

Farmington Observer

Volume 96 Number 88 Monday, August 12, 1985 Farmington, Michigan 36 Pages Twenty-five cents

Nuke threat here to stay, says doctor

By Joanne Mallazowski staff writer

Expecting the world's superpowers to agree to total nuclear disarmament in the near future is unrealistic.

That's the opinion of Dr. Stuart Finch, who arrived with the Army Medical Corps in Japan a year after the United States dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

"They were terrible weapons. Terrible things happened. And I don't think there's anything else to say about it. We have to hope it will never happen again," Finch told approximately 60 people last week at the Birmingham Temple in Farmington Hills.

But the only realistic way to bring the threat of nuclear war to an end is by taking a first step toward establishing a freeze on the build-up of nuclear weapons, Finch said. Any changes in the arms race will come about only by the slow process of changing attitudes, he said.

"We have to appeal to the sensibilities of people in other countries as well as to our own politicians," said Finch, a member of Physicians for Social Responsibility (PSR).

Despite the work of anti-nuclear war groups such as PSR, few, if any, changes have taken place in the "political climate of how nuclear weapons are approached," Finch said.

"I think it is from the lessons of Hiroshima and Nagasaki that we have to learn and build for the future to never let it happen again," he said.

The Rutgers University professor of medicine served with the medical corps in Japan from 1946-48 as the chief of medicine for the Atomic Bomb Casualty Commission.

When WW II ended, the casualty commission was established to study the survivors of the atomic blasts, he said.

"Cancers are really the major effect," Finch said. "It's a discouraging

to know the cancer effects have lasted so long."

The incidence of cancer among the survivors has been 10 times higher than in other populations, Finch said.

In the years immediately following the atomic blasts, leukemia ranked as the most common form of cancer, Finch said. Today, the incidence of leukemia has decreased while other forms of cancer have increased.

Among them are thyroid, breast, lung and stomach cancers, he added.

"The highest cancer rates have been shown in children under 10 who were exposed (to radiation)," Finch said.

BESIDES BURNS, survivors have also suffered from cataracts, chromosome defects and reduced growth and development. Some children of women who were pregnant at the time of the bombings have shown incidences of mental retardation and small head size, Finch said.

"Studies are still going on to study the defects," Finch said. The distance from the hypocenter — the point directly under the bomb's detonation — played a role in the degree of medical problems experienced by survivors, he added.

"The precise amounts of radiation are still not known to this time," Finch said. "But it certainly represents the greatest exposure of mankind to radiation."

What concerns Finch and other members of PSR is that while the effects of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombs are considered devastating, today's bombs can cause far greater destruction.

When the first atomic bomb was dropped, five to six square miles of Hiroshima were destroyed. Today one MX missile is capable of destroying 235 square miles, Finch said.

"What we've seen in Hiroshima and Nagasaki is just minuscule compared to current weapons," Finch said.



RANDY BORST/Staff photographer

Lt. Commander Curtis Beck and his son, Chuck (above), check out the view from the U.S. Coast Guard cutter Mariposa. Beck is showing his son how to use a navigational tool. The view from the cutter's bridge (below) reveals a group of Navy League members and their families enjoying a day's outing on the Detroit River.

Navy lovers spend day on the river

By Jean Adamczak staff writer

Usually we think of Michigan's Great Lakes as a splendid source of enjoyment and pleasure for boaters, swimmers and vacationers.

But there are some people who see the Great Lakes as important assets which keep the country strong militarily and economically.

Ed Jacques of Farmington Hills is such a person.

The retired Michigan Bell employee is a member of the Navy League. He sees his membership as helping promote the use of the waterways for defense and for shipping. He joins 200 members in the metropolitan Detroit area in promoting these goals.

THE LEAGUE numbers 45,000 nationally. It is comprised of all civilians, and works to support servicemen in the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Merchant Marines.

"The members really enjoy the organization," Jacques said.

"The thing I enjoy the most, without a doubt, is the quality of the military personnel I deal with. They're stimulating, intelligent and very cooperative. They appreciate us and we appreciate them."

One of the ways the Coast Guard showed its appreciation for the League was to invite members and their families aboard the Coast Guard cutter Mariposa for a cruise up and down the Detroit River.

About 150 people attended the cruise, which also marked the 195th anniversary of the Coast Guard, according to Jacques.

