

Trabing



Mostly about People

By Wally Trabing

With two gigantic nations manufacturing atomic ammunition like Henry Ford turns out cars, there is a possibility that, like Henry's product, the ammunition will be used.

So what can the common man on the street do about it?

I talked to a man last week who recently took an unusual "common man" approach to the very frustrating problem and got himself into a peck of trouble for his efforts.

Herbert Foster Jr., 40, of 118 Miles street, a family man with four children, expressed his protest to the arms race last month by walking onto the Mare Island Naval shipyard at Vallejo, where nuclear submarines are made, in an act of "civil disobedience."

Despite this trespassing, business went on as usual at the base, and Foster landed in jail over the weekend. He was released on \$250 bail.

Foster had joined a group of walkers representing a national committee for non-violent action, which left San Diego in August.

They had written the base in advance saying that several of them would cross the property line in protest of the world arms race.

"I made up my mind to join them about 30 miles from Vallejo," he said, and 11 of us crossed the property line. I was the last.

"They had laid a rope across the entrance and a marine colonel told us we would be arrested if we crossed it.

"We crossed it one at a time. Sure I was scared. There was a big crowd around us yelling as each one crossed. There were shouts of 'Go back to Russia; go back to San Diego.'

"I walked in about 20 yards where the Vallejo policeman took me by the arm and marched me to the marine guard station. The marine guard turned me over to a U.S. marshal, who drove us to the Sacramento county jail."

Foster was the only one to plead not guilty and a jury trial is set for November 21. The ordeal will cost him nearly \$1000

by the time it is over. If convicted he may lose his job as vocational rehabilitation counselor with the state.

Why does a man do this?

Foster is a quiet man, tall, thin, and rather shy. He is a Quaker by faith and a graduate from Redlands university with a degree in sociology, and he put in four years with the air force during World War II.

Over the years he has gone the usual route by writing congressmen and, once, even Khrushchev about disarmament — with no noticeable results.

"I don't feel that I am competent to say what should be done," he said. "But I say that the governments and peoples have the means of finding a way to settle differences without conflict.

"The total budget for the peace and disarmament agency is \$6 million. A Polaris submarine costs around \$13 million," he said.

"I realize we cannot disarm until we create the instrument of inter conciliation, and it must be done jointly," he said.

"Nor do I deny that people have the right to defend themselves in the last resort, but world differences should be worked out through the due processes of law. If enough people in the world demand it, peace can be achieved."

Foster is charged with trespassing, but he said he will plead that trespassing has no relevance.

"My action was symbolic in that it says rather than does. It is I who indict the governments for crimes against the future for conspiring to defraud future generations of their right to life," he said.

Foster said that another action is being taken by the ship Everyman sailing toward Russia to protest its nuclear testing. It is sponsored by the committee for non-violence.

"It's pretty probable that I will be found guilty," he said. "Either I am guilty or the government is guilty."

He figures the sentence will be \$500 or six months in jail.

Civ
Ye
Th

The
Janig
Di Za
night
The
Unite
absen
have
and f
also v
recent

In
ance
"a b
New
New
New
perfe
such
impe
tone.

Tom
season
associ
attend
the ar
chase
annua
purch
ditori

The
"Co
vanni
certo
cello
ini; "
Gioac
D for
seppe
for S
Webe
String
takov
Major
meus

Cu
Po
Fo

Mor
expec
Bay
Pow W
Thi
under
Mood
size d
sions
discus
tratio

Pr
mon