

What about civil defence procedures?

This pamphlet describes the effects of an isolated attack on Toronto, in which case, survivors could well receive emergency shelter, medical care, food and water supplies from outside sources. In the event of nuclear war however, Toronto would likely be one of many North American targets. Food, water and soil contamination across the continent could last years, perhaps centuries and civil defence procedures could protect no more than a handful of selected people - for the rest, there would be no help and no safe place to go.

What can we do?

Toronto City Council, as well as producing this pamphlet, recommended that information be developed to educate teachers and students in Toronto schools about the issues of nuclear war, disarmament and peace. You can help too. Learn more: the Toronto Public Libraries can provide you with a wealth of material about nuclear weapons and the effects of nuclear war (so can disarmament groups). Discuss the problem: talk about disarmament with your family and friends, at your local school, church or club. Ask questions and get answers from the government agencies and interest groups involved. Draw your own conclusions: don't assume that other people know more about this issue than you do. Let your Alderman, M.P.P. and M.P. know how you feel about nuclear disarmament and express your views on your election ballot November 8. Nuclear disarmament, yes or no. It's your decision.

For information in other languages

Pour obtenir une copie de ce dépliant en Français prière de téléphoner au bureau du Greffier Municipal de l'hôtel de Ville, 367-7306.

Para obter uma cópia deste folheto em Português, telefone para a Secretaria da Câmara de Toronto, 367-7348.

Per ottenere copia di questo opuscolo in Italiano, rivolgersi alla Segreteria Comunale, Municipio di Toronto, 367-7347.

Για αντίτυπο αυτού του φυλλάδιου στα Έλληνικά, παρακαλείστε να τηλεφωνήσετε στο Γραφείο Γραμματείας του Δήμου, 367-7388

如欲索取這小冊子的中文譯本請電大會堂市府秘書處
電話 367-7307.



City of Toronto

01 566 38

YOU DECIDE



On November 8, 1982, you'll be asked to vote on the issue of nuclear disarmament. Included on your Municipal Election ballot will be the question,

"Do you support nuclear disarmament by all nations on a gradual basis with the ultimate goal of a world free from nuclear weapons, and mandate your federal government to negotiate and implement with other governments steps which would lead to the earliest possible achievement of this goal?"

If you support the goal of bilateral nuclear disarmament, vote yes; if you don't, vote no. It's your decision.

What one nuclear bomb would do to Toronto

After learning the facts about nuclear war, Toronto City Council decided, "to ensure that the issue of nuclear weapons and nuclear war continues to be dealt with by the City of Toronto." As a first step, Council directed that this pamphlet be produced and distributed to make Toronto residents aware of their chances of surviving a nuclear attack.

*Nuclear weapons:
How many?
How powerful?*

There are approximately 50,000 nuclear bombs in the world - the United States and the Soviet Union lead in nuclear weaponry; South Africa, Israel and Libya either have nuclear weapons, or have the potential for building them. The possession of nuclear arms isn't limited to countries; terrorist groups may be able to make and detonate crude nuclear bombs.

Both the U.S. and the Soviet Union can mount a nuclear attack using missiles launched from land, by sea from submarines or dropped from bombers. A missile can travel 12,000 km (7000 miles) in 30 minutes, hitting its target within an accuracy of 165 m (180 yards) or about the length of a football field--and many missiles carry more than one warhead.

