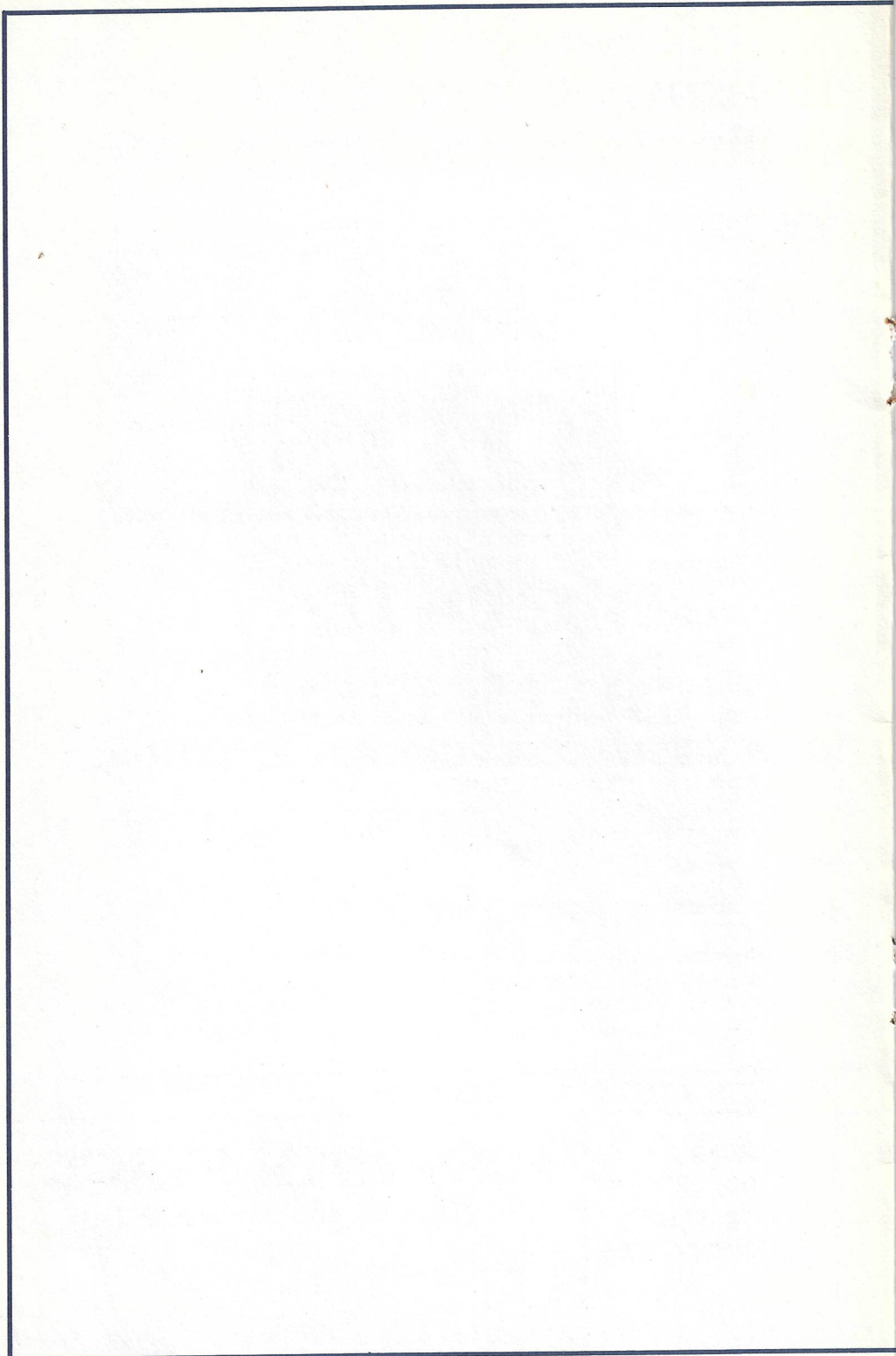


The background of the entire page is a detailed architectural blueprint. It shows a complex grid of lines representing walls, windows, and doors. The drawing is oriented vertically, with the top of the page corresponding to the top of the blueprint. The lines are dark and the background is a lighter, textured grey.

