

national

Nuclear weapons freeze faces tough House battle

United Press International
WASHINGTON — With a strong endorsement by the House Foreign Affairs Committee, a resolution calling for a nuclear weapons freeze goes to the full House next week for what is expected to be a tough battle.

The committee approved the resolution Tuesday on a 27-9 vote, despite administration opposition. Speaker Thomas O'Neill predicted the vote in the House will be very close.

The resolution also may have a tough battle ahead of it because it is still unacceptable to

President Reagan.

In a speech in Orlando, Fla., Reagan warned against "simple-minded appeasement" in the nuclear arms race with Moscow.

"The truth is," Reagan said, "a freeze now would be a very dangerous fraud, for that is merely the illusion of peace. The reality is, we must find peace through strength."

The president said a freeze at current levels would be virtually impossible to verify, would delay the modernization of allied nuclear forces and would remove any incentive for the Soviets to negotiate arms reductions.

As the committee voted, thousands of demonstrators rallied outside the Capitol for and against the measure.

The resolution approved by the Democratic-dominated committee was sponsored by chairman Clement Zablocki, D-Wis. It calls for negotiations with the Soviet Union aimed at a "mutual and verifiable freeze on, and reductions in, nuclear weapons." It, however, does not call for an immediate freeze.

A similar resolution was approved by the committee last year, but administration opposition caused it to fail on the

House floor by two votes.

At the committee's two-hour session, the panel also received cables from U.S. arms negotiators warning approval of a freeze resolution would undermine their efforts to reach arms agreements with the Soviet Union.

Paul Nitze, U.S. representative at strategic arms reduction talks in Geneva, Switzerland, said the resolution would make arms talks with Moscow "immensely more difficult if not impossible."

The resolution would not be binding on the president.

Reagan maintains 'peace by strength'

United Press International
WASHINGTON — President Reagan painted a threatening picture Wednesday of Soviet military power and said his defense policies will demonstrate the United States' resolve not to allow the military balance to tip against the United States.

Vowing the United States will not start fights or be the first to

use aggression, Reagan pressed his case for "peace through strength" in a statement issued along with "Soviet Military Power" a new Pentagon assessment of Soviet military might.

"We design our defense program not to further ambitions, but to counter threats," Reagan said.

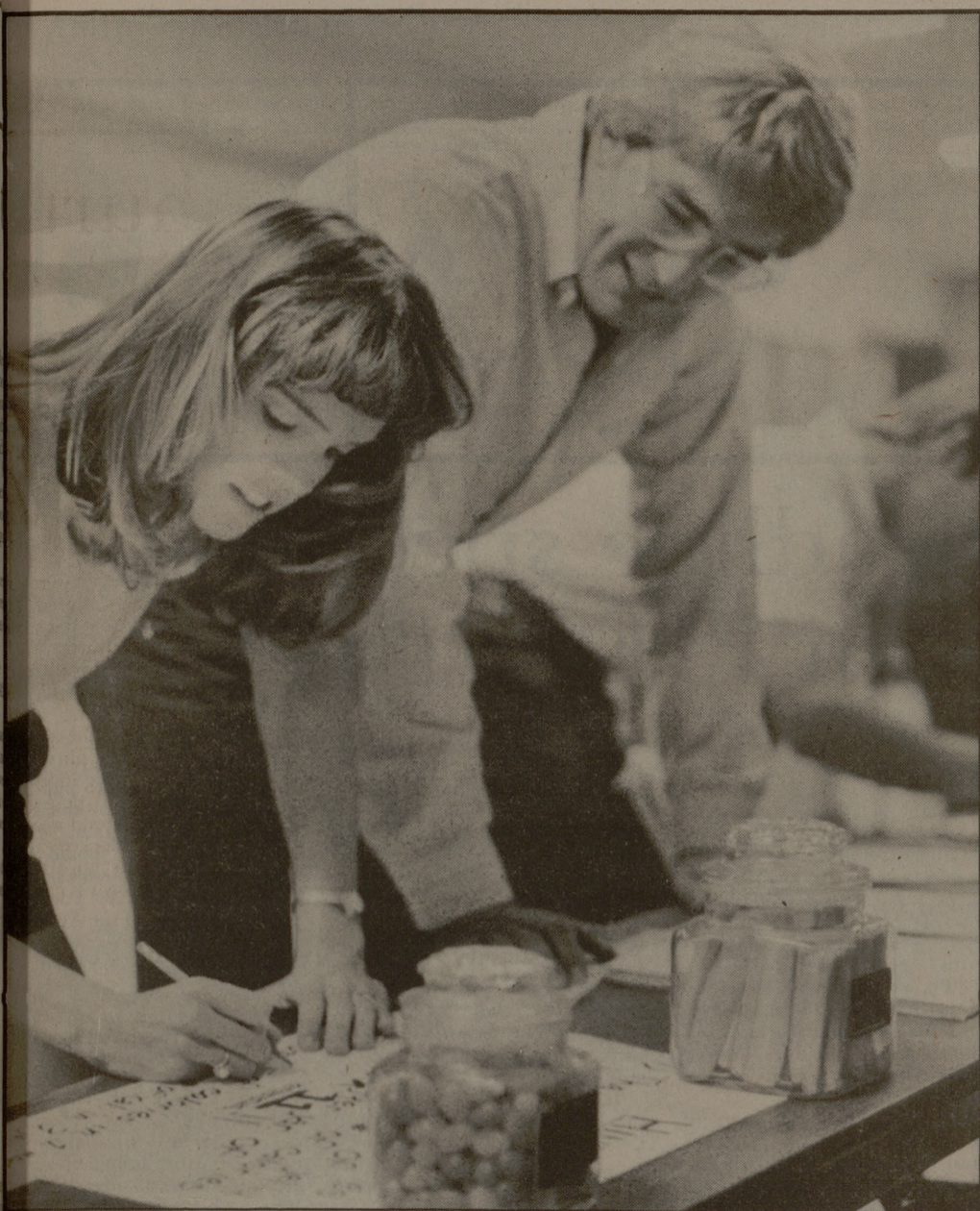


photo by Ann Friesen

Guess how many calories

Sandy Phillips and Matt Tokeim, both juniors from San Antonio, do their best to count the calories in these jars of jelly beans and carrot sticks.

The calorie-counting contest is being sponsored by the Student Dietetic Association to inform people about National Nutrition Month.

Soviets preparing arms for long nuclear battle

United Press International
WASHINGTON — The Pentagon unveiled a glimpse of the Soviet Union's mushrooming arsenal and its preparations for war in outer space, and Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger said Wednesday the Kremlin is developing the capability to fight a prolonged nuclear war.

Weinberger said the Soviets have increased the number of mobile SS-20 medium range missiles from 345 to 351 within the past few days, with 250 to 275 of them aimed at Western Europe and the remainder at Asia.

Weinberger, at the same time, held a news conference at the Pentagon to promote publication of "Soviet Military Power 1983," a declassification of secret information portraying a military machine that grinds out missiles, bombers, tanks and other weapons faster than the United States.

The defense chief said Mos-

cow's build-up means the Soviets "are simply doing what their doctrine always has talked about, and that is world domination."

Weinberger said the modernization of Soviet strategic nuclear systems, including a new bomber and two new intercontinental range missiles, "suggests they are developing the capability of fighting a prolonged nuclear war."

"What we are seeing is a Soviet ability and a Soviet plan, developing through the acquisition of their weapons and their doctrines and their civil defense and air defense, to fight a protracted nuclear war."

Weinberger also said the Soviets place a high priority on space warfare and said they plan to launch a manned space station for military purposes by 1990.

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