THE LEAGUE "adopted" the Mariposa and its crew last year. Because Coast Guard members are usually quite transient, the League offers moral and financial support to the crew and their families.

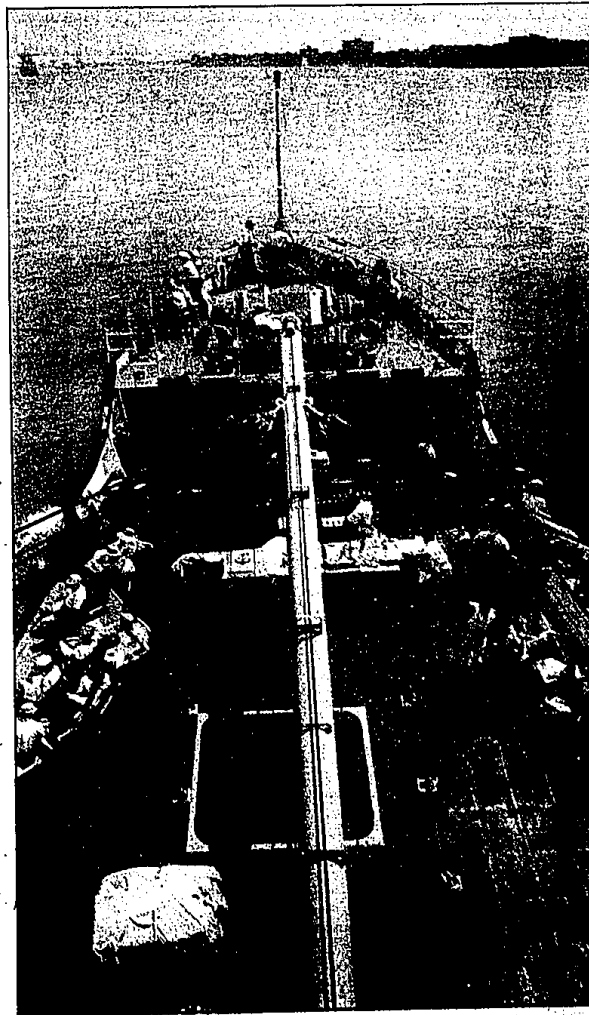
"We adopted the ship so families and servicemen know their communities care about them," said Leo Landos, Livonia resident and member of the League for 15 years.

"If the families of the servicemen need help in any way we help them out. We give them some kind of a social contact so they feel like a part of the community," Landos said.

The Navy League's cruise on the Mariposa has been an annual event for the past 11 years and serves to heighten the awareness of League members as to what really happens on their adopted ship, Landos explained.

A RETIRED Navy Admiral, Landos said he realizes more than civilians the difficult task faced by the crew of the Mariposa.

"When we're sitting at home around the fire-side in the winter, these guys are out there on the lakes day after day in the cold, doing their job to repair and maintain boats and to break the ice," Landos said.



Please turn to Page 3

Land use plans for property are debated

By Joanne Mallazowski staff writer

The Farmington Board of Education's decision to sell the land on the corner of 12 Mile and Drake — the seven-year home of the Farmington Soccer Club — has brought in some proposed purchase offers.

But Supt. Lewis Schulman says price alone will not determine which offer school officials accept. The use of the land by those offering to buy the 38.46 acres will play a big role in the final decision, he said.

Those making offers to buy the land

will present their proposed uses of the acreage to the district finance committee at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Farmington School District's central office, 32500 Shilawassee.

"We are going to ask them to explain what their use of the property would be," Schulman said. "We don't want to play games and don't want to force it into an auction-type thing."

During the presentations "there will be no discussion of terms," Schulman said. Finance committee members will not take a vote following the presentation.

Please turn to Page 4

what's inside

- Cable Connection . . . 9A
- Community Calendar . . . 7B
- Inside Angles . . . 3A
- Obituaries . . . 2A
- Shopping Cart . . . Section C
- Sports . . . Section B
- Suburban Life . . . 5B-7B
- NEWSLINE . . . 477-5450
- CLASSIFIED ADS . 591-0900
- HOME DELIVERY . 591-0500

Big family homes, beginning homes, new homes, country homes, city homes, townhouses, apartments, condominiums, the one that was designed and built just for you.

CREATIVE LIVING REAL ESTATE SECTION

And we have it. Every Thursday in our Creative Living Real Estate Section. Come, see to find what you're looking for advertised by qualified Realtors.

Please turn to Page 3