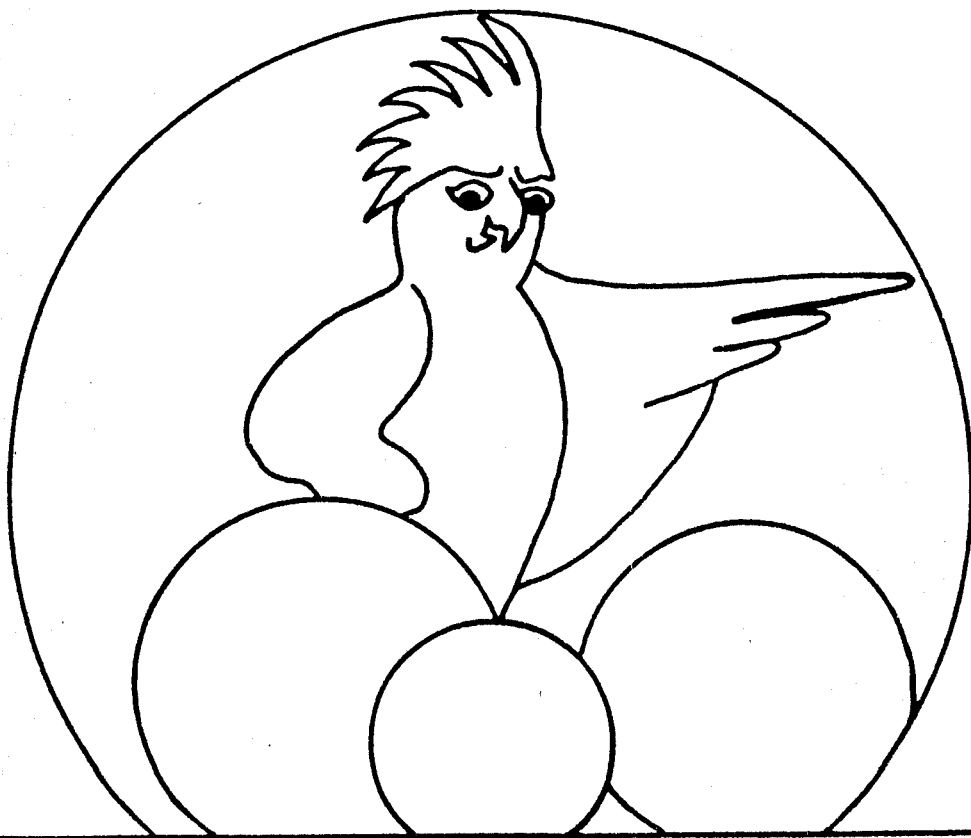


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# Pine Gap: Closed By The People.



**19 Oct. '86**

**19 Oct. '87**

ALICE SPRINGS PEACE GROUP BASES CAMPAIGN

P.O. BOX 1637 ALICE SPRINGS. PH. 089-526782

"For those of us gathered around radio sets listening to news of the bombing (of Libya), just after it happened we knew the threat was growing stronger. It passed because neither the USSR nor any of the Arab States would be drawn into a conflict over Libya. But at any moment for at least 24 hours following the bombing, that was a possibility."

An Alice Springs Resident.

"And then, one Thursday, nearly two thousand years after one man had been nailed to a tree for saying how great it would be to be nice to people for a change, a girl sitting on her own in a small cafe in Rickmansworth suddenly realised what it was that had been going wrong all this time, and she finally knew how the world could be made a good and happy place. This time it was right, it would work, and no one would have to get nailed to anything.

Sadly , however, before she could get to a phone to tell anyone about it, the Earth was unexpectedly demolished." So long, and thanks for all the fish.

Douglas Adams.

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## INTRODUCTION

The Alice Springs Peace Group (A.S.P.G.) has operated since 1977. We have a current membership of 135 local residents and a network of over 500 Territory and interstate supporters.

A.S.P.G. has continually campaigned around issues of peace and justice in Australia and the Pacific. These issues have included uranium mining, Aboriginal Land Rights, nuclear waste dumping and the presence of U.S. bases.

