

FOR PEACE LINK (Hope it's not too late for June issue??)

A FRENCH LETTER (only a suggested heading)

**Greenpeace**  
Private Bag  
Wellesley St, Auckland

Local feeling against the recent <sup>^</sup>increased French military/nuclear presence in the Pacific is rising in Aotearoa: people feel threatened by their supposed 'Friends'. But French people living in Auckland have <sup>also</sup> expressed their concern ~~also~~, and are embarrassed, and alarmed by their own government's aggressive tendencies.

They have now taken the initiative, and prepared an open letter addressed to President Mitterand. Perhaps he will listen to his own people, if not to Pacific peoples?

We feel it is a courageous stand, and hope all French citizens living in Aotearoa will sign. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~. If you are French/or have French friends who would like to participate write to: Greenpeace, Private Bag, Wellesley St, Auckland, and we'll send out a copy, written in French. As usual, it's a 'numbers' game, and therefore important to know how many have actually signed. So please return them to Greenpeace, and we'll ~~you~~ send them off. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ poste haste, to President Mitterand!

The following is the English text of the letter:—

*TRANSLATION of:—*

OPEN LETTER TO THE FRENCH PEOPLE IN THE PERSON OF THE PRESIDENT

DEAR SIR,  
WE AND FRENCH AND WE KNOW HOW IMPORTANT IT IS FOR FRANCE TO PRESERVE ITS ECONOMIC AND MILITARY INDEPENDENCE. WHILE LIVING IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, **BY CHOICE OR NECESSITY**, WE TRY TO GIVE THE BEST IMPRESSION OF OUR COUNTRY. BUT THIS IMPRESSION IS TARNISHED BY THE MEASURES TAKEN BY YOUR GOVERNMENT CONCERNING FRANCE'S INTERESTS IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD; MEASURES WHICH DON'T TAKE ~~AND~~ <sup>AND</sup> ACCOUNT ~~OF~~ LOCAL PUBLIC OPINION, OF WHICH WE FRENCH ARE AN INTEGRAL PART.

LIKE OTHER OTHER ETHNIC POPULATIONS WE FEEL INTELLECTUALLY CONCERNED AND PHYSICALLY THREATENED BY YOUR ATTITUDE (THE CONTINUATION OF NUCLEAR TESTING AND FRENCH MILITARY REINFORCEMENTS).

ARE WE YOUR ENEMIES?

...cont'd

FRENCH LETTER....cont'd

COULD YOU NOT FIND A SOLUTION WHICH GIVES US BACK OUR FRENCH PRIDE?  
A SOLUTION DIRECTED TOWARDS DISARMMENT WHICH, BY ITS GREATNESS  
AND GENEROSITY, WOULD SET AN EXAMPLE OF A PEACEFUL COUNTRY AMONG  
THE MOST MILITARY POWERS, WHOSE NATURAL POSITION IS TO DEPEND  
FREEDOM AND HUMAN RIGHTS. A POSITION WHICH UNFORTUNATELY, FRANCE  
HAS NOT TAKEN WHILE WE HAVE BEEN LIVING HERE.

FINALLY, COULD YOU NOT LET THIS PART OF THE WORLD ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~  
WHERE PEOPLE HAVE SUFFERED ENOUGH ALREADY FROM THE EFFECTS OF  
NUCLEAR WEAPONS, LIVE IN PEACE.

FRENCH PEOPLE LIVING IN NEW ZEALAND

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