

# the Nuclear Resister

“A Chronicle of Hope”

No. 168

December 3, 2012

## Anti-Nuclear Women in India Denied Bail, Face Sedition Charges

The popular movement to prevent the start-up of India's Koodankulam nuclear power station has so far succeeded, but at the cost of demonstrators' lives and mass arrests. Three women from the neighboring fishing village of Idinthakarai remain in jail, denied bail and charged with multiple offenses including sedition. The region for miles around the reactor remains under state siege, disrupting access to food, education, information and health care. Police at checkpoints and in sand-bagged bunkers are keeping thousands of indicted villagers and leaders of the People's Movement Against Nuclear Energy (PMANE) from leaving the area at India's southern tip, and foreign media and supporters from entering. Tensions remain high. The latest postponement has pushed back the projected date for the reactor to begin critical chain reaction only to mid-December.

An estimated 60,000 to 70,000 people have been mobilized to participate in the Gandhian campaign of nonviolent agitation, creating one of India's largest social movements in recent years. The tragedy at Fukushima only added to the momentum among people who have their own experience of the great 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami.

The Madras High Court gave its approval to fuel loading on August 31. PMANE responded with a call to begin a satyagraha campaign on September 9 to stop the imminent threat to the lives and livelihoods along the southern coast. By Saturday, September 8 at least 30,000 people had joined protest camps.

On Sunday, instead of confronting the police on the roads, up to 10,000 people began walking from Idinthakarai down the beach towards the nuclear plant just two miles away. Fishing boats surrounded the plant from the sea. Police were not prepared for the human wave, with women and children at the fore, which stopped just a few hundred meters outside the perimeter wall of the reactor site. Police were redeployed onto the beach but the demonstrators refused orders to retreat, and thousands slept on the beach in inclement weather. They demanded that the Tamil Nadu government intervene and respond to their demands.

The next day, while most of the people returned home to freshen up, police in riot gear stormed the beach. Some of the hundreds of remaining protesters responded by



photo via countercurrents.org

**Police arrest Xavieramma after driving village opponents of India's Koodankulam nuclear power project into the sea to stop their September 10 protest.**

throwing a few sticks and sand as they began to retreat. Police retaliated with a fusillade of tear gas and a lathi-charge — a military tactical melee marked by swinging the five-foot long bamboo lathi, or clubs, to disperse a crowd. Many demonstrators, trapped between lines of police and the ocean, sought refuge by wading up to their necks in the sea. Dozens were arrested and jailed, charged variously with waging war against India (with sickles and crowbars), sedition and shouting obscenities. Nearly as many were hospitalized.

Back in Idinthakarai, police busied themselves going door to door, harassing and threatening residents while searching for PMANE leaders. At Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, the spiritual and logistical center of the nonviolent resistance, counter-protesters aided by police tore down the anti-nuclear banner, rampaged through the sanctuary, smashed a statue of the Virgin Mary and urinated on the wreckage they wrought. Police emptied the village's water reserve and threw mud and sand into the food that women were preparing at the church for the protesters. Many homes were also ransacked and damaged in the Tsunami Rehabilitation Colony, the closest settlement at less than a kilometer from the plant.

While Catholic officials condemned the “brutal and

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## Manning Testifies About Brig Abuse

Accused Army whistleblower Bradley Manning testified on November 29 and 30 at a motions hearing for court martial proceedings in Quantico, Virginia. It was the first time he spoke in public since his arrest and imprisonment 917 days earlier in May 2010.

Manning testified about the abusive treatment he was subjected to in captivity, in support of a motion to dismiss the charges against him or at least mitigate any punishment should he be convicted.

Michael Ratner of the Center for Constitutional Rights said about Manning's first day of testimony, “Bradley was dignified, articulate, smart and self-aware. After two and a half years it was miraculous to finally hear him describe the horrible cages he was in and the egregious conduct of his jailers. What was done to Bradley was inexcusable. I was deeply moved by his words in a day of testimony that was like an emotional roller coaster. I cannot imagine what he must be feeling, but his incredible sincerity and strength was visible to all. We are lucky to have people with the courage of Bradley Manning.”

A significant development occurred shortly before Manning took the stand. Col. Denise Lind, the military judge, approved the language of an unusual plea offer made by the defense earlier in November. Formal acceptance of the offer could come in December.

Manning's attorney, David Coombs, had explained the filing on his blog: “PFC Manning has offered to plead guilty to various offenses through a process known as ‘pleading by exceptions and substitutions.’ To clarify, PFC Manning is not pleading guilty to the specifications

as charged by the Government. Rather, PFC Manning is attempting to accept responsibility for offenses that are encapsulated within, or are a subset of, the charged offenses.”

If the plea offer is formally accepted, Coombs noted, “...the Government may still elect to prove up the charged offenses. Pleading by exceptions and substitutions, in other words, does not change the offenses with which PFC Manning has been charged and for which he is scheduled to stand trial.”

Specifically, Manning offered to accept responsibility for wrongfully storing classified information, and releasing the “Collateral Murder” video, more than 20 Afghan war logs and more than 20 Iraq war logs, plus specific other classified memos and documents. On those counts alone, he would face a maximum sentence of 16 years in prison. Should the government continue to prosecute Manning, the defense strategy would be to contest the other charges, including aiding the enemy, as too extreme for the circumstances.

The motions hearing continues December 5.

In other developments, the defense motion to dismiss for failure to provide Manning a speedy trial was denied, and Manning has opted for a bench trial before Col. Lind, rather than a military jury. Bradley Manning's court martial has been postponed again, and is now scheduled to begin at the Quantico Marine base on March 16, 2013.

None of the eleven supporters of Bradley Manning

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## PRISON TIME FOR DRONE PROTEST

As protest and civil resistance to weaponized robotic warplanes, or “killer drones”, spreads, the courts are addressing this new face of war with prison terms and sweeping restraining orders against nonviolent protesters.

**Whiteman Air Force Base**

Brian Terrell and Ron Faust were convicted of trespass following their September 10 trial in federal court in Jefferson City, Missouri. They were arrested last April at Whiteman Air Force Base, one of several from where drone operators launch fatal attacks halfway around the world. Back in court on October 11 for sentencing, Faust was placed on probation for five years. Terrell, with a much longer protest record, was sentenced to the maximum six months in jail. He turned himself in to the federal prison at Yankton, South Dakota on November 30.

Their co-defendant Mark Kenney, who pled guilty in June, was released from federal prison on November 16 after serving a four-month sentence.

**Hancock Field**

In New York state, members of Upstate Drone Action have repeatedly visited Hancock Field Air National Guard base, attempting to personally deliver an indictment for war crimes committed by the Guard unit there that operates killer drones overseas. On October 5, while some Upstate Drone Action members were in Pakistan as part of a U.S. peace delegation in solidarity with Pakistani victims of drone attacks, others stood with signs and banners at the end of the Access Road leading to the main gate for a couple of hours. Authorities finally moved in and arrested ten people, who were given tickets and released.

About 40 members of the group returned again on the morning of October 25, including some just back from Pakistan. While some blocked both open gates with their bodies, signs and banners, others vigiled across the street. Security guards then closed both gates and opened a third, which was also soon blocked by a handful of those seeking a halt to drone operations.

The signs named the war crimes that the activists say are being carried on at the base, and the pictures portrayed children who have been killed by the drones. They succeeded in blocking the gates for two and a half hours before seventeen people were arrested and taken into custody. Each was arraigned on charges of trespass and disorderly conduct. Fifteen were released later that day on bail or their own recognizance, another the next day, and one man spent a week in jail.

As each one was released, they were also served an Order of Protection, issued by DeWitt Town Court in response to a complaint that morning from the Air National Guard mission commander, Lt. Colonel Earl Evans. The defendants had not even known Evan's name, but are now prohibited from any communication with Evans and ordered to stay away from his home and place of employment, Hancock Field. Police even told the demonstrators that if Evans is simply irritated by their presence at a regular legal vigil outside the base gate, his complaint would lead to their arrest for violating the order.

The group sees the order as an attempt not to protect Evans as much as it is intended to intimidate and silence their protest. Veterans for Peace past-president Elliot Adams, who was served with the order, said, “Apparently someone forgot to inform the judge that the commander at Hancock is the one with all the Humvees, the chain-link fence with barbed wire on top, the M16s and M4 assault rifles, not to mention the F16 fighter jets and the MQ9 drones, among other armaments. He has trained in and made a profession of aggressive violent behavior. By contrast, the citizens petitioning their government for redress are the ones who have taken an oath of nonviolence.”