Housing & Jobs:

A Blueprint for Survival

	DRAWING TITLE	PREPARED BY:
H	HOUSING & JOBS: A BLUEPRINT FOR SURVIVAL	JOBS WITH PEACE 77 SUMMER ST. BOSTON MA 02110



Housing & Jobs: A Blueprint for Survival

Housing is a basic human requirement, but we have a serious shortage of it in this country, and it is a shortage of crisis proportions. The American dream of owning a home is fast receding as high housing prices and interest rates put the cost beyond the budget of working men and women.

Millions of other Americans are paying excessive amounts for apartment rentals, are living in subhuman dwellings, or are joining the growing army of homeless. We need better housing and a lot more of it.

Hundreds of thousands of construction workers and apprentices and producers of building materials are not working, not applying their skills to answer this need. The unemployment rate for construction workers at the beginning of 1983 was 20%, according to the U.S. Department of Labor. That's almost twice the national rate of unemployment.

What can we do? Jobs with Peace proposes a solution. Shift resources from the escalating arms race to housing. We can reduce military spending, which is eroding our standard of living, and still preserve our national security. A national housing construction program would go a long way toward solving the nation's housing problems and the benefits would extend to construction workers, carpenters, insulation suppliers, electrical workers, the lumber industry, and a wide range of other industries and occupations.

This pamphlet contains the following:

A description of the nation's housing problems

An explanation of the relationship between housing, unemployment, military spending, and the economy

A proposal for a national housing budget — a blueprint for survival

There's a crisis in housing

Housing in America is facing its worst crisis since the depression. Homebuilders can no longer afford to construct moderately priced homes. Rental units are becoming increasingly scarce and costly. Available housing is siphoned off by those who can afford it. Housing has become an attractive investment for the wealthy. When improvements in rental units are made, it is generally a prelude to condominium conversion. At the same time, much rental housing is needlessly lost through neglect, abandonment and arson.

The recession, huge federal deficits, interest rates, and unemployment all affect new home building. The current situation looks like this:

Fewer than 1 million housing units were built in 1982, though we need 2 million units each year of this decade.

The current median price of a new home is \$76,300, triple what it was in 1971.

Hundreds of construction firms have filed for bankruptcy.

Anyone who has tried to buy a home doesn't need to be told about interest rates. To build a house or buy one, a bank requires that mortgage payments not exceed 25% of income, which means that a family making \$20,000 gross (borrowing at 13%) can't obtain a loan for more than \$35,000. That amount doesn't go far in today's market unless it's accompanied by a hefty cash down payment.

Essentially, U.S. interest rates reflect supply and demand. What we lack now is supply. The government is not investing in the economy because its available money is being drained by paying off the national debt (a large portion of which is caused by past military spending) and borrowing to maintain a high military budget. That leaves little for other borrowers. The competition for what is left not only drives up the price of money (and housing), but creates rivalry among domestic programs.

What can the government do?

The present crisis indicates that the private sector alone cannot respond to our housing needs. The problem requires a greater commitment by the government, as past investments in public housing have been inadequate. Fewer than 2% of American households live in public housing. Every other modern industrialized nation has a higher percentage. Subsidized rental units, for which there are long waiting lists, serve another smaller fraction of households.

Clearly, government investment in housing is needed now. But instead of taking action to expand, preserve, and rehabilitate the nation's housing, the federal government's actions are making the situation worse.

Congress has withdrawn \$9.4 billion from low-income housing programs approved in prior years.

The administration wants to stop public financing of new and rehabilitated low-income housing.

The administration has proposed \$515 million for major subsidized housing programs for 1984. That is a 98% cut from the 1981 level of \$30.2 billion.

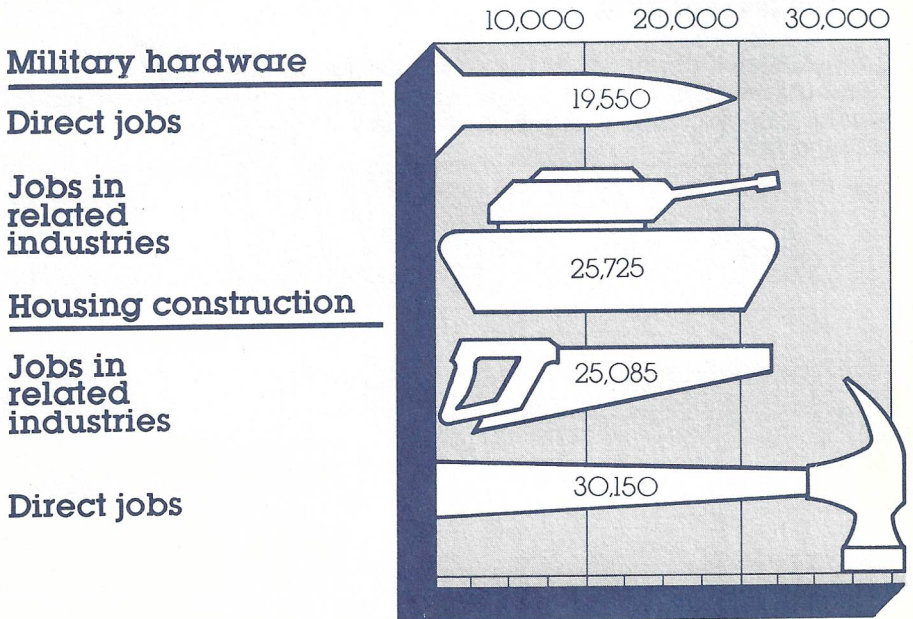
If these trends continue, the poor, minorities and the elderly will suffer intolerable hardship. Millions of moderate-income families will be affected too, and the housing industry will be further debilitated.

