation for this purpose is pending in Congress.

The **Stop the B-1 Bomber: National Peace Conversion Campaign** is a project of the American Friends Service Committee and Clergy and Laity Concerned. Its goals are:

1. Stop the B-1 and challenge the arms race cycle;
2. Challenge and expose the impact of the military-industrial complex on basic decisions about priorities in the United States.
3. Convert military production to civilian production so that our resources can be used to meet real human needs.

Can the B-1 bomber be stopped?

Yes. The Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) was stopped in 1969, when the public protested. The Supersonic Transport (SST) was stopped in 1970, on the grounds of cost and environmental danger. Congress will make the B-1 production decision in November, 1976, but, if it is going to be stopped, the time to act is now.

What can you do?

- Complete and return the attached coupon.
- Write members of Congress and urge others to.
- Write Rockwell International, General Electric and the Boeing Company and urge them to stop pushing the B-1 bomber.

Rockwell International
1700 East Imperial Highway
El Segundo, Calif. 90245

General Electric
3135 Easton Turnpike
Fairfield, Conn. 06431

Boeing Company
7755 East Marginal Way
Seattle, Wash. 98124

- Write letters to your local newspapers.
- Call television and radio talk shows.

For more information on arranging a speaker, purchasing or renting the campaign slide show, starting a discussion group and other campaign activities, please call or write AFSC, CALC or a local office near you.

Cost of Vietnam War	\$110 Billion
High Estimate of B-1 Cost	\$ 75 Billion
Moderate Estimate of B-1 Cost	\$ 50 Billion
Federal Aid to Schools, 1974	\$ 7 Billion
Federal Health Expenditures, 1974	\$ 5 Billion

The total cost of the B-1 bomber weapons system would be between \$43 and \$75 billion, the most expensive weapons system ever built. One B-1 bomber would cost \$62 million: that same \$62 million would pay for 20 health centers. Two B-1 bombers would cost \$124 million, enough for 280,000 Nutrition Programs meals for the elderly for one year. Three B-1 bombers would cost \$186 million—the cost of constructing 11.5 high schools.

AFSC, 112 South 16th St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19102
CALC, 235 East 49th St., New York, N.Y. 10017

Please send me more information
 Enclosed is a contribution \$ _____
 Please send _____ leaflets (\$2.00/100)

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