Ed Kinane and Dick Keough, charged with assembly without a permit while vigiling legally outside the base last May, were in court on September 12. The prosecutor asked that charges be dismissed “in the interest of justice”

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# Resistance Reflections

## PRO SE DEFENSE IN THE CATHOLIC WORKER TRADITION

*I glanced into the chamber where the judges were talking  
Darkness was everywhere, it smelled like a tomb  
I was ready to leave, I was already walkin’  
But the next time I looked there was light in the room.*

Bob Dylan, Day of the Locusts

by Brian Terrell

It was the work of hospitality to the homeless that impelled me to drop out of college to join the Catholic Worker community in New York 35 years ago. It was not long though, before it came clear that “doing good” is only part of the Catholic Worker vocation. We are also required to “resist evil” and in opposing the evils of the arms race, military intervention and economic violence by acts of nonviolent civil resistance I have been arrested well over 100 times, usually in the good company of good friends including other Catholic Workers. Most of these have occasioned at least brief court appearances for which it is my habit to represent myself, appearing pro se, to use the language of the court, without the mediation of a lawyer.

For the first years of my career as a resister, I took a strictly minimalist approach to the courts. I was “not interested in justifying myself before a system whose definition of justice I am unable to relate to and which is more dependent upon the bargaining of attorneys than upon any real moral values,” I wrote in an article published in the June 1978 issue of *The Catholic Worker*, while in jail for blocking rail shipments of plutonium into the nuclear weapons factory at Rocky Flats, Colorado. I sometimes refused even to enter a plea on my behalf, always sat in jail rather than post bail. I was jailed several times, too, for refusing to cooperate with the courts’ terms of probation or for contempt of court after refusing to pay fines.

I still hold the beliefs of my youth that inspired my earlier disinterest in what happens in court. Experience over the years has only confirmed my conviction that the judicial system in this country is a blunt and brutal instrument of violence in the hands of a rapacious oligarchy to grind the poor and suppress dissent rather than the impartial arbiter of justice that it pretends to be. Over time, though, my hard line on this and perhaps every other point upon which as a young man I brooked no concession, has softened. After much practice with elder resisters and with the advice of some good movement lawyers, I have greatly expanded my role as a pro se defendant, arguing my position before judges and juries, cross examining witnesses, filing motions, writing briefs, the whole bit. I have even on a few occasions been found not guilty!

There is much to be found in the canon of the Catholic Worker, not to mention the example of Jesus’ refusal to justify himself before Pilate, to support my earlier practice of declining to participate in the machinations of the courts. Karl Meyer remembers Dorothy Day’s terse instruction before his first arrest, protesting New York’s annual civil defense drills in 1957: “We plead guilty, and we don’t take bail.” Attempts at finding the incontrovertible set of pure Catholic Worker beliefs and practices (whether in religious orthodoxy or courtroom decorum) from which we must not deviate are however, futile exercises bound for frustration. In her monthly column after the first civil defense protest two years earlier, for example, Dorothy reported paying \$1500 bail, and again in 1956, “Bail was there ...and we all thankfully accepted it.”

Even the anarchist “one man revolution” Ammon Hennacy, famous for his stunning courtroom repartees such as “Oh, judge, your damn laws: the good people don’t need them and the bad people don’t follow them, so what good are they?” and “I am NOT disturbing the peace, I’m disturbing the war!” and who preferred to “wear out” the police and courts by persistently risking arrest rather than seek an acquittal, could be surprisingly flexible. He once allowed the American Civil Liberties Union to “use” him as an “example to provide freedom for those who always moved on when told to do so” in a case that prevailed in the New York State Supreme Court involving Ammon’s arrest for selling the CW newspaper in the streets of New York City.

My increased engagement with the judicial system is perhaps mostly due to the fact that I find myself more comfortable in the courtroom. In some cases, as an individual or as part of a discerning community, I will choose to keep the time and effort given to the legalities to a minimum. Other times the decision is made to go all out with a most elaborate defense – this decision is sometimes tactical, sometimes intuitive. I have no illusions that much good really can be accomplished there. I am very aware that a protestor being found not guilty does not bring an

end to war a whit closer. More important than achieving any desired decision from the court, I hope that our courtroom strategies and arguments have been consistent with and have added to the message of our actions on the street, bringing the issues raised to a wider venue.

It is an uphill battle, speaking truth to power in the venue of the courtroom. The scene is stacked against any reality being witnessed to. Half truths, lies, excuses and evasions are promoted, truth ruthlessly suppressed. It is a system that depends upon its victims cutting their losses, pleading out for a lesser sentence regardless of guilt or innocence. The ordinary work of the court is as mundane, humdrum and boring as it is destructive of the human beings that trip into its machinery – judges, lawyers, prosecutors as well as defendants. Years of human beings’ lives and potentials are disposed of with strokes of a pen by functionaries who often as not do not even look up from their files between cases.

This monotonous drone of fractured Latinisms and legal gibberish is shattered when defendants speak simply and clearly, by women and men taking responsibility for their actions of conscience without apology or alibi, who risk putting the system itself on trial. Good things can be told in court but only when its dominant paradigm is broken. For many judges, being asked to think and to actually make informed decisions is an intolerable effrontery. A few others, on the other hand, might be relieved by such a break in the tedium of their day; some rejoice to hear for the first time in years on the bench the constitutional questions that they studied in law school! In any case, it wakes them up.

If few judges “get it,” then it must be said that even fewer lawyers do. We do have a few precious friends in the bar who can adequately defend or advise a defendant whose aim is not to get off the hook but to “speak truth to power,” but not one in a thousand of those practicing law can be helpful to the nonviolent resister. I advise new resisters that there is far more to lose by having bad counsel than none at all. Well meaning but politically and spiritually unaware lawyers can be generous in their offers of help, but they can easily obscure or even destroy their defendants’ message. Heartbreak, distress, damaged relationships, even weightier legal consequences are more likely to come in the wake of “expert” legal representation than by even the most inexperienced novice stumbling alone through a maze of legal obscurities. Post trial regret among nonviolent resisters is more likely to be expressed as “Why did I ever listen to that lawyer?” than “Why did I go it alone?”

The best trial scenes happen when defendants go to trial with a community of support. Lawyers can be a great help as advisors or representing some defendants, effectively making them “co-counsel” with those who go pro se. The best movement lawyers do not presume to make decisions for their “clients” but act as collaborators, acting in a sense as tour guides and interpreters to travelers to a strange, exotic and confusing landscape. One advantage to this approach is that judges often will order the parameters of testimony so narrow (barring mention of the words “God,” “nuclear weapons,” “international law,” “war,” for examples) as to make the proceedings meaningless. While an attorney risks losing her livelihood by speaking the truth in such circumstances, a *pro se* defendant can speak up risking only a reprimand or at worst a day or two in lock up for contempt.

In my times in court I am continually amazed to find how little knowledge or expertise is to be found among most judges and prosecutors, how little acquaintance with the law is needed for them to exercise their power. Usually I have been more prepared than these professionals, sometimes the only person in the room who has actually read the statute in question. Going to court with the expectation of going to jail is liberating, too, giving one the freedom to speak one’s conscience without regard to consequences. Courtrooms are deliberately designed and decorated to awe and intimidate, but it is all, in the end, smoke and mirrors. “Brace yourself,” G-d commanded the prophet Jeremiah, good advice to all resisters, “Stand up and speak to them. Tell them everything that I bid you, do not let your spirit break at the sight of them.”

## From War to Peace



From War to Peace turns weapons meant to destroy us into art meant to restore us. They create jewelry and accessories from disarmed and recycled nuclear missile systems, transforming swords into plowshares, hate into love and war into peace.

**The Nuclear Resister** receives 20% of the price of your From War to Peace purchase **when you use the coupon code “RESIST,” during checkout**, and you receive an additional 5% savings on your order. View the bracelets, pendants, earrings, ornaments, keychains - even a Beers not Bombs bottle opener - at [FromWarToPeace.com](http://FromWarToPeace.com)

## Thanks

Thanks to Polly, Cindy, Hollis, John, David, Matt, Steve, Paige, Betts and Charlotte for helping to mail the last issue, and to Joyce for proofreading this issue.

And thanks so much to all who sent a contribution to support *the Nuclear Resister* in response to our “help, we see the bottom of the credit union account” appeal. Every little bit helps, so if you are able to send an end-of-the-year donation, please do!

Many thanks to Paul Ogren, co-founder of From War to Peace (FWTP), for inviting *the Nuclear Resister* to be a recipient of a percentage of sales of the beautiful and meaningful jewelry, ornaments and more - all created by FWTP from the metal of disarmed nuclear weapons systems! Please see the ad on this page and the enclosed card to learn how your purchase can benefit *the Nuclear Resister*. Let us know if you would like additional cards or an email with the same information that you can share with family and friends.

## the Nuclear Resister

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### YOU CAN HELP!

Please send news, updates and donations! Mail us (or e-mail or phone) new action reports, updates, jail information, statements, graphics, photos & clippings about local actions. Thanks!

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Please inquire about multiple copies of the current issue for free distribution at conferences, workshops, trainings, etc.

### THE NUCLEAR RESISTER ON MICROFILM

*The Nuclear Resister* is available on microfilm as part of the Alternative Press Collection (1986 - present) and the Alternative Press Center Supplement of the Underground Press Collection (1980 - 1985) offered by the ProQuest Company, 789 E. Eisenhower Pkwy., Ann Arbor, MI 48106 or online at [proquest.com](http://proquest.com).

