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Waikato Times 4.11.87

## Author warns of grim aftermath

A Northern Hemisphere nuclear war would leave most New Zealanders alive but facing a grim and unpleasant future, says visiting New Zealand After Nuclear War author Wren Green.

In Hamilton for a public meeting in the Methodist Centre tonight, Dr Green said contingency planning was needed now if the country was to avoid "major social collapse" after a nuclear war.

"As part of our overall national security we can take some minimal steps to reduce the likelihood of social collapse. But we can't expect to do anything to make life carry on as normal — there is no return to normal.

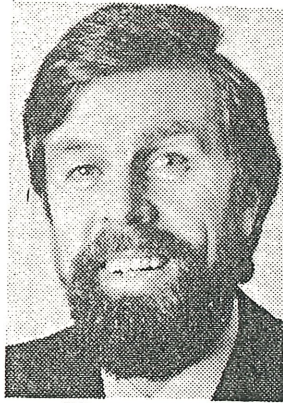
"We would be very much on our own. We'd have to move to self-sufficiency fairly quickly," he said.

His book, commissioned by the Planning Council, was the first step towards planning for nuclear war's aftermath.

Phase two submissions were now being gathered, he said, in the hope that private industry and the community would get involved.

"It goes way beyond how the Government should cope in the first week. It goes way beyond Civil Defence. We would need to restructure society as a way of coping with the disruptions," he said.

At Marsden Point, for



WREN GREEN

instance, half the plant was likely to be closed within a year as specialist parts were cannibalised. The Maui platform and synfuel projects would suffer similar deterioration, Dr Green said.

New Zealand's export based economy would crash, with unemployment expected to hit 50 per cent.

Supplies of medicines would last six months at present consumption rates, lubricating oils three months. But, Dr Green said, with rationing these sup-

plies could be spun out for a couple of years.

"Such planning needed to be an open process. We can't let some bureaucrat in Wellington draw up the rules," he said. "If that happened the public would fight against rationing and reorganisation."

Instead public education was needed "so people can help themselves and their families get back to as normal a life as possible," Dr Green said.

Meanwhile, addressing the Dunedin Symposium On International Conflict Resolution, West German Professor Carl von Weizsacker said the world would have to eliminate the institution of war or die all together.

"You cannot have war and nuclear weapons and live," he said.

The concept of limited wars would not work, he said.

"Victors will continue to hold limited wars until at some stage the war will no longer be limited."