For some time a primary concern of our group has been the presence of the Joint Defence Space Research Facility at Pine Gap, 19 kms from Alice Springs.

Members of A.S.P.G. have participated in numerous non-violent actions protesting this facility's role and continuation. In 1984 members of our group were active in participating in and supporting the National Women's Camp at Pine Gap. In 1985 there were 22 arrests of local residents protesting the up-grading of equipment at the base. In 1986 and 1987 the A.S.P.G. has decided to make Pine Gap the focus of our activities. We have outlined and are implementing a national strategy to close Pine Gap. This strategy is contained in this document.

Our group is serious about closing Pine Gap and we join with all groups around Australia who are struggling to remove foreign bases from our country and region.

We ask you to read this document carefully and become active in supporting the campaign.

Pine Gap: Closed by the People.

PINE GAP - WHAT IS IT?BACKGROUND

The Joint Defence Space Research Facility at Pine Gap, 19 kms from Alice Springs, was established under a 10 year Agreement between America and Australia signed on the 9th December, 1966. A new Agreement for a further 10 years was signed on 19th October, 1977.

Codenamed 'Merino', Pine Gap is the single most important U.S. facility in Australia and one of the most important U.S. satellite ground stations in the world.

The base consists of eight radomes, a huge computer room and about 20 other support buildings. The perspex radomes protect enclosed antennae from dust, wind and rain as well as hiding them from Soviet satellite reconnaissance. A high frequency antenna provides the only non-satellite link with the U.S. through Clark Field in the Philippines.

The base is completely self-contained with live-in facilities for around 120 staff, recreational facilities and its own power and water supplies as well as large fuel storage tanks.

The base is surrounded by a seven square mile 'buffer zone'. Two security fences are patrolled by police and guards 24 hours per day.

## WHO WORKS THERE?

Under the U.S./Australian Agreement equal numbers of Australian and American personnel are employed at Pine Gap. However, the facility is strictly under American control.

"Very few Australian are permitted in the Top Secret sector of the station. The Signals Analysis Section of the Computer Room is staffed only by CIA and NSA analysts - it includes no US contractor personnel and no Australian "citizens".

(D. Ball. The Ties that Bind P. 194).

Three American intelligence agencies are known to be involved. They are:

1. The National Reconnaissance Office (N.R.O.). Though established in 1960 it was not till 1973 that its existence was made public. It manages satellite reconnaissance programs for the entire U.S. intelligence community.
2. The National Security Agency (N.S.A.). This body is the largest and the most secretive American intelligence agency. In 1978 there were 68,203 people working for the N.S.A. (Bamford. The Puzzle Palace P. 18). It is responsible for communications security (COMSEC) and signals intelligence (SIGINT). "It's SIGINT role ... is directed at gathering foreign military, political and economic intelligence. This intelligence concerns not only the Soviet Union and other hostile nations but also Third World and allied nations". (Ball. "The Ties that Bind" P. 102). This is achieved by a range of electronic means including satellite monitoring of radio and

telephone conversations in all parts of the world. The NSA also produces codes such as that which the President of America must use to order a nuclear strike.

3. The Central Intelligence Agency (C.I.A.). Though involved in constant power plays with other agencies, this body is responsible for co-ordinating all American intelligence groups. It is the prime agency for intelligence analysis, human intelligence collection and covert action.

Australian bodies with personnel stationed at Pine Gap include the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (A.S.I.O.) and the Australian Protective Service.

Local gossip has it that a private American security firm has also been contracted to assist with guarding the base.

With relation to the requirement for equal numbers of Americans and Australians to be employed, P.L. Kealy wrote in the Canberra Times of 11th May, 1977:

"What the Americans did was to make a huge list of all personnel at the base, including those in the unclassified outside perimeters, who included housemaids for the motel units, cooks, gardeners. This allowed the Americans to satisfy the 50-50 relationship admirably".

## WHAT DOES IT DO?

Pine Gap is a ground control station for U.S. signals intelligence satellites. Signals intelligence (SIGINT) falls into two categories:

1. Communications Intelligence (COMINT) - this includes gathering intelligence from diplomatic, commercial, political and military messages passed over telephone, cable and landline, and by radio telephone and satellite.
2. Electronic Intelligence (ELINT) - this consists of the technical intelligence information derived from non-communications i.e. from primarily the electro-magnetic signals emitted by electronic radar and telemetry (electronic signals emitted by missiles).