### ABOUT THE NUCLEAR RESISTER

Since 1980, *the Nuclear Resister* has provided comprehensive reporting on arrests for anti-nuclear civil resistance in the United States, with an emphasis on providing support for the women and men jailed for these actions. In 1990, *the Nuclear Resister* also began reporting on anti-war arrests in North America, plus overseas anti-nuclear and anti-war resistance with the same emphasis on prisoner support.

*The Nuclear Resister* is published about every two months and serves to network this nonviolent resistance movement while acting as a clearinghouse for information about contemporary nonviolent resistance to war and the nuclear threat. We believe that in any significant movement for social change, many committed individuals are imprisoned. Behind bars, they are physically isolated from their supporters and their own resistance activity is limited. Broader awareness of their actions and support for the imprisoned activist are essential to the movement for a peaceful, nuclear-free future.

Each issue provides the names and jail addresses of currently imprisoned anti-nuclear and anti-war activists. Readers are encouraged to provide active support by writing letters to those behind bars and in other ways requested by the prisoners.

Jack and Felice Cohen-Joppa, Editors



# Trial Set For Transform Now Plowshares

Saying his Duluth, Minnesota community would likely benefit from his return to work, a federal magistrate judge granted pretrial release without bond to Transform Now Plowshares defendant and Catholic Worker Greg Boertje-Obed.

At a hearing September 11 in U.S. District Court in Knoxville, Tennessee, Judge C. Clifford Shirley denied a U.S. attorney’s request to keep Boertje-Obed in jail as he awaits his February 26, 2013 trial for breaking into the Y-12 nuclear weapons complex in Oak Ridge in the July 28 anti-nuclear weapon protest.

In denying the state attorney’s request, Shirley said Boertje-Obed’s record of appearing for court “is good – by his own word, one hundred percent.”

Shirley also disagreed with the prosecutor’s contention that Boertje-Obed posed a danger to the community. “He poses little danger,” Shirley said. “In fact, it may be that some people in Duluth will benefit if he returns to his

normal activities... Taking in the totality of factors, Mr. Obed appears to be an appropriate case to release.”

Boertje-Obed returned to Duluth, where he works with the poor. He is married and has an adult daughter.

Co-defendants Sr. Megan Rice and Michael Walli were released on August 3. The day after Boertje-Obed’s release, Rice and Walli were invited guests at a Congressional hearing about the critical security lapses spotlighted by their break-in. Rice wore two casts, having recently taken a fall that broke both wrists. She is recuperating from surgery with the support of her religious community.

The prosecution has hinted at adding sabotage and terrorism charges for the trio, who already face up to 16 years in prison if convicted. In October, the government’s plea offer on the existing charges of trespass and destruction of property was resolutely rejected. A government motion *in limine* to prevent the defendants from even speaking about nuclear weapons is now before the court.

Among the items given to the defense during discovery were official photos of the alleged criminal damage at the scene of the crime.

For more information and to view the photos, visit transformnowplowshares.wordpress.com, where you can sign a petition to the U.S. Attorney General asking that he refuse to authorize additional charges which could add another 50 years to their possible sentence.

*[Patrick O’Neill contributed to this report, writing for the National Catholic Reporter.]*

## Study War No More Shut Down the SOA

The largest annual anti-militarization gathering in North America took place in Columbus, Georgia from November 16–18. School of the Americas Watch hosted thousands for a mass rally on Saturday at the gates of Fort Benning, home to the School of the Americas, now named the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (SOA/WHINSEC). The protest culminated on Sunday, November 18 with a mass die-in and funeral procession to commemorate the victims of SOA/WHINSEC violence and U.S. militarization. The school has trained some of Latin America’s most notorious killers and continues to be implicated in human rights abuses today.

Nashua Chantal of Americus, Georgia stood in silence during the procession – a sad clown dressed in black clothes that were patterned with the words “Study War No More” painted in white. The same words in black were printed across his whiteface. As the funeral procession ended and demonstrators massed outside the gate, Chantal climbed a ladder over the fence and into the custody of the military police. He was cited for trespass and released later that day.

Chantal also crossed the line at Fort Benning during the November vigil in 2004 and spent three months in prison. He will stand trial in federal court in Columbus on January 9, and faces a sentence of up to six months in prison.

In September, five human rights activists were on trial in Washington, D.C. Superior Court for blocking passage. They were arrested last April on Independence Avenue when hundreds of activists marched on Capitol Hill to demand closure of the SOA/WHINSEC. Police

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## Military Refuser Returns From Canada

Iraq war resister Kimberly Rivera voluntarily presented herself at the U.S. border on the morning of September 20, after requests to have Canadian Immigration Minister Jason Kenney process her humanitarian and compassionate application were denied. In August, the mother of four was ordered to leave Canada by that date.

After considering her options, Rivera voluntarily departed Canada at the Thousand Islands border crossing into New York state. She was immediately arrested and turned over to military authorities, and initially held at the Lewis County Jail in Lowville, New York. Three days later she was taken to her duty assignment at Fort Carson, Colorado, where she was initially confined to the base, but is not now. She likely will face a military court-martial (and if convicted, a lengthy prison sentence), but there are other options commanders can take.

Rivera’s husband and their children crossed back into the United States separately and are living with family in Texas. They have been able to visit in Colorado.

The army enlistee arrived in Canada with her husband and two young children in January 2007 while on leave following a three-month tour of duty in Iraq. She had seen war, and seen her own children in the eyes of Iraqi children living amidst war. She decided she would have nothing more to do with war.

During a Federal Court hearing in Toronto on Sep-

tember 17, lawyers for the Department of Justice argued that Kimberly would not be detained when she crossed the border. Justice Near of the Federal Court ultimately denied her request for a stay of removal, finding arrest and detention to be speculative, despite the fact that two other public Iraq war resisters, Robin Long and Clifford Cornell, had been arrested and jailed for a year following their deportation from Canada. More recently, other military refusers have quietly returned from Canada and, with good legal representation, eventually been separated from the military without a prison sentence.



Supporters are asked to write letters of support that will be presented to the military by her civilian attorney in the hopes of persuading the military to not prosecute Rivera, but instead give her a discharge. These letters may also be used as mitigating evidence for sentencing/clemency purposes if her case does go to trial. Background information about Rivera and guidelines for writing letters are at [www.couragetoresist.org/kimberly-rivera.html](http://www.couragetoresist.org/kimberly-rivera.html). Courage to Resist, dedicated to supporting military refusers and conscientious objectors, has also established the Kimberly & Mario Rivera Family Support Fund. A link to donate can be found at the same web page.

## Inside & Out

**Name** ID# (if needed)  
(sentence - in/out date if known)  
prison or support address  
(action & date)

**Please refer to  
nukeresister.org/inside-out  
for current addresses before writing.**

### NUCLEAR RESISTERS

**Leonard Peltier** 89637-132 (life)  
USP Coleman I, POB 1033, Coleman, FL 33521.  
(Native American political prisoner framed for murder while defending traditional indigenous from threats including uranium mining on sacred lands)

**Xavieramma Sundari Selvi**  
Please see Support Action request on page 6.  
(Women denied bail pending trial on sedition and other charges for opposing Koodankulam nuclear power project in India, 9/10/12)

### ANTI-WAR RELATED ACTIONS

**Brian Terrell** 06125-026 (six months - in 11/30)  
FPC Yankton, POB 700, Yankton, SD 57078.  
(Convicted of trespass at drone protest, Whiteman AFB, Missouri, 4/15/12)

**Shakir Hamoodi** 21901-045  
USP Leavenworth, POB 1000, Leavenworth, KS 60648.  
(Plea agreement to one count of violating 1991-2003 U.S. sanctions by providing personal charity for family and friends living in Iraq.)



**Norman Edgar Lowry Jr.** KN 9758  
(one to seven years - in 8/1/11)  
SCI Dallas, 1000 Follies Rd., Dallas, PA 18612.  
(Repeated trespass at military recruiting office, 8/1/11)

**Rafil Dhafir** 11921-052  
(22 years - out 4/26/22)  
Unit HB, Federal Medical Center Devens, POB 879, Ayer, MA 01432.  
(Convictions resulting from providing humanitarian and financial aid to Iraqis in violation of U.S. sanctions, 2/05)

**Bradley Manning** 89289  
(Awaiting court martial - in 5/10)  
Commander, HHC USAG; Attn: PFC Manning; 239 Sheridan Ave. Bldg 417; JBM-HH VA 22211.  
(Charged with disclosing military video and documents showing evidence of U.S. war crimes)

**Mr. Kim Bok-Chul** No. 598 (in 6/14)  
(Charged with blocking cement mixer at naval base construction site in Gangjeong village)  
**Rev. Jeong Yeon-Gil** No. 187 (in 9/6)  
(Protest on base-related caisson dock in Hwasoon port)

**Mr. Park Suk-Jin** No. 188 (in 9/6)  
(Protest on base-related caisson dock in Hwasoon port)  
**Mr. Park Seung-Ho** No. 290 (in 9/14)  
(Failure to answer summons for protest at Hanjin heavy industry)

**Fr. Lee Young-Chan** No. 407 (in 10/23)  
(Held on multiple charges of obstruction of business and obstruction of government affairs for repeated blockades of construction trucks)  
161 Jeju Prison, Ora-2 dong, Jeju City, Jeju Special Self-Governing Island, South Korea 690-162.