Building creates more jobs

Housing and jobs are related. When a house is built, it needs not only building materials but fixtures and wallpaper and tile and paint and glass and plumbing. That makes work for electricians and painters and plumbers and their suppliers, as well as construction workers. Every 100 jobs in housing construction generate another 130 jobs in industries that produce wood, fabricated metal, cement and concrete, plastics, and many other businesses.

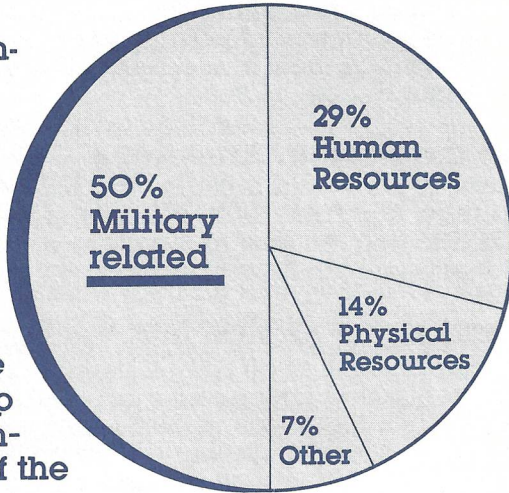
The Reagan Administration has actually created fewer jobs by shifting our taxes from housing programs to the military. MX missiles don't need plaster or roofing or flooring. As the chart shows, **\$1 billion spent on military hardware such as guns, tanks, or missiles provides about 23% fewer jobs than would building new homes or apartments.** And those military jobs, unlike construction work, are concentrated in a few areas of the economy.

Comparison of jobs created by \$1 billion projected 1985



Your 1983 federal income tax dollar

Today, one half of every federal income tax dollar is spent on the military budget, most of it going directly to the Pentagon. A large portion of this is spent on military hardware which doesn't help the construction industry or the rest of the economy.



There is another potential danger from this use of our tax dollars. The scientific talent and expertise in this country go where the jobs are, and right now they're in "defense." That talent isn't being used to revitalize our civilian industries and rebuild our communities. But it could. It's a question of priorities. We can choose whether to support a well-housed, healthy, productive America or an obese military establishment that bleeds the economy without giving much in return.

Source:

U.S. Budget 1983, Office of Management & Budget
Figures include the Department of Defense, the military's share of the national debt, veteran's benefits, foreign military assistance, and part of the budgets of NASA and the Department of Energy.

Bureau of labor statistics, projected 1985
(opposite page)

How we can safely cut the military budget

Many legislators and military experts believe we can safely cut billions from the defense budget and still maintain our national security. Their proposals, embodied in the 1984 Congressional Black Caucus budget, include:

Freeze the Nuclear Arms Race

A nuclear freeze would halt the arms race and be the first step toward reducing arsenals and lessening the risk of nuclear war. It would also stop the next round of the arms race — the production of weapons with first-strike capability, such as the MX missile. savings: \$26 billion

Stop arming for foreign intervention

Approximately 80% of all U.S. military spending is for conventional (non-nuclear) forces, and much of it is not for defense in Europe but for intervention in third-world countries. Rejecting a foreign policy based on power projection and intervention would reduce or eliminate funding for the Rapid Deployment Force, new aircraft carriers and support cruisers, and the reactivation of WWII battleships. savings: \$31 billion

