

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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1984---THE ARMS RACE

- WHEREAS, An Audience of some 100 million people saw the television film, THE DAY AFTER on November 20, 1983; and
- WHEREAS, Scientists have recently called attention to an unforeseen and particularly dire consequence of nuclear bombing---the onset of planetary nuclear winter; and
- WHEREAS, The Euromissiles have recently become operational, and the various series of formal arms control talks have collapsed; and
- WHEREAS, The United States has been increasingly relying on military means for solving problems in the Caribbean, the Middle East and Central America; and
- WHEREAS, Plans are actively going forward to extend the arms race into outer space, and such curbs on proliferation of nuclear and conventional weapons are faltering; and
- WHEREAS, More and more resources are being diverted to military uses, while vast inventory of global needs go unmet; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT
- RESOLVED, That the American Library Association reaffirms with special urgency its call at the Los Angeles Conference (1983 for libraries to give high priority to making information available about the arms race issue and about actions individuals can take; and be it Further
- RESOLVED, That this Resolution be referred to appropriate ALA divisions having selection committees who may wish to consider appropriate action.

ADOPTED BY THE
 COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
 January 11, 1984 in Washington, DC
 Transmitted by

Robert Wedgeworth, Secretary of Council

1984 - THE ARMS RACE - (CD#17) - Exhibit 24. Elizabeth Morrissett/Joan Goddard placed the Resolution on the floor. Sharon Hammer, Chair, Council Resolutions Committee reported that the resolution had been referred to COPES to determine whether the proposed committee would incur expense and the effect of such expense. Jan Keene, COPES Chair, indicated that the Committee was unable to determine what costs might be involved without knowing the scope of the suggested committee's activities. Dorothy Broderick/Josephine McSweeney's motion that Council establish a category of Council documents parallel to the Memorial Tributes to include those motions which are "primarily designed to raise our consciousness concerning our obligations, under the Library Bill of Rights, to assure collection development on all sides of current issues" FAILED. Discussion again referred to Policy 10.2, which the proposed action would violate, and to the possible costs involved in creating a new committee when various unit selection committees are already in existence. On motion by Jane Hannigan/Margaret Chisholm it was

VOTED, to strike the Be it Further Resolved Clause (that the full text of both resolutions [previously adopted on the Arms Race] be published in American Libraries and that a special ad hoc committee be formed to consider other ways of making this urgent policy concern operational in Association activities).

On motion by Regina Minudri/Joan Goddard, Council approved the addition of a second Resolved Clause (see below) and it was

VOTED, That the American Library Association reaffirms with special urgency its call at the Los Angeles Conference (1983) for libraries to give high priority to making information available about the arms race issue and about actions individuals can take, and Further That this Resolution be referred to appropriate ALA divisions having selection committees who may wish to consider appropriate action.

RESOLUTION ON PART TIME DUES CATEGORY - (CD#30). Council expressed no objection to Ms. Berger's point of personal privilege to request this Resolution be moved up on the agenda for action because of her need to depart. Leslie B. Berger/Dan Casey moved adoption of the Resolution which would require COPES to create a new reduced rate personal dues category for part time professional library workers. Stating that the term "part time professional library worker" needs to be defined before Council action, Beverly Lynch/Jane Hannigan moved and it was

VOTED, That CD#30 be referred to COPES for a report back no later than Midwinter 1985.