**Brian Jacob Church** 2012-0519002  
**Jared Chase** 2012-0519003  
**Brent Betterly** 2012-0519001  
**Mark Neiweem** 2012-0520023  
P.O. Box 089002, Chicago, IL 60608.  
(Held on high bail and facing various felony charges following protest at the NATO summit in Chicago, May 2012)

**Sebastian Senakiewicz** M32870 (four months)  
10930 Lawrence Road, Sumner, IL 62466.  
(Polish national pled guilty to one count of falsely making a terrorist threat leading up to NATO summit in Chicago, May 2012)

**PREVIOUSLY LISTED, RECENTLY RELEASED: Greg Boertje-Obed, Susan Crane, Mark Kenney, Dr. Song Kang-Ho, Mr. Kim Dong-Won**

# Trident Resisters Speak Out in Court

On November 9, ten nuclear resisters were in Kitsap County district court to answer the charge of “walking on roadway where prohibited.” They were arrested last August along with six more people who took part in a series of blockades of the main entrance to the Kitsap-Bangor Trident nuclear submarine base. Malcolm Chadwick and Bernie Meyer contested the charge, and testified first.

Early on in his testimony, Chaddock invoked international law. The prosecutor objected on grounds that this was a civil (traffic) case. After some clarification, Judge Holman allowed both Chaddock and Meyer wide latitude in what could be included in their testimony.

In his turn, Meyer reinforced the issue of international law. Both men were found guilty of the charge, and the judge reduced their fines to \$25.

The other defendants did not contest the charge, and chose instead to address the court about their motives for mitigation of sentence.

Among the compelling personal statements was that of

## VERMONT YANKEE RESISTANCE

On the morning of September 18, thirteen women of Shut It Down first wore their emblematic, custom and colorfully dyed safe energy t-shirts into Brattleboro, Vermont for a little anti-nuclear agitating.

The United States Chamber of Commerce had announced the day before that it had joined Entergy’s lawsuit to oppose State of Vermont legislation to shut down the company’s Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant. Shut It Down visited the local Chamber office to assess its position on the plant.

Later, the women changed clothes. Dressed now in black and wearing white death masks, they paraded silently through an unlocked door into the historic Governor Hunt house. Entergy owns this building across the road from the nuclear power plant and uses it for meetings. Their procession through the hallways ended in a room where three men were meeting. There, eleven of the women were arrested for trespass.

A month later on October 17, the women’s group returned to the nuke and chained themselves across the driveway, delaying the afternoon shift change until twelve women were arrested and taken into town. They were cited for trespass and released.

In between the Shut It Down women’s actions, more than 50 Quakers met at the gate of the nuclear power plant for silent worship on Sunday, September 23. Ten of them later moved away from the group and crossed the line, prompting their arrest.

“I decided to stand up because I think we’re at a critical point in our nation’s history,” said Paul Hood, 85. “My days are numbered and I want to spend them to act for what’s just and humane. This nuclear plant is a danger to all the residents here, the workers, and people in this area,” he told the *Brattleboro Reformer*.

Police never filed charges against the Quakers.

### A First Conviction

After more than a score of gate blockades and related actions over seven years went unprosecuted, six Massachusetts women have been tried and convicted of trespass at the Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant, just upriver across the state border from where they live.

The members of the Shut It Down affinity group, aged 63 to 92, were prosecuted for locking the entrance gate and then chaining themselves to the fence on August 30, 2011. At their November 27 trial, Brattleboro Judge John Wesley restricted the women’s testimony about the environmental effects and political controversy over the aging reactor’s future. Betsy Corner, Frances Crowe, Nancy First, Ellen Graves, Hattie Nestel and Paki Wieland were fined \$350 each. None of the women intend to pay.

Corner told a reporter, “The irony is, we’re in a state court for a state that really wants Entergy out of here and has voted that way and had a governor elected on that platform.”

“They are operating illegally. They are the trespassers,” Nestel said. “And we are the enforcers of the state’s will.”

For more information, contact Shut It Down, c/o haley. antique@verizon.net.

Elizabeth Murray, who began with a perspective on what brought her to Bangor for her first action there. “Prior to retiring, I served for 27 years as a political analyst with the Central Intelligence Agency. The last position I held was Deputy National Intelligence Officer for the Near East at the National Intelligence Council. I am therefore keenly aware of the need to protect and safeguard our country. However, the past 10 years – particularly in the wake of 9-11 – have shown that it is time to embrace a new paradigm of ‘strength through peace’ – and that includes nuclear disarmament.”

Retired Navy Captain Tom Rogers spoke extensively, based on his naval experience, on the relevance of international law to the issue. He cited the 1996 International Court of Justice opinion in which “the conclusion is that use or threat of use of nuclear weapons is contrary to international law and in particular to the principles and rules of humanitarian law...

“If this unlawful threat of use of nuclear weapons is unchallenged, then the violation will become moot. I blocked the road to challenge deployment of the Trident

Weapons System as a violation of international law.”

Rogers concluded by invoking the Nuremberg Principles, reminding the court that, “Among other things, the Principle is intended to protect citizens engaged in reasonable nonviolent protest from the legal violence of the state.”

After hearing these and statements from Michael Siptroth, Betsy Lamb, Leonard Eiger, Brenda McMillan, Mack Johnson and George Rodkey, Judge Holman said, “If your intention here today was to provoke me to think, then you did.” He went on to explain how he is constrained by the law, and then reduced everyone’s fine to \$25.

Marion Ward will have her mitigation hearing on December 11. Three others have paid the assigned fines, and two are not responding.

For more information, visit [gzcenter.org](http://gzcenter.org). Videos and transcripts of the testimonies can be found at [psnukefree.blogspot.com](http://psnukefree.blogspot.com).

## Vets Mourn Eleven Years of Afghan War

*Veteran’s for Peace Board member Tarak Kauff’s letter tells this story.*

October 22, 2012

Dear Mayor Bloomberg and Police Commissioner Kelly,

A few Sundays ago, on October 7, I was arrested along with 24 others, mostly U.S. military veterans, at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Plaza. At the time of the arrests, we were peacefully and solemnly reading the names of those who had fallen in the Viet Nam, Iraq and Afghanistan wars and laying white carnations in honor of all those killed in these wars. Prior to that, a number of speakers, including an Afghanistan war veteran, two Iraq war veterans and three Viet Nam combat veterans, expressed their sense of betrayal at being lied to and deceived by our government as those wars began and raged on.

Those of us who were there had a peaceful mission that night. We wanted to express our opposition to 11 years of war and waste in Afghanistan, to oppose all U.S. wars of aggression, to honor and remember the fallen and to stand for our right to do this and our First Amendment right of assembly.

The city, as you may know, has imposed a 10 p.m. curfew at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, this public place of memory. Regarding that curfew, my friend, fellow veteran Paul Appell said, “War veterans, loved ones

of the fallen, and certainly those living in war zones do not have the option of closing down their memories at 10 p.m. There is a good reason why suicide is an attractive option for many. It is truly the only sure way of ending the memories. For a memorial to shut down at some convenient time for the city is an insult to all those who do not have the luxury of shutting down their war memories at a specific time. I know that many want us war vets to go out of sight and not bother them, except when we are needed for some parade. Some of us are not going away at 10 p.m. or any other time. If they do not like it, maybe they should have thought of that before they sent us to war.”

Kauff was also one of six members of the Veterans Peace Teams who were arrested along with some 180 other participants on Wall Street on the first anniversary of the Occupy movement. Other members of Veterans for Peace were also arrested for blocking pedestrians and refusing to obey a lawful order.

Veterans for Peace organizer Ellen Davidson said, “I’m here because the corporations that run our country are hurtling this planet toward the brink – we are devastating the environment; our wars-for-profit are destroying people’s lives around the globe, and causing young veterans to commit suicide at the rate of 18 a day.”

For more information, visit [www.veteransforpeace.org](http://www.veteransforpeace.org)

## DRONES, CONT.

**Mock drones hover above a blockade that closed Beale Air Force Base on October 30.**



photo by Tatiana Makovkin/occupybealeafb.org

*continued from page 1*  
and the judge concurred.

For more information, visit [upstatedroneaction.org](http://upstatedroneaction.org)

### Beale Air Force Base

Across the country, nine people were arrested October 30 as they blocked two gates at Beale Air Force Base in Marysville, California. The front gate was closed for four hours before police took action. Although no armed drones are operated out of Beale, the base is a center for operating Global Hawk surveillance drones that activists call an “accomplice” in the murderous mission of the armed drones.

The activists demanded: (1) An immediate ban on the use of all drones for extrajudicial killing, (2) A halt to all drone surveillance that assaults basic freedoms and inalienable rights and terrorizes domestic life in Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iraq, Yemen and Somalia, (3) A prohibition on the sale and distribution of drones and

drone technology to foreign countries in order to prevent the proliferation of this menacing threat to world peace, freedom and security, and (4) The U.S. must immediately stop this lawless behavior of drone warfare that violates many international laws and treaties.