As one of the largest satellite ground stations in the world, Pine Gap has three main roles:

- (a) To receive and transmit information from satellites as well as human and technological 'operatives' in the field i.e. spying. The Rhyolite satellites controlled from Pine Gap are known to spy on allies as well as Australia itself. Documents obtained by the New York Times in April 1979 revealed internal Australian radio communications had been intercepted at Pine Gap and sent to America. (Ball, 'The Ties that Bind' P. 263). Rhyolite satellites also intercept telephone messages such as early stock exchange reports and business calls.



Pine Gap was used to spy on Greece (an ally) in 1984-85 and almost certainly on Libya in more recent times. It is reasonable to assume that no country is spared its attentions.

(b) Pine Gap is used to gather information for targetting sites in the U.S.S.R. and presumably anywhere else the U.S. sees fit. The interception of radar signals allows the U.S. to map the location of Soviet early warning, air defence and anti-ballistic missile systems. This information allows the U.S. to plan attack strategies for both nuclear and conventional conflicts.

(c) A third and minor role of the facility at Pine Gap may be in the monitoring and verification of arms limitations agreements. It is this role which is held up by successive Australian governments as the justification for hosting the base. This role is discussed in detail in the following section.



THE DEBATE - FOUR OPTIONS

The debate surrounding bases such as Pine Gap revolves around four main options. These are:

1. Leave Pine Gap as it is.
2. Gain greater or total Australian control.
3. Place the functioning of Pine Gap under the control of an international body, e.g. the U.N.
4. Close Pine Gap.

We will deal with these arguments in the other they are put.

1. Leave Pine Gap as it is.

This argument is primarily based on the assumption that Pine Gap plays an indispensable role in verifying Soviet compliance with arms control treaties e.g. SALT II and Anti-Ballistic Missile treaties.

The following points need to be made about this role:

- (a) It is important we understand that using terms such as 'monitoring' and 'verifying' is merely a more acceptable way of saying 'spying'. There is no evidence to suggest any country has ever invited the Pine Gap facility to intercept signals within their own borders.

(b) without independent monitoring and verification or access to Pine Gap, it is almost impossible for the international community to assess US claims that the USSR is breaching arms limitations agreements. The US has never given such access nor have either the US or the USSR ever supported the establishment of an internationally controlled body to undertake this role. When such a proposal was put to the United Nations in 1981 the USSR voted against it and the US abstained.

(c) A large part of arms limitations agreements such as Anti Ballistic Missile treaties concern limitations on the strength and positioning of defensive radar systems. In an interview with members of the Alice Springs Peace Group in July 1986, Dr. Desmond Ball, Head of the Strategic and Defence Studies Centre at the Australian National University, said his research indicated the Pine Gap facility was used in part to monitor the electronic signals emitted by the Soviet radar systems and so to verify the agreements were not being broken. He also agreed, as do all the researchers we have consulted, that information gained from such monitoring is also useful in mapping routes of least detection in planning US bomber strikes against the USSR.

(d) In relation to Anti Ballistic Missile treaties the Rhyolite satellites which are controlled through Pine Gap were used until the mid 1970's to intercept telemetry (electronic signals emitted by Soviet missiles during testing). By monitoring telemetry the US gained information about the missile such as the number of warheads carried, range, throw weight and target accuracy. This information

could then be used to tell whether or not the USSR was breaching an agreement. Dr. Ball has calculated the actual time spent on telemetry interception at Pine Gap may total less than 1% of the total. (J. Ford Australian June 9-10, 1984). It has also been made clear that since the mid 1970's Soviet jamming and encoding of telemetry has made even this minor role impossible. (J. Bamford The Puzzle Palace P. 255. W. Pinwill The National Times- "Pine Gap Now Useless For Arms Control", June 29 - July 5, 1984).

