

# REPORTS & COMMENT

**Military** *Lockheed*

## Opening Lockheed

*Peace protest to target  
D-5 missile*

by Sam Mitchell

**B**EHIND the gates at Lockheed at the end of Empire Grade Road, deer can frequently be seen browsing within yards of the buildings. They have no fear of humans because they know they are safe from attack as long as they stay within the sanctuary of one of the country's largest defense contractors.

The deer — like many other residents of Santa Cruz County — know nothing of what's going on a few miles from Santa Cruz' active and vocal peace community.

Peace activists contend — and Lockheed officials admit — that the 400 locals who work at the facility are helping to test what The Wall Street Journal called one of the world's most destructive weapons ever developed: the D-5 missile.

While the "Peacekeeper" and other nuclear weapons have exploded all over the media and in the public consciousness in recent years, the submarine-based D-5 has slipped through the legislative process as quietly as a fawn ducks behind the cover of redwood trees.

Together with the fleet of Trident submarines that will house the D-5, the weapons system will cost U.S. taxpayers almost \$100 billion over the next 20 years, an undetermined amount of which will be pumped into our county's economy.

The silence surrounding the D-5 will soon be shattered, however — or so peace groups are hoping. Between now and next Wednesday, peace groups all over the country will be holding a variety of demonstrations to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Cuban missile crisis.

In this county, the "main event" will be a demonstration on Monday, when a group calling itself "Stop First Strike" will lead a protest at Lockheed that will include (illegal) civil disobedience at the gates of the 4,000-acre facility. The goal of the protest will be to educate the public about "first-strike" weapons in general, and the D-5 in particular.

Although any weapon from a BB gun to a nuclear missile could be considered a "first-strike" weapon, Stop First Strike refines the definition to include only those weapons (such as the D-5 and Star Wars) that strike with such accuracy and speed that the other side has no chance to retaliate.

The military views such weapons as offering Americans a decided advantage over the Soviets. The peace community, however, views such weapons as the most obscene of killing machines.

Besides the opinion that the D-5 is "such a completely indiscriminate weapon of mass destruction" with many times the firepower of the Hiroshima bomb in each of its eight warheads, Stop First Strike spokesperson Peter Lumsdaine said first-strike weapons are especially dangerous for two reasons: the U.S. might get the idea that it could *win* a nuclear war, and the Soviets might get the idea they could *lose* one, which would make them a lot more "hair-trigger" in their military response to the slightest warning.

"If neither side thinks they can win a nuclear war, there's a very, very

strong incentive not to *start* one," said Lumsdaine. "But the idea behind first-strike is that a nuclear war can be fought and won by knocking out the other side's ability to hit you back. Nuclear war then becomes 'thinkable'; it becomes a tool in the global power struggle instead of something unthinkable that nobody can consider."

"That's why (first-strike weapons) are so much more dangerous — they make nuclear war a lot more likely to occur."

### Santa Cruz Connection

Of all the Lockheed facilities around the country, the Santa Cruz facility was chosen for demonstrations partly because of its proximity to the Sunnyvale facility (where a protest will take place Saturday), and partly because of its ties to the D-5 missile. Exactly what those ties are, however, is difficult to determine due to the level of secrecy surrounding national defense contracts.

Such secrecy is necessary, according to Lockheed, due to the very nature of the arms race with the Soviets, who would love to read about America's latest weapons developments in the morning paper.

Peace activists must often rely on slips of the tongue and leaks to the press by disenchanted defense workers for their information, so thick is the security. (One of the few publicly available information packets on Lockheed's Santa Cruz facility, for example, lists 99 "SCF (Santa Cruz Facility) common-use abbreviations/acronyms," from ADP (advanced development phase) to WR (war reserve).

"They won't tell anybody what they do," said Andy Schiffirin, aide to supervisor Gary Patton, whose district includes the Lockheed property. "They have always insisted that they do not use any nuclear materials, but they do build components for nuclear weapons."

Lockheed works to protect the details of its Santa Cruz operation, but the giant defense contractor does

not totally deny that the local facility tests several (non-nuclear) parts of the D-5 partially assembled in Sunnyvale.

One of the major tests, according to peace activist Peter Klotz-Chamberlain, is of the "combined detonating fuse," a kind of "exploding bolt" that separates the stages of the missile

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after it is fired from the submarine and as it re-enters the atmosphere to close in on its target. It is believed those tests cause the occasional booms heard by Bonny Doon residents.

Two years ago, Lockheed submitted plans to construct a "D-5 manufacturing building" on the premises, but the request was denied by the board of supervisors on the technical basis that the plans required that several redwood trees be destroyed. (Lockheed instead built the building on an adjacent piece of property owned by the U.S. Navy, which is not bound by local controls).

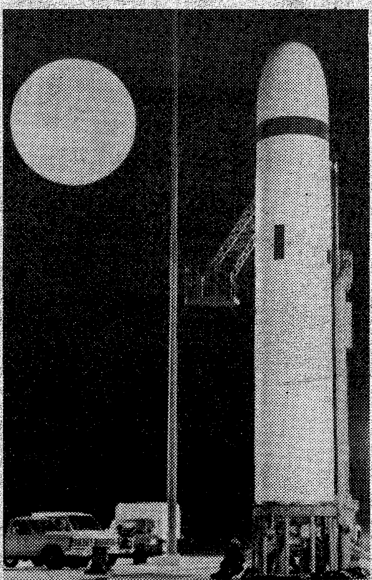
### Response from Lockheed

Lockheed general manager Vernon Smith referred all questions to public information officer Bob Burgess.

Last Thursday, Burgess flatly denied that any work was being done with nuclear weapons at the facility,

No Trespassing signs are all most people will ever see at Lockheed.

TRESPASSING - LOITERING  
FORBIDDEN BY LAW  
NO ENTRY WITHOUT PERMISSION  
Lockheed Missiles & Space Co.



The D-5: Peacekeeper or nuclear war starter?