They were all cited for trespass, but have yet to be summoned to court. For more information, visit [occupybealeafb.org](http://occupybealeafb.org).



Letters of support can be sent to Brian Terrell 06125-026, FPC Yankton, POB 700, Yankton, SD 57078. Contributions for Brian’s commissary account and the ongoing work of his home community may be sent to Strangers and Guests Catholic Worker Farm, 108 Hillcrest Drive, Maloy, Iowa 50836.

# Backcountry Busts at Vandenberg

Fifteen people arrested last February while protesting the test launch of the Minuteman III nuclear ballistic missile at Vandenberg Air Force Base were prepared for trial in Santa Barbara on October 17. But the day before, the federal prosecutor moved to dismiss their charges, and the court concurred.

Three days later, resistance continued, this time to mark the 50th anniversary of the Cuban missile crisis. Up to 15 people entered the large base from various points, aiming to disrupt activity there. It was the first such back-country action in nearly a decade.

Theo Kayser was apprehended in the wee hours of October 21 and held for nine hours before being charged with trespass and released. Franciscan Fr. Louis Vitale was arrested along with Rebecca Casas, who was driving their car along a public road crossing the missile base. Casas was charged with violating a ban and bar order from previous arrests at Vandenberg, and both were cited for trespass, then released.

A statement brought into the base said in part,

...We believe that all missiles are a crisis (whether located in Cuba or elsewhere) as they are contrary to the laws of the Creator whose names are many, but whom we call LOVE.

...Acknowledging that love is an active rather than passive state of being, we cannot sit by while the evils of Vandenberg Air Force Base are allowed to continue unchecked.

We acknowledge that the land on which Vandenberg Air Force Base is located was stolen from its true owners, the Chumash people... It is our belief that the millions of dollars spent on war-making and preparations for war could be used to feed those who are hungry, house those who are homeless, and provide health care to those who are sick, and we consider it a sin that schools are closed and homes foreclosed upon while military spending goes unchecked.

Because of these sins and innumerable others, we have come to this place to pray for peace, in the form of nonviolent direct action, with the belief that "wherever two or more are gathered" there is God. Without question, Vandenberg Air Force Base is a place in need of God, whose gospel is peace and whose message is reconciliation between all peoples. Our hope is both that our action will somehow hasten the kingdom of brother and sisterhood, and that others will heed our example and nonviolently "occupy" this base in the weeks and months ahead for the purpose of transforming this land from a place dedicated to death into one of hope and love.

Yet another Minuteman III test launch took place at 3:07 a.m. on November 14. The night before, Fr. Louis Vitale held a one-man protest at the Vandenberg gate. He was arrested, cited and released.

In federal court in Santa Barbara on November 15, Rebecca Casas and Barbara Robinson both pled guilty to trespassing at Vandenberg on Hiroshima Day, August 6, 2012. They were fined \$150 each plus court costs, but told the court they could not cooperate with a system that protects U.S. nuclear weapons policy by paying into it.

For more information, visit vandenbergprotest-macgregor.blogspot.com and vandenbergwitness.org.

## SOA, cont.

*continued from page 3*

blocked their passage when they tried to march past the Congressional office buildings.

Fr. Roy Bourgeois, Amber Mason, Kevin Mason, Becca Polk and Maia Rodriguez Sullivan represented themselves, asserting free speech and condemning the SOA in their testimonies. The judge was moved but convicted the five and gave a minimal sentence: time served and a mandatory \$50 payment to a victims' fund.

The day after the November vigil concluded, Fr. Bourgeois' religious order of 45 years, the Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers, announced that on order from the Vatican, he had been dismissed from the order and from his priesthood because of his participation in and active support for the ordination of women in the Catholic Church.

At [www.roybourgeoisjourney.org](http://www.roybourgeoisjourney.org) you can read the .pdf version or buy a print copy of Roy's book, *My Journey from Silence to Solidarity*, where he writes about his support for women's ordination to the Catholic priesthood. You can also sign the petition "I Stand With Roy" at [tinyurl.com/StandWithRoy](http://tinyurl.com/StandWithRoy).

For more information, visit [www.soaw.org](http://www.soaw.org).

# Manning, cont.

*continued from page 1*

who were arrested sitting-in at Obama campaign offices in Portland, Oregon and Oakland, California on August 16 have been charged in court, but prosecutors in both states told those arrested that they have a year to decide whether to file charges or not.

Navy veteran John Penley was arrested during an anti-war march on September 4 at the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina. He carried the American flag at the front of the march and was arrested for breaching a police line. "We want Bradley Manning freed!" he said as he was handcuffed.

For complete courtroom reports, news and more Free Bradley Manning campaign updates, visit [bradleymanning.org](http://bradleymanning.org)



Letters of support should be sent to

Commander, HHC USAG; Attn: PFC Manning; 239 Sheridan Ave. Bldg. 417; JBM-HH VA 22211.



Courtroom sketch by Clark Stoeckley

Standing in an outline of his cell at the Quantico brig, Bradley Manning described the effects of solitary confinement.

# NATO 5 Defendant Takes A Plea, Will Be Deported

One of five men jailed since May for alleged terror plots leading up to the NATO summit in Chicago has accepted a plea agreement. Polish native Sebastian Senakiewicz's drunken boast in the company of two undercover cops about a bomb in a hollowed-out Harry Potter book was resolved with his guilty plea to one count of falsely making a terrorist threat. Senakiewicz was sentenced to four months in an Illinois "boot camp" and will then be deported.

Four other men remain in the Cook County Jail on \$1.5 million bond each. Brent Betterley, Jared Chase and Brian Church are together accused of providing material support for terrorism, terrorism conspiracy, soliciting arson and attempted arson. At their most recent pre-trial hearing November 19, the prosecution had still not given the defense copies of some of the evidence it will present at trial. The judge granted a three-month extension from the previous deadline, giving the prosecution until February 25 to comply with the court's order. Trial for the three is now set for September 16, 2013.

Mark Neiweem was indicted separately for solicitation of explosives or incendiary devices. Each of the four cases involves the two undercover police who insinuated themselves into pre-summit protest organizing. The four have legal assistance through the People's Law Office in Chicago and the National Lawyers Guild, and a small group of activists in Chicago are visiting the men and providing commissary support.

NATO 5 supporters point to a number of similar cases around the country where police informants encouraged violent protest among some Occupy and anarchist groups, and in many cases entrapped activists by providing shelter, food, alcohol, drugs, transportation and even mock explosives.

*continued on page 7*

# Kansas City Plant Trials

Three nuclear abolitionists were in Kansas City municipal court on October 12 to answer charges for actions at the site of the city-owned nuclear weapons parts plant, now under construction.

Henry Stoever and Midge Potts were arrested for trespass last April 14, and Fr. Carl Kabat was charged with trespass and property damage after cutting through a chain link fence into the construction site last July 3-4. The city had earlier dropped the property damage charge, and Kabat faced an additional charge of violating probation from his July 4, 2011 trespass into the site.

Judge Elena Franco agreed with each defendant that she would accept their pleas of "technically not guilty", but find them guilty anyway. Stoever and Potts were sentenced to three days in jail, with court costs suspended. They both immediately appealed her decision to the Jackson County Circuit Court in Kansas City. A jury trial will be sought at a date to be determined.

Fr. Kabat did not appeal, and was allowed to address the court.

Supporter Jane Stoever writes:

Recalling that German judges (in 1987) blocked the entry to the U.S. Air Force Base in Mutlangen, West Germany because nuclear weapons were deployed there on Pershing II missiles, Kabat told Franco, "I invite you to go out to the new plant" and block the entry. Franco listened.

Mentioning Henry David Thoreau's outcry against the silence of collusion, Kabat said of the KC Plant, "Those bombs we will make and are making, we're responsible for." He observed, "It's not enough to hold an opinion. We must act!" Urging that we all go out to the plant, he said, "It's ours! We should be able to walk in the front gate and walk around the 170-180 acres."

It makes a person wonder when and if he'll go walking there again.

Kabat was sentenced to the time served overnight in jail following his arrest. For more information, visit [www.peaceworkskc.org](http://www.peaceworkskc.org).

## WRITINGS FROM JAIL

### THE INSIDE LINE

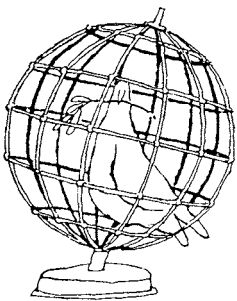


~from Dublin

wednesday here  
today, the Buddhist meditation. an hour of quiet.  
very special, very sweet.  
today, a walk on the rec field.  
The field is dry, brown, with cracks in the earth  
from the dryness.  
the cracks are 25 inches deep.  
today, women in pain walk with me  
today, sisters in laughter laugh with me  
today, women in dream  
dream with me for justice.  
God's tears would water the parched ground  
heal the injustice  
if we would  
only  
listen.