- (e) The interception of electronic signals under the guise of monitoring and verification also allows accurate locating and targeting of sites such as USSR command centres, missile sites, radar complexes, etc. This information gathering indicates Pine Gap has a clear role in preparing for the conducting of a nuclear war.
- (f) The Strategic Arms Limitations Agreement II (SALT II) was described by US Secretary of Defence, Mr. Caspar Weinberger, as a "fatally flawed and expired agreement that was never ratified (by the US)". (Financial Review, June 6, 1986). President Reagan has said the US no longer feels obliged to comply with this agreement. Pine Gap's role in verifying for a treaty the US no longer adheres to is ludicrous.

Monitoring and verification is very clearly one edge of a two edged sword. While information gained may be used for ensuring agreements are adhered to, the same information can and is being used as a means of more actively participating in the arms race.

The question then becomes one of whether this country accepts the risk of hosting a first strike nuclear target which is used to give one of the major competitors in the arms race (the USA) information on what another competitor (the USSR) is doing.

If we do accept this risk we are also supporting Pine Gap's role in destabilising any positive initiatives through its use for spying on a range of nations, including Australia, mainly through electronic interception (e.g. radio, STD and ISD phone calls, etc.) and its role in preparing for and conducting nuclear and conventional war through weapons development and targeting sites.

The Alice Springs Peace Group, as do a growing number of Australians, believes this is unacceptable.

## 2. Greater or Total Australian Control.

This argument rests on a number of assumptions. These include:

- (a) The Australian Government knows the full role of Pine Gap and wants to be fully involved and supportive of this role. This implies further active Australian participation in the nuclear arms race through continuing destabilisation and subversive practices.
- (b) That the U.S. would give an Australian controlled Pine Gap access to all its satellites, other ground stations and field operatives necessary for the collection and analysis of information received.

Australia is a second party signatory to the 1947 UKUSA Security Agreement between the United States (the first party) and Britain, Canada, New Zealand and Australia (second parties). This Agreement recognises the U.S. and U.S. Intelligence services as the dominant party and the intelligence services of the other nations as subservient to them.

The U.S. is not going to give total control to a junior partner if there is any chance that partner will not act completely in its interests.

Independent Australian control of Pine Gap is technically impossible without full American support. It is also morally unacceptable on the grounds that support would be given.

- (c) The argument for Australian or "real joint control" rests on the belief that Australian governments, major political parties, economic interests and defence establishments have the will or capacity to become a non-aligned force independent of U.S. interests. The overwhelming historical evidence of Australian and U.S. co-operation in foreign policy and war, and the structural evidence of economic, political and cultural ties, suggest that will does not exist. The call for an Australian controlled Pine Gap so Australia can play the "honest broker" is naive and, as long as the base remains open, unworkable.

### 3. Internationalisation.

This argument is basically that Pine Gap should be put under the control of an international body such as the International Satellite Monitoring Authority proposed through the United Nations. In this way the base could be used on behalf of the international community to monitor and verify arms limitations agreements by both the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.A.

This proposal is perhaps legally feasible but, like 'Australian control', both technically and politically utopian. It would again involve the U.S. handing over equipment and expertise to a range of nations, a highly unlikely possibility. It would mean an end to Pine Gap's spying and covert communications and its removal from the U.S. global strategy for conducting a nuclear war.

Another major flaw in this argument is that it gives credibility to the assumption that Pine Gap does play an important role in monitoring and verification. As already pointed out this role is at best minimal and more probably non-existent.

### 4. Close Pine Gap.

Whether Pine Gap operates under U.S., Australian or international control, it will remain a nuclear target in the event of nuclear war. As residents of Alice Springs and citizens of Australia, we do not accept this risk to ourselves, our families, friends and community.

We believe, for the reasons we have outlined that to 'close the base' is the only workable, effective acceptable option.

Through hosting and participating in facilities such as Pine Gap, North West Cape, Nurungar, Watsonia (Simpson Barracks), etc., Australia is playing an active and aligned role in the nuclear power game.

Closing U.S. bases in Australia is our only option.

#### CONSEQUENCES AND ALTERNATIVES.

It would be unwise, though not unreasonable, to demand the closure of U.S. bases in Australia such as Pine Gap without some thought for the consequences and alternatives.

