Thank you for coming to see *Countdown to Zero* to learn more about nuclear weapons, the threats they pose to our common survival and why they must be abolished.

We understand that a 90-minute film cannot stand as a comprehensive treatise. So, here are some key facts and ways you can take action to make a real difference here in the Bay Area. We believe this is the most hopeful news possible: Together, we can achieve a nuclear weapons-free future — in our lifetimes.

The film does show the destructive power of nuclear weapons, but leaves mute the voices of the atomic bomb survivors who know first-hand the full toll wrought by the bomb. Nor does it show the widespread environmental and health damage caused by the nuclear cycle from uranium mining to nuclear weapons development and production, including here in the Bay Area.

The film also gives short shrift to the nuclear dangers posed by governments and government policies, particularly here in the United States. There is no discussion of the U.S. nuclear weapons complex and the relevant fact that it is being revitalized by the Obama Administration with the promise of $80 billion, including for new bomb plants in three states (NM, TN and MO).

These factories will produce the key components of nuclear weapons, plutonium cores (the A-bomb part), uranium secondaries (the H-bomb part), and the non-nuclear components to put them together in a sophisticated, deliverable weapon. Moreover, another $100 billion is slated to be used to directly “modernize” and “enhance” the thousands of warheads in the U.S. arsenal by the year 2020.

The Obama Administration’s nuclear weapons budget request for fiscal year 2011 tops $7 billion and, compared program for program, is a whopping 14% higher than under G.W. Bush. Moreover, the proposed Obama nuclear weapons budget exceeds the Cold War years’ average budget by 40%.

How must this look to the rest of the world? Can the U.S. lead the world toward nuclear disarmament by spending billions to “improve” its nuclear arsenal, including with devastating new military capabilities? Or will other nations, nuclear armed and not, perceive the U.S. disarmament rhetoric as insincere and hypocritical? And, perhaps most important of all, what can be done to create the policy change we need at home?

Fortunately, the answer is “a lot.” The nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) commits the nuclear weapons states who are signatory, including the U.S., to eliminate their arsenals. There is a growing global consensus in favor of a nuclear weapons convention to provide a time-bound framework, missing in the NPT, for the global abolition of all nuclear weapons.

People around the world are issuing a clarion call for a nuclear weapons-free world. For example, this past May, at the NPT review conference, more than 17 million signatures were delivered to the United Nations in support of a nuclear weapons-free world.

In June, the U.S. Conference of Mayors unanimously adopted a resolution calling on the Senate to ratify the New START (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty) agreement with Russia, and to do so without adding billions to the nuclear weapons budget. Specifically, the Mayors’ resolution calls on Congress to slash funding for nuclear weapons to well below Cold War levels and redirect funds to meet the urgent needs of cities.

We invite you to join with us to abolish nuclear weapons. We are:

- Demanding Senate ratification of New START *without* the $180 billion for new bomb plants and bombs.
- Calling for redirection of funds in the nuclear weapons budget to meet human needs, including the monies needed to dismantle nuclear weapons and clean up the toxic and radioactive messes they have caused in Livermore and around the country.
- Standing with the Hibakusha (atomic bomb survivors) on the 65th anniversary of the U.S. atomic bombing of Hiroshima, and adding our cry to theirs: “Never again.”
- Supporting indigenous peoples around the world, whose lives and whose lands have been devastated by the nuclear cycle, and calling for compensation for uranium miners, nuclear testing down winders, and exposed workers and communities.

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**INFORMATION + ACTION = CHANGE**

You Make a Difference!

We welcome your participation

| Tri-Valley CAREs • 2582 Old First St., Livermore 94550 • (925) 443–7148 trivalleycares.org • “Stopping nuclear weapons where they start...” |
| Mt. Diablo Peace & Justice Center 55 Eckley Ln, Walnut Creek 94596 (925) 933–7850 • mttdpc.org “Your local voice for peace in Contra Costa” |
| American Friends Service Committee • 65 9th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103 • (415) 565–0201 afsc.org/region/pacific–mountain–region |
| Peace Action West • 2201 Broadway, Suite 321, Oakland, CA 94612 • (510) 830–3600 peaceactionwest.org “...for smarter American solutions to global problems” |
| SF–Bay Area Chapter, Physicians for Social Responsibility • 2288 Fulton Street, Suite 307 Berkeley, CA 94704 (510) 845–8395 • sfbaypsr.org |

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