Susan Crane  
10/3/2012

*[Susan Crane was released from the federal women's prison in Dublin, California on October 16, after serving two months for probation violation following a 15 month prison sentence for her role in the 2009 Disarm Now Plowshares action at the Trident nuclear submarine base in Washington state.]*



# INTERNATIONAL NOTES

## Jeju

Construction of the navy base on Jeju Island, South Korea has recently accelerated. Beleaguered residents around Gangjeong, the most affected village, are buoyed by growing international awareness and solidarity with their struggle. Unrelenting, they remain at the forefront, enduring police abuse, hospitalization and imprisonment while they engage in regular blockades, religious services and other persistent nonviolent resistance outside the fortified construction gate.

The International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) held its quadrennial World Conservation Congress (WCC) on Jeju in September. Welcomed by the Korean government and sponsored by Samsung, the main contractor for the base, conference organizers predictably tried to shut out participation by the base resisters. Nevertheless, the gravity of the issue and the determination of campaigners assured that leading conservationists from around the world came away well-educated about the ongoing destruction of the largest and most spectacular temperate soft coral forests known on Earth by the construction of a provocative military base.

As the WCC convened in nearby Jungmun on September 6, five people climbed onto the Samsung-made caisson dock at Hwasoon port in protest of the naval base. Of the five, Rev. Jeong Yeon-Gil and Mr. Park Suk-Jin were jailed and remain in custody.

Two others were jailed during the week. Mr. Park Seung-Ho was also picked up and jailed because he did not respond to a police summons on the matter of a related protest of Hanjin, another industrial contractor. Gangjeong villager Mr. Yoon Choong was imprisoned for damaging private property. Like that of nearly half of the village’s farmers, Mr. Yoon’s property had been seized for base construction at a fraction of its value. In a drunken rage last September, he had regrettably broken the door glass of one of the few pro-base businesses in the village. He served 44 days.

Dr. Song Kang-Ho was released on September 28 after 181 days in prison, just two weeks before he would have served the maximum time in pre-trial detention permitted under Korean law.

In late October, after months of delays due to the ongoing protests, construction moved to a 24-hour schedule. Two hundred low-wage Vietnamese laborers are now housed on site to produce 80 3,000-ton concrete caissons that will create the first breakwater and mooring

docks. Round-the-clock resistance in Gangjeong village has followed, with dozens of people sustaining a blockade at the construction gate, sometimes in pouring rain and at night under the glare of broad banks of bright lighting installed to illuminate the work yard.

The police battalions brought in from the mainland have doubled in size to 500 riot-equipped officers suppressing the nonviolent demonstrators. Regularly, demonstrators are pushed, roughly dragged and carried from the road, then surrounded by multiple lines of police. A few more cement mixers enter the site, police fall back, and the blockade resumes. Sometimes arrests are made and activists have been taken into custody.

On October 24, Fr. Lee Young-Chan was arrested and jailed on multiple charges of obstruction of business and obstruction of government. Fr. Lee is affectionately known as Father Cement Mixer for repeatedly climbing atop the essential truckloads.

Mr. Kim Dong-Won was bailed from jail on October 26 pending trial. He’d been behind bars since June 30 when he occupied a barge crane engaged in illegal dredging.

Jeju citizens, villagers and activists rose up in anger with direct action on November 28, upon learning that the Jeju Naval Base budget for 2013 was passed uncut in the National Assembly via parliamentary maneuvering by the majority Saenuri Party. Three people were arrested and released within a few days. As the budget bill moved onto the next vote, Gangjeong Mayor Kang and Fr. Moon were two of many who had their heads shaved in Seoul and Gangjeong and began another fast.

Five men remain in prison. For more information, visit [www.savejejuisland.org](http://www.savejejuisland.org).



Postcards and letters of support should be individually addressed and sent to:

Mr. Kim Bok-Chul No. 598  
Rev. Jeong Yeon-Gil No. 187  
Mr. Park Suk-Jin No. 188  
Mr. Park Seung-Ho No. 290  
Fr. Lee Young-Chan No. 407

161 Jeju Prison, Ora-2 dong, Jeju City, Jeju Special Self-Governing Island, South Korea 690-162.

## India, cont.

*continued from page 1*

unjustified” police response, others suggested that the desecration was a purposeful assault on the minority Catholic faithful who make up a majority of the anti-nuclear movement in the vicinity of the plant.

Tragically, the protests and violent police response were not limited to the handful of villages near the plant. Fisherfolk led demonstrations in towns across neighboring districts along the coast. In Tuticorin, about 50 miles from Koodankulam, hundreds of people blocked train tracks and a highway for hours on Monday. When a police outpost near there was set ablaze and the demonstrators kept marching towards the station, police opened fire, killing a fisherman, Antony Samy.

Responding to the violence, about 50 PMANE activists began a 48-hour fast at the church in Idinthakarai, where tens of thousands of demonstrators remained in temporary shelter with limited food and water due to police blockades on many area roads. Fisherfolk formed committees to work with youth on maintaining nonviolent discipline. “We have decided to continue the protest without resorting to violence. We will stay put in Idinthakarai. We will not oppose or attack the police personnel,” one youth told the *Times of India*.

On Tuesday, September 11, a massive support rally in Chennai, the capitol of Tamil Nadu 500 miles away, blocked traffic for over an hour. At least 150 people were arrested. Across the region, police reported 1,050 pre-emptive arrests of anti-nuclear demonstrators, including about 750 activists of the MDMK, a Tamil Nadu political party.

On Wednesday, protests continued around the region, including more arrests in Chennai.

On Thursday, September 13, the Supreme Court rejected a last-minute safety petition to stop the loading of nuclear fuel. Undeterred by the last-minute legal defeat, Rev. Jesuraj led about 1,500 people from Our Lady of Lourdes Church down to the ocean, where they stood in the water facing the reactors for the entire day, a “Jal [water] Satyagraha.” PMANE reiterated their four demands: stop loading nuclear fuel; stop plans to arrest anti-nuclear leaders; fairly compensate those who have suffered losses due to the plant; and release those still in custody, who then numbered about 80.

In response to the Jal Satyagraha, police increased boat patrols along the coast. When a coast guard patrol airplane repeatedly passed very low over demonstrators, fisherman Sahayam from Idinthakarai was startled from his protest on a bridge and fell to his death. The sea action continued another day, and then moved back onto the beach, where hundreds of men, women and children buried themselves in symbolic graves for hours at a time.

While villagers regrouped, fuel loading commenced on September 19 and protests continued in nearby cities. After meeting with village councils, PMANE called on boats to block the port at Tuticorin on September 22, or organize boat rallies and Jal Satyagraha in their respective villages. On that day, some 3,000 fisherfolk in more than 500 boats peacefully blocked the approach channel for three hours. One thousand boats raised banners against the plant for another day-long protest in the water on October 8.

Reports from the conflict prompted an 11-member fact-finding team from Jawaharlal Nehru University to head for Koodankulam on October 12. They were stopped and forced from a public bus at a checkpoint 40 km from the plant. The group was then interrogated for 11 hours and held for eight days in various jails before release on bail, charged with an assortment of offenses including singing obscene songs.

A bail hearing on October 18 resulted in the release of 47 villagers, but bail was denied to Xavieramma, Sundari and Selvi, three women identified as leaders among those arrested in the September 10 melee.

A few days earlier Anitha S., a supporter living in nearby Kerala state, visited the women at the jail. She quoted Selvi: “We have been here for over a month. We get charged with new cases every time we are taken to the court. It is only after being part of the struggle that we realized that trying to establish one’s right to live as one wishes, pursuing traditional livelihoods and also questioning activities that are being implemented without consulting the people is equivalent to crime and sedition”.

Xavieramma told Anitha, “When I was in Delhi for the Public Hearing on Nuclear Energy in August 2012, I

saw that there are so many people in various parts of the country who are raising their protest. It is not just about losing their land and sea, but it is about the creation of spaces where life itself is in danger. Who would want to live in such places?”

PMANE called on supporters across Tamil Nadu to march on the opening of the state legislature on October 29 in Chennai. Police again responded with preventive detention on a mass scale, making over 2,000 arrests but failing to prevent over 10,000 from marching. Those arrested were released later in the evening.

Police have also detained and deported foreign nationals who seek to support and report on the movement. Australian filmmaker David Bradbury and his family, and German journalist Weiland Wagner have reported being stopped in the area, held for hours, questioned about their activities and told to leave the area. Three Japanese activists never made it out of the airport before being sent back home. Their emails with Indian activists were being read by police, who were awaiting their arrival.

In late November, police filed four more charges against Sundari, including two more counts of sedition. Updates on the anti-nuclear movement in Tamil Nadu and elsewhere in India can be found at [www.countercurrents.org](http://www.countercurrents.org) and [www.dianuke.org](http://www.dianuke.org).



