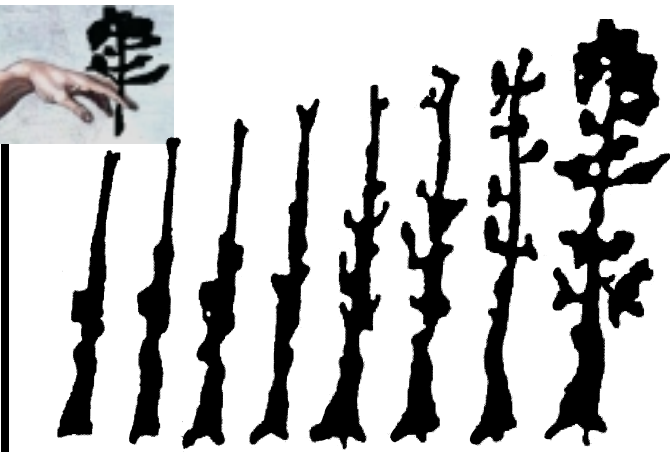


Why Press for Conversion?

Conversion is about...



Labour: Military industrial conversion is the move from capital-intensive, military production to the labour-intensive production of civilian goods.

Social programs: By reducing military budgets and producing socially-useful products and services, the government could not only save money it could also create many more jobs and simultaneously rebuild needed social programs.

Peace & human rights: Providing civilian alternatives to military production has many beneficial spin-offs. By stopping military exports to governments that are at war, and those abusing human rights, we would be helping activists who are struggling for peace, democracy and justice.

Culture: Our society is becoming more and more militarized by a bombardment of gratuitous violence in action films, video games, TV programs, to war toys and so-called "air shows." It's time to build a culture of peace, not war.

Education: Building a culture of peace, requires global perspectives on the links between human development, peace and the environment. Educating children, politicians and ourselves is a crucial task.

Psychology: Social change means transforming the beliefs, attitudes and perceptions of individuals, including ourselves.

Environment: Many military industries could be making much-needed technologies to prevent pollution and cleanup the environment.

International Law: The world is governed by those with the most money and the biggest weapons. We need to move from this system of "might is right" toward one based on global economic justice and international law.

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To be continued...

The next *Press for Conversion!* will focus on Canadian issues related to America's so called "Missile Defense" program:

- Why are Prime Minister Martin and his team so intent on supporting "missile defense"?
- How has Canada's government and industry already supported "missile defense"?
- What Canadian military companies will profit the most from future U.S. efforts to put weapons in space?
- Where do Canadian political parties stand?
- What organizations, campaigns and resources can Canadians turn to in efforts to oppose the weaponization of space?

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