Reduce funding for ineffective and extravagant weapons

The United States has been stepping up its investment in overly complex, flawed weapons systems. Despite their questionable value the costs of these more sophisticated but less dependable weapons grow exponentially. Funding for the XM-1 tank, unreliable fighter planes and helicopters, and binary chemical weapons can be safely reduced. savings: \$12 billion

Reduce personnel levels by 3%

The number of U.S. overseas military forces can be reduced by 3%, based on a reevaluation of foreign commitments and a belief that our allies should spend more for their defense. The funds for operations and maintenance will increase on a per-person and per-weapon basis, improving morale and readiness. savings: \$ 2 billion

**Total savings = \$71 billion
(1984 budget authority)**

A national housing budget

Labor, tenants, home-buyers and small businesses share a vital interest in an improved economy and increased housing production. Changing government priorities could help.

We have alternatives. We can reject this Administration's priorities and reassert our rights as Americans to decent housing and jobs for all. We can insist that our government fulfill its responsibility to the people and enact a stronger public housing policy.

Suppose we shift \$20 billion a year for five years from the military to housing and urban development. This would provide new or improved housing for over four million households and support 1.5 million jobs each year in construction and related industries. The beneficial impact on the economy could help turn the recession around.

What we're talking about is a new national housing budget covering a variety of programs to help meet our housing needs. The budget would increase the total amount of government funds invested in the housing industry. It would include direct grants for construction of publicly owned housing, grants to states for home mortgage financing agencies to subsidize private home buyers, weatherization grants to insulate homes, and loans to finance recovery of abandoned units. These are shown in the following tables.

A national housing budget

Program	Cost \$ Billions
1 Direct grants for construction of publicly owned housing sites and mixed income developments	7.0
2 Revolving loan for private homebuyers for new homes and recovery of abandoned units	6.0
3 Direct grants to public housing authorities to improve existing public housing units	3.0
4 Grants to states for home mortgage finance agencies to subsidize private homebuyers	3.0
5 Weatherization grants to insulate homes for qualified homeowners and renters	1.0
Annual total	20.0

Housing Units

**New
Improved**

**Jobs
Construction**

Other

Housing Units

Jobs Created

New

Improved

Construction

Other

140,000

169,400

311,200

60,000

60,000

180,900

150,600

60,000

108,400

55,200

180,000

217,800

286,200

333,000

36,100

18,400

380,000

453,000

712,600

821,600

Hundred thousands

200

300

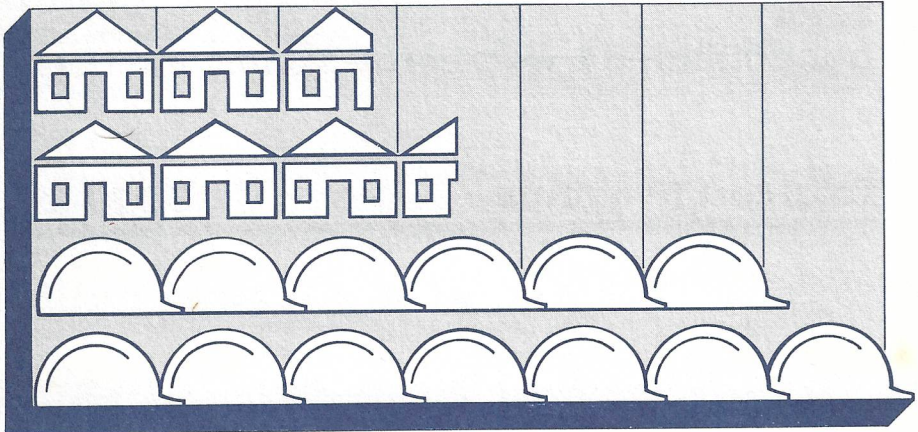
400

500

600

700

800



National housing budget

Five year summary

Jobs created

Jobs in construction	712,600
Jobs in related industries	821,600

Total (for each of five years) 1,534,200

New housing units

Public	700,000
Private	1,200,000

Total 1,900,000

Improved units

Rehabilitated private units	300,000
Rehabilitated public units	300,000
Weatherized units	1,665,000

Total (rehabilitated & weatherized units) 2,265,000

Total cost, five years \$100 Billion

Jobs with Peace

Jobs with Peace is a nationwide campaign to redirect federal priorities away from war and unnecessary military spending in order to meet America's human needs — in housing, education, health care, human services, and mass transit.