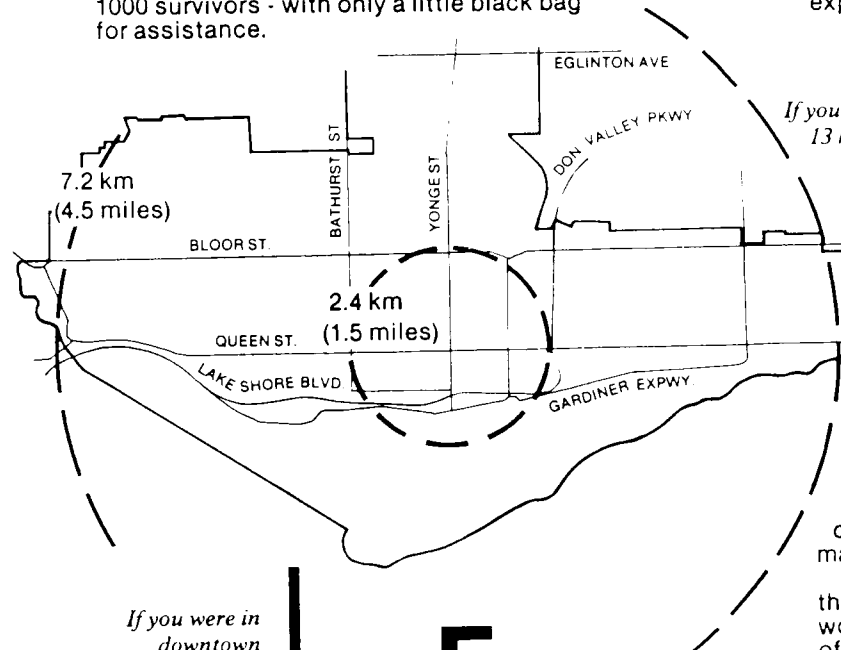
A one-megaton bomb, a medium-sized weapon by today's standards, has the explosive power of one million tons of TNT - the equivalent of a trainload of TNT 1127 km (400 miles) long - and has 70 times the destructive power of the bombs dropped on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945. A single submarine equipped with nuclear weapons can deliver the explosive power of all munitions used in World War II to 160 separate targets.

Should there be a nuclear war, Canada's urban centres would be the first targets, and Toronto, the country's largest city, would most certainly be hit. A one-megaton nuclear weapon detonated in the air above downtown Toronto during business hours would kill 750,000 people immediately and severely injure more than a million others; if detonated during the early evening, it would kill 624,000 residents and severely injure another 795,000. It would destroy 65 to 80 percent of all the City's hospital beds along with blood banks, antibiotics, sterile supplies, diagnostic and life support systems, operating theatres and emergency treatment centres. The blast would kill more than 5000 physicians, leaving only one doctor for every 1000 survivors - with only a little black bag for assistance.

killed by lethal doses of radiation. Every building in the area, including City Hall, the Parliament Buildings, the Stock Exchange, Union Station and downtown hospitals would disappear in a crater 20 stories deep.

If you were further away - within 7.2 km (4.5 miles) of the blast.

The rest of the City - the Humber River to the west, Lawrence Ave. to the north and Victoria Park to the east - would be totally destroyed by the blast and by the fires which would burn out of control for days. Five of every 10 people in this outer ring would die immediately; many of the rest would suffer third-degree burns and severe injuries caused by flying debris and collapsing structures, dying sometime later from burns and radiation exposure.



If you were in downtown Toronto - within 2.4 km (1.5 miles) of the blast.

Everyone in the downtown core, bounded by Bathurst St., Bloor St., and the Don Valley Parkway would immediately be vaporized, crushed, torn apart by winds up to 966 km (600 miles per hour) or

If you were within 13 km (8 miles) of the blast.

Initially, as many as 90 percent of your relatives and friends who live in the suburbs would survive. Many of those living within the area bounded by Kipling Ave., Sheppard Ave. and Midland Ave. would suffer extensive second- and third- degree burns or serious injury as a result of being buried or hit by heavy debris blown by 160 km per hour (100 mph) winds. Combustible material - wood, curtains, carpets, furniture etc. - would catch fire and under certain circumstances, a giant firestorm could occur, sucking up all the air and causing many to die of lack of oxygen.

Many people in the suburbs and the nearby regions of Peel, York and Durham would die of injuries, radiation exposure and lack of adequate shelter and proper medical care. There would be serious food shortages, widespread water contamination and survivors would experience sickness and disease unlike that occasioned by any other war - widespread epidemics of plague, typhus, cholera and other diseases; radiation sickness and cancer; genetic defects in succeeding generations.