Because of continuing slander that the protests are funded and directed by foreigners, combined with charges of sedition and waging war against the state lodged against Xavieramma, Sundari, Selvi and others, letters addressed directly to the three women in jail are NOT desired, due to concern that letters could compound their trouble. Instead, supporters are asked to send letters and emails to the following officials, urging action to grant the women bail so they can return to their community and families while awaiting trial. Selvi Jayalalitha, Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Fort St. George, Chennai 600 009, India or email at [cmcell@tn.gov.in](mailto:cmcell@tn.gov.in); and Ms. Mamta Sharma, Chair of the National Commission on Women, No. 4 Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Marg, New Delhi 110 002, India or email at [chairperson-ncw@nic.in](mailto:chairperson-ncw@nic.in).

## London

Stuart Holmes was arrested and handcuffed August 12 in London and charged with aggravated trespass, criminal damage and being a public nuisance. Police brought him down in a harness from the 93-meter high TV tower in Millwall Park. He’d climbed it with the intention of zip-lining across the Thames River on wires that carry a TV camera, towing a large “NO NUKES!” banner behind and landing in the Greenwich Olympic Arena during an event at the summer games. The arrangement of the wires foiled his dramatic entry, and in September his criminal charges were dropped.

## Scotland

Faslane Peace Camp hosted Rise Up Singing weekend in September, with about 50 people raising voices to protest Britain’s Trident nuclear weapons fleet just outside the gate to the submarine base, north of Glasgow. On Monday, September 17, a smaller but vocal group returned to the gate and four people briefly blocked it before being arrested. A peace camper was also arrested when police discovered lock-on tubes hidden beneath the bike trailer he was using to deliver tea to the blockaders.

Three intrepid peace campers who dropped a banner from a Glasgow construction crane in June were convicted of breach of the peace and sentenced to 30 hours community service. They are the only ones sentenced this year from about 60 arrests resisting Trident in Scotland. The last cases remaining from a 30-day campaign in the summer were dismissed in late November.

Barbara Dowling, Mary Millington and Leonna O’Neill argued “reasonable excuse” at trial September 18 for painting and locking down at a Glasgow army recruiting center last May. They testified that they acted to counter the “lying adverts” targeting children for recruitment. To their surprise, the judge found them all not guilty of obstructing police. Dowling was fined £350 and O’Neill was admonished after they were found guilty of vandalism.

For more information, visit [faslanepeacecamp.wordpress.com](http://faslanepeacecamp.wordpress.com).



# Australia

Last April, the Australian Quaker Centre at Silver Wattle, New South Wales hosted their second gathering for “Putting an End to War.” Just up the road is the Headquarters Joint Operation Command (HQJOC), from which Australian troops in Afghanistan are commanded. On the eve of ANZAC Day (a military memorial day), Bryan Law was cited for trespass during a liturgical action at the gate. He is due in court December 3 to answer the charge of trespass. Law is also scheduled for trial in February, 2013 for hammering on an armed Tiger helicopter at the Rockhampton Airport in the summer of 2011.

The Australian Secret Intelligence Service base at Swan Island, southern Victoria was the scene of two consecutive days of blockades that resulted in no arrests. About 40 people on a five-day retreat trained for the nonviolent action. Police would carry people from the road whenever a few cars were backed up, but did not arrest them. No sooner were they left on the sidewalk than they would return to sit in the road. The commander at the scene was heard to say “It’s not working.” Eventually only a few entered each day, and most cars were just turned away. For more information, visit <http://swanislandpeace.org>.

# Hinkley

The Stop New Nuclear Alliance hosted Reclaim Hinkley, a festival of protest and mass trespass October 6–8 at the site of the proposed Hinkley C nuclear power plant in southwest England. Fifty people took part in direct action on October 8, reclaiming the cleared landscape with 577 seed balls, one for each day since the Fukushima catastrophe. Some threw the balls of native wildflower seeds and mud over the fence, and about 30 trespassed to re-seed the site. Police arrested six protesters, but they have not been prosecuted.

Early on Friday morning, November 23, ten people set up a blockade on the two-lane approach road, locking out the workers from the construction site and the aging but still operating Hinkley B reactor. While some held a banner reading “Nuclear Power – Not Worth the Risk”, four people locked into arm tubes. A large traffic back-up ensued until police were able to remove the blockade and arrest the four activists, who were later released.

For more information, visit [southwestagainstnuclear.wordpress.com](http://southwestagainstnuclear.wordpress.com) and [stopnewnuclear.org.uk](http://stopnewnuclear.org.uk).

# Sizewell

Days after EDF announced plans to build a fourth nuclear reactor at the Sizewell nuclear park on England’s east coast, several people blocked the entry gate on Monday morning, November 26. The announcement kicked off an 11-week consultation period, which protesters said was not long enough for full evaluation of the proposal, amounting to “a sham process which is nothing more than a cynical box-ticking exercise.”

Their protest also highlighted the utility’s plan to store on-site all of the radioactive waste from a pair of reactors now being decommissioned (the Sizewell A units), as well as from the still-running Sizewell B and the proposed Sizewell C.

With their arms locked together inside metal tubes, four women were left lying on the roadway opposite the local Vulcan Arms pub for six hours before police used power tools to cut them apart and arrest them. The youngest, Meredith Fisk, 23, was charged with obstructing a highway and ordered to appear in North East Suffolk Magistrates Court on December 27, while three other women were released with a caution.

For more information, visit [stopnuclearpoweruk.net](http://stopnuclearpoweruk.net).

# Harrogate

Veteran peace campaigner Lindis Percy (Campaign for the Accountability of American Bases – CAAB) was arrested last summer when the Olympic torch was carried through Harrogate, North Yorkshire. U.S. military personnel from nearby Menwith Hill spy base joined many who were assembling to greet the torch runners. With no intention to disrupt, Percy carried CAAB’s emblem, an upside-down U.S. flag inscribed with “Independence FROM America”, and spoke calmly to the occupying troops. “Many of us are very concerned at what you are doing ‘round the world and what you do at Menwith Hill.” Police suddenly surrounded her, aggressively grabbed her by the arm and pulled her away to a side road, under arrest “to prevent a breach of the peace,” she was told. After a bit more time in a hot police van and a trip to the Harrogate police station, it was clear the torch had passed. Percy was de-arrested when they got to the station. The officer who drove her to the station even gave her a lift back downtown to her car. A complaint has been lodged against seven West Yorkshire police officers. For more information, visit [www.caab.org.uk](http://www.caab.org.uk).

# FUTURE ACTIONS

## faith & resistance

### washington, d.c.

The annual Massacre of the Holy Innocents Faith and Resistance Retreat is a time of prayer, reflection and non-violent witness to commemorate the slaughter of the Holy Innocents – past and present – and to proclaim hope for a world of nonviolence, peace and justice. Join members of Jonah House, the Dorothy Day Catholic Worker, and the Atlantic and Southern Life communities at St. Stephen and the Incarnation Church, 1525 Newton St. NW, Washington, D.C., beginning with 6 p.m. dinner on December 27, and concluding with a noon-time nonviolent witness at the White House on December 29. For more information, contact Jonah House, 410-233-6238, [disarmnow@verizon.net](mailto:disarmnow@verizon.net); or Dorothy Day Catholic Worker, 202-882-9639, [dccatholicworker.wordpress.com](http://dccatholicworker.wordpress.com).

### stratcom

The 34th Annual Feast of the Holy Innocents’ Retreat and Witness at STRATCOM Headquarters and U.S. Military Space Command at Offutt Air Force Base begins Wednesday, December 26 at 7 p.m. in the basement of St. Johns Church on the campus of Creighton University, 2500 California Plaza, Omaha, Nebraska. A two-day examination of the links between King Herod, his killing of the innocent children in Bethlehem and the murderous deeds of U.S. backed modern-day Herods, including a vigil and nonviolent direct action at the gate of Offutt Air Force Base. For more information, contact Frank Cordaro, 515-292-4781, [frank.cordaro@gmail.com](mailto:frank.cordaro@gmail.com).

# NATO 5, cont.

*continued from page 5*

Another NATO opponent had his bail revoked in September, and served seven more weeks in jail. Danny Johnson’s battery of a cop and obstruction charges came after an altercation during a pre-summit march and had been dropped, but were re-instated later in the summer. He turned himself in on July 30 and was released with an ankle monitor. Johnson was returned to jail September 25 for an alleged monitor violation, and released November 13 after pleading guilty to one misdemeanor. He was sentenced to 50 hours community service and 18 months probation.

For more information, visit <http://nato5.occupychi.org>.



Letters of support should be individually addressed and sent to Brian Jacob Church 2012-0519002, Jared Chase 2012-0519003, Brent Betterly 2012-0519001 and Mark Neiweem 2012-0520023, P.O. Box 089002, Chicago, IL 60608; and to Sebastian Senakiewicz M32870, 10930 Lawrence Road, Sumner, IL 62466.

# 20 YEARS LATER, PAROLE REVOKED

Canadian prisoner advocate Ann Hansen recently had her parole revoked for “unauthorized associations and political activity.” She spent three months in prison in Ontario before being released with new parole conditions on October 30.