The consequences may include:

- . The collapse of 'defence' agreements such as ANZUS.
- . Hostile intelligence activity by the U.S. This was experienced when Pine Gap was used to spy on Greece after their Prime Minister announced an intention to close U.S. bases there. There is also evidence that U.S. intelligence services played a role in the downfall of Gough Whitlam when his Labor Government questioned Australia's role in hosting U.S. bases such as Pine Gap.



U.S. inspired economic sanctions such as those threatened when New Zealand refused entry to nuclear powered or nuclear armed war ships.

It is also conceivable that the U.S. could ignore an Australian government demand to close the bases. Australia would not be in a position to enforce such a demand through use of military might. It is worth remembering that the U.S. maintain a large base in Cuba despite a Cuban government hostile to its continuation.

the positive side the consequences would include:

Nuclear targets such as Pine Gap would be removed from Australia and possible Australian involvement in a nuclear conflict considerably lessened.

Australia would be seen to be making a positive contribution to the struggle for world peace and an end to the arms race. Its standing and credibility among like minded nations would be significantly increased.

Australia's neutral position would allow it to confront the super powers without alignment to either side. No-one can question the effectiveness of the Swiss experience in attempting this stance.

Some possible alternatives which need to be explored in far more depth than is possible here include:

- . A revised Australian Foreign Policy aimed at strengthening our ties with other non-aligned nations.
- . An articulated intention within international affairs to build and maintain trading, financial, cultural and humanitarian links with all nations but favouring none militarily.
- . A revised Australian Defence Policy aimed at realistically providing protection for this country in the unlikely advent of a conventional attack.
- . A strengthening of non-colonial links with other Pacific nations. In particular this would include non-military assistance for nations of the Pacific struggling for self-determination and co-operation on an equal footing with those South Pacific nations attempting to establish a Nuclear Free Pacific zone.
- . Supporting the development and implementation of international strategies to end the struggle for nuclear superiority between the super powers. If, as part of such a strategy, Australia is in the future asked to host a facility to support monitoring and verification of arms limitations agreements under a body such as an International Satellite Monitoring Authority, such a request may be seen as a further positive contribution by this country and should be assessed in terms of the overall strategy and political reality.

## LIVING AT A NUCLEAR TARGET

All of us, as resident of Alice Springs, live in real fear of a nuclear attack which threatens our lives. The threat is ever present and is unique to the civil populations surrounding Pine Gap and the other bases in close proximity to significant numbers of people - North West Cape (Exmouth) and Watsonia (Melbourne), and to the populations of major ports when visiting nuclear powered U.S. ships are in port.

This threat, in the case of residents of Alice Springs, derives from the strategic role of Pine Gap as an early warning systems component of U.S. nuclear capability.

Clearly, the base, as a prime nuclear target of the U.S.S.R. places our lives at stake. In any of the commonly held nuclear-strike scenerios, from a one-off exchange to a full nuclear war, the nuclear bombing of Pine Gap is a possibility. (Falk. Taking Australia Off the Map 1983).

The threat, because it is tied to relations (and tensions) between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R., is heightened by the Reagan administration's aggressive foreign policy and increased military and defence expenditure.

Rather than recognising this threat, and acting to protect the interests and lives of its own civil population, our government chooses to tell us that it is a small price to pay for the preventative role allegedly played by the base. In April, 1985, Defence Minister, Kim Beasley negated the potential threat in claiming that although the major bases in

Australia were nuclear targets, this threat was minimal because it "was not in the interests of any country to degrade the early warning capabilities of either the U.S. or the Soviet Union" (Advertiser, 3.4.85). However, Australia's role in the U.S. alliance which causes the threat because of the presence of the bases, remains unquestioned.

Bases in Australia are at threat because of U.S., and not directly Australian, foreign policy practise. The Australian Government is keen to preach a nuclear-free role for the South Pacific, while retaining key elements of the U.S. nuclear arsenal's capability within its own borders.

Because bases have a non-nuclear military role as well, we are further tied in to U.S. non-nuclear aggression. Pine Gap's role in the recent U.S. bombing of Tripoli and Bengazi in Libya has not yet fully emerged, but it is acknowledged to play a monitoring function on Middle East and Soviet installations.

