



CAMBRIDGE COMMISSION ON NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT AND PEACE EDUCATION

August 5, 1985

Cambridge City Council
City Hall
395 Mass. Ave.
Cambridge, MA 02139

Hon. Members of the Cambridge City Council:

Please accept our heartiest congratulations for the victory the City of Cambridge sustained in the recent decision of the state Supreme Judicial Court (SJC) upholding the city health department ban of nerve gas testing by Arthur D. Little.

While the contested issue concerned the safety of residents living in proximity to ADL's testing facility, the members of the Peace Commission believe that such experimentation presents a longer range threat to the health and safety of all Cambridge residents. ADL's research concerned developing methods and materials for the safe handling of nerve agents and protection for soldiers exposed to nerve gas on the battlefield. With the recent Reagan Administration push to renew and expand nerve weapon stockpiles and the approval of funding by Congress, the danger of deployment and use of these horrible and indiscriminate weapons greatly increases. ADL's research, if allowed to continue, would only contribute to public acceptance of nerve gas weaponry .

Perhaps if other communities exposed to similar dangers emulated Cambridge, as occurred when the city refused to accept the Crisis Relocation Plans of the Reagan Administration, the development of nerve gas would also be abandoned.

We greatly appreciate the aggressive manner in which the city pursued the legal action to uphold Health Commissioner Chalfen's order. We firmly believe that the nerve gas ban is not only in the interests of the health and safety of Cambridge residents but also in the interest of peace. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steve Schnapp".

Steve Schnapp
Chair
Cambridge Commission on Nuclear
Disarmament and Peace Education



City Hall Annex 57 Inman St. Cambridge MA 02139 (617)498-9000 ext.9535

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Communication received from Steve Schnapp,
Chair, Cambridge Commission on Nuclear
Disarmament and Peace Education, congratulat-
ing the city on the recent decision of the state
Supreme Judicial Court upholding the city
health department ban of nerve gas testing
by Arthur D. Little.

In City Council,

September 9, 1985

9/9/85

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