THE COUNCIL

April 26, 1983

Res. No. 364

Resolution calling upon the Council of the City of New York to prohibit the production, transport, storage or deployment of nuclear weapons within the City and proclaiming the City a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone.

By Council Member Gerges; also Council Members Dryfoos, Eisland, Friedlander, Greitzer, Katzman, Leffler, Maloney, Messinger, Michels, Pinkett, Alter, Foster and Lisa—

Whereas, The development and production of nuclear weapons continues at a horrifying rate; and,

Whereas, The discussion of nuclear weapons and nuclear war is no longer concerned with hypothetical moral debate, but strategic planning; and,

Whereas, A too great proportion of our society views the issue of nuclear weapons and nuclear war as a discussion of fantasy, ignoring the very real potential for utter destruction; and,

Whereas, There exists a stunning trend within the halls of power of this nation and other nations to deal with nuclear war planning as a realistic, viable option in international political negotiation; and

Whereas, The City of New York is the host city to the United Nations which is committed to brotherhood and peaceful, equitable advancement of mankind; and

Whereas, The City Council of New York has committed itself to the tandem notions of Jobs With Peace and a Nuclear Freeze by resolution; and,

Whereas, Many proponents of these two ideals waver in their commitment, proving the urgent need to strengthen these ideals within the community of the people of the City of New York; and,

Whereas, Common discourse treats nuclear weapons and nuclear war as wagering chips for international politics instead of as the instruments of the most horrible death for which they were designed and intended; and,

Whereas, The continent of Antarcica has enjoyed the designation of a nuclear weapons free zone since 1959; South America and outer space have been so designated since 1967 and as of 1971 the ocean floors have been likewise proclaimed; and,

Whereas, A most basic human logic demands to include more vastly populated areas of our world as nuclear weapons free zones; and,

Whereas, Mankind’s creation of nuclear weapons and ability for nuclear war is the most profound and powerful knowledge ever possessed by the human mind; and,

Whereas, This profundity demands the attention and concerns of every citizen of every country and every legislative body on every level of government on the planet Earth; therefore be it.

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York, on behalf of the people of the City of New York, and with a most humble respect and deep concern for the people of the entire world, hereby prohibits the production, transport, storage, placement or deployment of nuclear weapons within the territorial limits of the City of New York, and proclaims and designates the City of New York a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone.

Adopted.