For those of us gathered around radio sets listening to news of the bombing, just after it had happened we knew the threat was growing stronger.

It passed, because neither the U.S.S.R. nor any of one Arab States would be drawn into a conflict over Libya. But at any moment for at least 24 hours following the bombing that was a possibility.

As an acknowledged first-strike nuclear target, the Pine Gap base can never be viewed as anything but a threat to our lives.

The most likely method of destroying the base on the part of the Soviets, a one-megaton nuclear air-burst, one km above the base, would have the following effects on the 25,000 residents and visitors to Alice Springs:

- . Several hundred people killed or injured immediately.
  
- . Thousands more becoming seriously ill within a few days.
  
- . No electricity, uncontaminated water and little edible food and no means of communication.
  
- . Many buildings and facilities either burnt or severely damaged (including the airport).

This would mean that for at least half a day there would be no meaningful relief or assistance (assuming it were available) from the rest of the country. (Tait 1985, What will happen to Alice if the Bomb goes off).

The existence of bases on foreign soil, like Pine Gap, is an example of the increasing threat that modern weapons systems and warfare poses to ignorant and innocent civilian populations. We do not accept that this threat is a reasonable price for Australians to pay. (See four options for Pine Gap above). While we of course recognize that we are still under threat because of the nuclear winter resulting from any significant nuclear exchange in the Northern hemisphere, we also believe that our rejection of the U.S. nuclear alliance and the closing of Pine Gap and the other bases is vital in a global movement to nuclear disarmament.

## OTHER LOCAL EFFECTS

The threat of a nuclear strike on Pine Gap is very real and one many of us fear greatly. But this is not the only effect of Pine Gap on our lives.

As residents we make the following points:

- . In 1985, final year school students were unable to do Australian History in Alice Springs. American History was offered with encouragement from the American Embassy in the form of books and resources.
- . Housing in Alice Springs is scarce and expensive. Rents of \$150-\$175 per week are common. At least 300 local houses are occupied by people working at the base including 200 set aside for Americans.
- . Lack of employment opportunities is a huge problem in the Central Australian economy. Many of the Aboriginal town camps surrounding Alice Springs have unemployment levels of between 70% and 100%. Yet spouses of American personnel at the base hold many jobs in town, particularly in the large stores of K-Mart and Coles.
- . American military transport planes regularly use the local domestic airport. A U.S.A.F. Starlifter arrives every Monday with supplies for the base. A large iron fence has been constructed at the entrance to the tarmac to deter protestors.

- . "Left-hand drive" cars abound in our town.
- . Tradesmen and women are lured to work at the base by significantly higher pays than are available in town.

#### WHAT ABOUT OUR CIVIL LIBERTIES

Because of the proximity of Pine Gap the residents of Alice Springs are subject to the Defence (Special Undertakings) Act, 1952. The Act allows for the apprehension and search without warrant of anyone in or in the neighbourhood of Pine Gap who is 'reasonably suspected' of having committed, having attempted to commit or being about to commit an offence under the Act. Offences include: behaving in a suspicious manner, entry into the prohibited area, approaching the area with recording, sketching, drawing, photographing or painting materials with the intent of making record of any part of the prohibited place including vehicles and staff. The penalties permissible under the Act are draconian. The penalty given for example, for refusal to give your name and address upon request of the officer in charge of the prohibited area is two years imprisonment.

In a recent incident the film of a local t.v. video team was seized at the gates of Pine Gap and censored before eventual release to its owner. Under the law, the camera and film could have been destroyed, sold or otherwise disposed of according to direction from the Governor-General. As the Law stands it can be used to stifle legitimate public protest and media coverage of such protest.

As residents and peace activists in Alice Springs we are further subject to subtle harrassment by surveillance. Our photographs are regularly taken at public protests and peace actions by known police informants, car registration numbers are recorded at all peace gatherings even for example, at last years Hiroshima Day memorial ceremony. Some of us believe our phones are tapped.