The campaign is working to reverse industrial deterioration in the U.S., which assigns to the militarized economy large quantities of engineers, skilled labor, machinery, tools, raw materials, and capital. Jobs with Peace supports major jobs programs that would rebuild our socially productive industries, reduce the federal deficit, and improve the overall health of the economy.

Jobs with Peace campaigns are co-sponsored by local peace groups, labor unions, civic organizations, and the religious community. To join or start a campaign contact the Jobs with Peace national office at:

Jobs with Peace, 77 Summer Street, Suite 1115, Boston, MA 02110
617/451-3389

Jobs with Peace, 2940 16th Street, B-3, San Francisco, CA 94103

Endorsements

72 Congressional representatives • American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) • American Friends Service Committee • Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN) • Clergy and Laity Concerned • Church Women United • Fair Budget Action Campaign • Fellowship of Reconciliation • International Association of Machinists & Aerospace Workers (IAM) • International Longshoremen and Warehousemen's Union (ILWU) • Mobilization for Survival • National Association of Concerned Veterans • National Assembly of Women Religious • National Association of Social Workers • National Education Association (NEA) • Religious Task Force, Mobilization for Survival • SANE • Southern Committee for Economic & Social Justice • United Electrical, Radio, and Machine Workers of America (UE) • U.S. Peace Council • U.S. Student Association • War Resisters League • Women's International League for Peace & Freedom • Young Women's Christian Association, National Board

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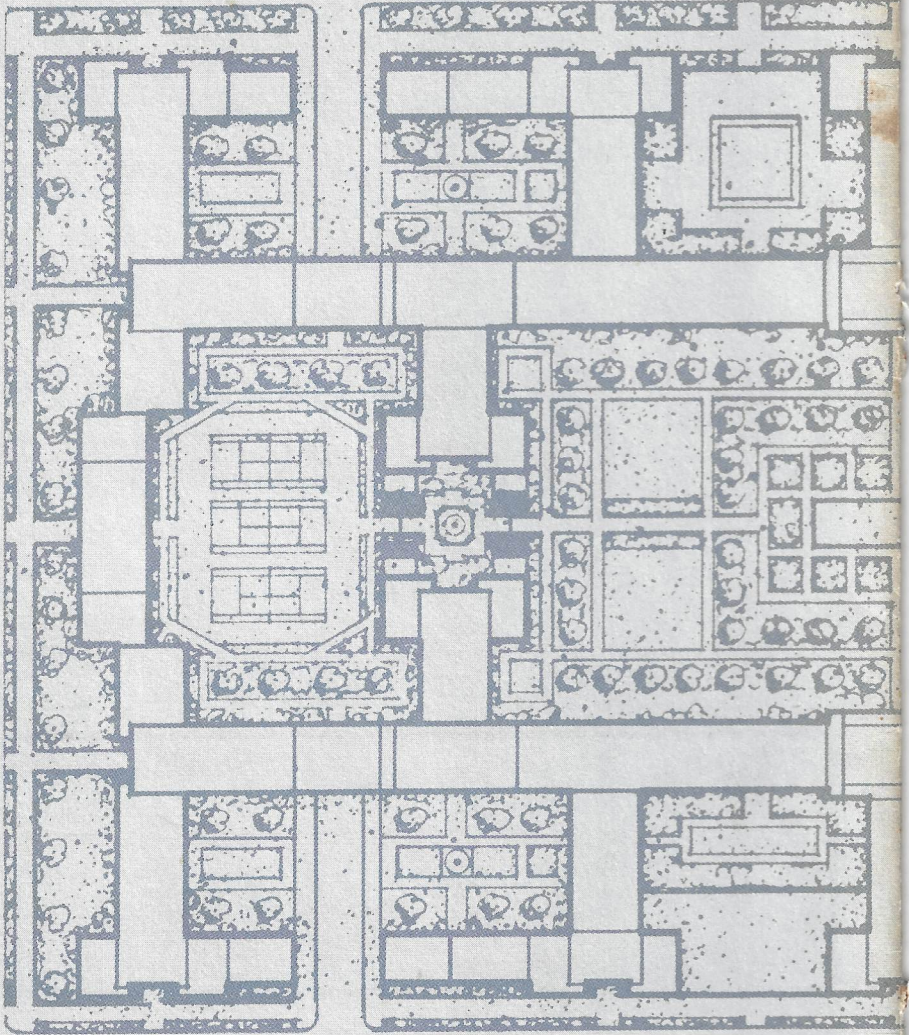
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PROJECT	BUILDER
NATIONAL HOUSING BUDGET	JOBS WITH PEACE