Eight different police and security agencies operate in Alice Springs, four operated by the US: the NRO, NSA, CIA and a privately contracted American security firm and five Australian operated: ASIO, N.T. Police, N.T. Special Branch, the Commonwealth Protective Security Force. We are well aware that harrassment through surveillance could dramatically increase at any time the Peace Group appears a threat to the Base.

The Defence (Special Undertakings) Act gives these security agencies the legal right to ignore our privacy and rights.





CLOSE PINE GAP - A STRATEGY

Throughout 1985 and early 1986 the Alice Springs Peace Group sought options for a campaign to close Pine Gap. In March 1986 a strategy was adopted.

The strategy is built on a number of assumptions we believe to be correct. These include:

- . Very few Australians are aware of the role of U.S. bases in this country if they are aware of them at all.
- . There is great support within the Australian Peace Movement for a campaign to close U.S. bases.
- . The Australian government does not intend to close bases such as Pine Gap, North West Cape, Nurungar, Watsonia, etc. This task must be undertaken by large numbers of people forcing the government to act.
- . A campaign to confront U.S. bases in Australia must work in solidarity and support of groups opposing all foreign bases in the Pacific.

- . Is is impossible to address the possibility of Australia withdrawing from alignment with one of the major aggressors in the arms race without addressing questions involving Australia's relationship with other Pacific groups seeking independence and self-determination. This must obviously begin with the indigenous Aboriginal population of Australia.
- . The traditional Aboriginal owners of the land occupied by Pine Gap must be consulted and informed at every step of the campaign.
- . The campaign will at all times be based on a philosophy of active non-violence.

The campaign to close Pine Gap is built around two main dates:

19th October, 1986 - On this day the present 10 year Agreement under which Pine Gap operates reaches the end of its 9th year. The Agreement allows either Australia or the U.S. to give 12 months notice in writing from this date for the Agreement to be terminated. We are asking groups around Australia to plan and carry out actions within their own areas on this day. Such actions might include a rally, march, seminar, letterbox drop or picket. The aim of any action should be to build an awareness of all foreign bases in Australia and the Pacific and a clear call for their closure.

19th October, 1987 - On this day the 10 year period of the Agreement concludes. This does not mean the Agreement itself ends. It stays in force until one of the parties gives notice to terminate or a new Agreement is signed. We are inviting people from around Australia to join us at the gates of Pine Gap on this day and close the base down (even if only for a short period). We are also asking groups in other centres to organise rallies for those who cannot come to Central Australia. It is hoped that on this same day groups in other Pacific countries and within the U.S.A. will also hold actions in solidarity. Active non-violence is the key to the success of this demonstration.

The campaign has a number of components requiring the efforts of many groups and individuals:

1. Getting the campaign rolling. The Alice Springs Peace Groups and a number of other groups around the country are presently spreading the word about the campaign. We are writing letters, making phone calls, attending conferences and placing ads in newspapers and newsletters that are circulated amongst the peace movement. Two workers are employed in Alice Springs to assist in this ground work.

2. Fundraising. A campaign of the scope suggested will necessarily be a costly exercise. The current estimated budget is in excess of \$200,000. This is however only a fraction of the amount spent on the arms race every hour and far less than we can expect to be spent by the Australian and American governments to discredit the campaign. We are approaching a number of trade unions, church groups, political groups and other peace groups for support.
  
3. National network. It is obviously vital that the campaign is well co-ordinated. A number of groups have already indicated their willingness to participate. An initial meeting of some of these groups is planned for Melbourne on July 19th and 20th. Over 50 people from a number of states are expected to attend.
  
4. Public education. This is a key element of the campaign. It is presently planned that three information/lobby kits will be produced aimed at three distinct groups; Australian Peace Groups and the general public; Pacific groups; American Peace Groups. These kits will contain information on U.S. bases in Australia and the Pacific, information on the campaign and ideas for involvement. If sufficient funds are found the Australia kit will be printed and distributed by August 1986.

5. Media. It is crucial that those involved in the campaign make intelligent use of the media and seek the support of sympathetic journalists, etc. A number of 'left' journals and papers have already indicated their support and willingness to donate space. Advertising space in other national papers will have to be purchased as the campaign progresses. It is important that regional groups continually feed press releases to local media.
  
6. The Pacific. Links are being made with other groups in the Pacific working to remove foreign bases. The Philippines is one area of particular importance in this regard. We are grateful for the support and participation of the Philippines Action Support Groups in Australia. We hope firm links can also be made with the Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific Committee. Hopefully joint actions can be undertaken around 19th October, 1987.
  
7. The U.S.A. There is a large and very active Peace Movement within the United States. Every opportunity must be taken to inform this movement of the effects of U.S. bases in Australia and the Pacific and to mobilise their support for this campaign. An information/lobby kit is being prepared aimed at this movement. It is planned that a delegation of Alice Springs residents will undertake a speaking/lobbying tour of the U.S. in May 1987. Hopefully other Pacific groups will join this delegation.

8. Local Action. At the local level the Alice Springs Peace Group is attempting to undertake an education campaign aimed at preparing and mobilising the local population for October 1987. This campaign includes using local press, letterbox drops, information stall, public seminars and debates and demonstrations against the base. We already have a very large membership and have been supported by a unanimous resolution of the 1986 Northern Territory ALP Conference calling for the closure of Pine Gap. The local group will also continue to collect information about the base and consult with the local Aboriginal population about the development of the campaign.

To be successful the campaign needs the active support of every possible group and individual. Please send letters of support, donations, information about resources or ideas to develop the campaign. Your active participation is vital. Cheques should be made out to: Alice Springs Peace Group Bases Campaign, P.O. Box 1637, Alice Springs. 5750. Phone: (089) 52 6782.

## WHAT CAN I DO?

The biggest problem in any campaign is to get people involved. The first thing you can do is to decide you are going to be involved in this campaign. Then:

1. Inform yourself about foreign bases in Australia. There is a short list of helpful resources at the back of this document.
2. If you have access to any resources, please let us know. These can vary from money to stamps or a printing press to a water tanker for the national camp in October 1987. On the subject of money, this campaign will cost around \$200,000 to be successful. Think about fund raising activities: raffles, dances, parties, approaches to friends, etc. Any cheques should be made out to the "Alice Springs Peace Group Bases Campaign Account."
3. Organise a rally in your area calling for the closure of Pine Gap and protesting the existence of all foreign bases in Australia and the Pacific. We hope many groups will be demonstrating around Australia on October 19, 1986. Let us know about your plans so we can help publicise.
4. Lobby any groups you are a member of to pass a resolution calling for the closure of Pine Gap and all foreign bases in Australia.

5. Write to Kim Beazley, Minister for Defence, Bill Hayden, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Bob Hawke, Prime Minister. Call for the bases to be closed.
6. Write letters to the Editor of any newspapers in your area. This is an important means of public education.
7. At any rally you attend, display a banner calling for the closing of the bases.
8. If you have any international contacts, let them know about this campaign and encourage them to be active in their own country.
9. Plan now to attend the National Camp at Pine Gap in October 1987. If you can't get there, plan an action in your own area to show solidarity.



## RESOURCES.

Some resources we have found useful are:

A Suitable Piece Of Real Estate by Desmond Ball. Published by Hale & Iremonger, Sydney. 1980.

The Ties That Bind by Jeffrey T. Richelson and Desmond Ball. Published by Allen & Unwin. Sydney. 1985.

Taking Australia Off The Map by Jim Falk. Published by Penguin Books. 1983.

Pine Gap - On The Agenda by Ken Mansell, Nick Witte and Margaret Allan for the Anti-bases Campaign, Melbourne. Write C/- P.O. Box 132, Carlton. 3053. Ph: (03) 663 2846.

### Audio Visuals:

U.S. Bases in Australia - a film strip and cassette tape available from Environment Audio Visuals. Castlemaine, Victoria. 3450.

Home On The Range - a film on the CIA in Australia and the bases. Available from the National Film Library, Canberra or Campaign for International Co-operation and Disarmament in Victoria.

Allies - another excellent film available through the National Film Library.

For further information contact Brian Doolan or Fran Coughlan in Alice Springs. Phone: (089) 52 6782.