Hansen served the longest prison sentence of the five members of Direct Action, a group of clandestine anarchist saboteurs. Their anonymous actions in British Columbia and Ontario included the November 1982 bombing of a Litton Industries factory producing cruise missile components, injuring seven people. While disagreeing with the anonymous and uncontrollable means Direct Action employed to damage illicit property such as a nuclear missile factory, *the Nuclear Resister* encouraged support for Ann Hansen and her co-defendants while they were in prison.

On the advice of her attorney, she did not publically address the revocation of her parole until after her release, when she posted a statement to the blog End the Prison Industrial Complex ([endthepic.wordpress.com](http://endthepic.wordpress.com)). There she places her experience in the context of a repressive atmosphere of “preventative security measures” in Ontario that has been building since the prosecution and imprisonment of demonstrators at the G20 economic meetings in the summer of 2010. Specifically, she was interrogated about her organizing for a Prisoners Justice Day demonstration and nonviolent blockade at the Collin’s Bay Prison three days before she was taken into custody.

## martin luther king day

### trident/bangor

“We Are One” is the theme for the annual all-day event at the Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action in Poulsbo, Washington on Saturday, January 19. Honoring Dr. King’s legacy of nonviolence and his stand against war, the schedule includes nonviolence training, vigil and nonviolent direct action at the Trident nuclear submarine base at Bangor. For more information, visit [gzcenter.org](http://gzcenter.org) or email [info@gzcenter.org](mailto:info@gzcenter.org).

### lockheed martin

The annual Martin Luther King Day of Nonviolent Resistance at Lockheed Martin will begin at noon on January 21, 2013 at Lockheed Martin in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, behind the King of Prussia Mall. January 21 is also the presidential inauguration. Inaugurate Justice; Make War No More! For more information, visit [www.brandywinepeace.com](http://www.brandywinepeace.com), or call 610-544-1818 for details, and questions regarding the nonviolent civil resistance.

## action AWE



Starting early in 2013 and running at least to the next British election sometime before May, 2015, Action AWE is inviting people from around Britain and beyond to come to Berkshire and take creative, disruptive, disobedient, fun and exciting action against the Atomic Weapons Establishment at

Aldermaston and Burghfield, and show opposition to the making of warheads and replacement of Britain’s Trident nuclear submarine fleet. Initiated by several long-time activists from the UK anti-nuclear movement, Action AWE builds on the experience of Trident Ploughshares and the Faslane 365 campaigns, intending to influence the political debate around Trident replacement at a critical economic and diplomatic crossroads. For more information, visit [actionawe.org](http://actionawe.org).

## pacific life community

The Pacific Life Community 2013 gathering will be held March 1-4, based at the All Saints Center, a Greek-Orthodox owned church camp mid-way between Tacoma, Washington and the Kitsap-Bangor Naval Base. The Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action will host the retreat and direct action at the base, which is the homeport of the west coast Trident nuclear missile submarine fleet and nuclear weapons store. For more information and registration, contact George Rodkey <[georod01@msn.com](mailto:georod01@msn.com)>, Leonard Eiger <[subversivepeacemaking@gmail.com](mailto:subversivepeacemaking@gmail.com)>, or Lynne Greenwald <[lynne.tacoma@gmail.com](mailto:lynne.tacoma@gmail.com)>.

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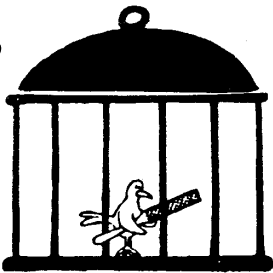
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# Update Files



**PENTAGON:** In federal court on Friday, October 19, first-time arrestees Andrea Eiland and Luke Hansen had their August 6 charges dismissed, while Beth Brockman, Bill Frankel-Streit, Art Laffin and Rosemary Thompson pled no contest to the charge of failure to obey a lawful order. After making brief statements to the court, each was fined \$85. After the court proceedings were over, Beth Brockman was surprised to be approached by U.S. marshals and taken into custody on an outstanding warrant from Tennessee. Brockman was taken to jail for her refusal to pay a fee for her state-court ordered incarceration following the July, 2010 Resistance for a Nuclear Free Future protest at the Y-12 nuclear weapons complex in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. She was held over the weekend for extradition to Tennessee. On Monday, after the court was shown a receipt documenting payment of the Tennessee fee, the judge then placed a bond on Brockman for violating probation when she failed to appear in court following completion of the Tennessee sentence. Supporters posted bond at the jail to secure Brockman’s release that evening. It was later learned that the probation violation charge had been withdrawn, and her bond money was returned...

**LOCKHEED-MARTIN/SUNNYVALE:** Ed Ehmke served five days in jail in October, after having refused to pay a fine for crossing the line last Good Friday (April 6) at Lockheed-Martin’s Trident D-5 nuclear missile factory in Sunnyvale, California...

**VOLK FIELD:** In court September 24, seven drone warfare opponents had disorderly conduct charges dismissed at the prosecution’s request, with the promise that a lesser non-criminal charge of violating an ordinance would be forthcoming. It has not been. The seven were arrested last April after walking onto the base to hand-deliver a letter to the commander expressing opposition to a surveillance drone training center there...

**BUFFALO, NEW YORK:** After a mistrial last summer, Nate Buckley thought his legal ordeal was near the end. A judge told Nate’s attorneys upon hearing their motion to dismiss that his tentative decision meant they did not have to prepare for trial. He’d write it up when he got back from vacation, in time for an October 16 hearing. Back in April, 2011 an anti-war march ended with a dispute over private property in a downtown plaza. Buckley was already restrained in custody when an armed transit officer, without provocation, pepper-sprayed him in the face and then charged him with resisting arrest and obstructing justice. Video evidence was compelling about just who assaulted whom, and two co-defendants had already been acquitted of trespass. But on October 4, Buckley stopped briefly at home after work to change clothes for a soccer game. In his haste, he avoided turning around and just parked in front of his house, facing traffic. He came back outside to find two police officers waiting by his car. He was arrested for obstructing government administration and searched. An engraved pocket knife found in his jacket pocket, his groomsman’s gift from a friend’s wedding, led to an additional felony charge of criminal possession of a weapon, due to a prior misdemeanor conviction on Buckley’s record. His truck was impounded and Buckley was jailed overnight. On the 16th, the judge reserved his decision to drop the other charges for reconsideration at the request of prosecutors, who want more time to investigate Buckley’s criminal proclivities. His next hearing on the motion to dismiss has been postponed twice, and is now set for December 20...

**EDO-MBM:** It was another victory for Smash EDO campaigners in Brighton, England as Chris Osmond was found not guilty of criminal damage in November. He was first charged in December, 2010 during one of the regular noise demos outside the factory that makes bomb release mechanisms for U.S. and Israeli fighter aircraft. The case had been dismissed and resurrected more than once, but the judge concluded dryly that the evidence presented by the officer who charged Osmond was “inconsistent with his statement”...

**HECKLING BLAIR:** In court again September 27, Lawrence Reichard reiterated his refusal to pay a fine for heckling former British Prime Minister Tony Blair with shouts of “War Criminal!” at the Colby College (Maine) commencement ceremony last May. The judge offered 30 hours community service instead, which Reichard

accepted...

**FRANCE:** Three people facing prosecution after police broke up a protest camp in Normandy in November, 2011 had their charges dismissed at trial in October. The camp was established as part of an international campaign to disrupt a shipment of nuclear waste from La Hague, in Normandy, to the Gorleben disposal site in Germany. Also in Normandy, retiree Simon Desmonts, an active supporter of farmers and others opposing construction of a high-voltage power line serving the nuclear industry, had his trial postponed until March, 2013. Desmonts is charged with assault, accused of bumping his car into a volunteer deputy during a demonstration last summer...

**FORT MEADE:** Fourteen people facing three charges each for trying to deliver a letter decrying extrajudicial drone killings to the National Security Agency headquarters were to face trial October 25, but their charges were dismissed earlier. A public defender’s motion to dismiss cited the government’s failure to post permit regulations about Fort Meade in the Federal Register. Therefore the arrest infringed on the defendants’ First Amendment rights. Fort Meade has a visitor’s parking lot, two museums and a gas station, all open to the public. How would her client know what was permitted, and what was not?...

**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE:** Katrina Alton, Henrietta Cullinan and Ray Towey were convicted September 3 of criminal damage to the U.K. government office and ordered to pay court costs. Last April, during Holy Week, the three Catholic activists openly used blessed charcoal for graffiti opposing British nuclear weapons, writing “Trident Crucifies the Poor” and “Disarm Trident.” Judge Susan Williams acknowledged that the three had used profound means to highlight the folly of humankind. The three said they would not pay the court, but were discharged nonetheless...

**OLKILUOTO, FINLAND:** Three people were found guilty of insubordination in October. They were charged during a blockade of the nuclear power plant construction site in September, 2011. One activist cited Section 20 of Finland’s constitution in his defense (official translation): (1) Nature and its biodiversity, the environment and the national heritage are the responsibility of everyone. (2) The public authorities shall endeavour to guarantee for everyone the right to a healthy environment and for everyone the possibility to influence the decisions that concern their own living environment...

the Nuclear

# Resister

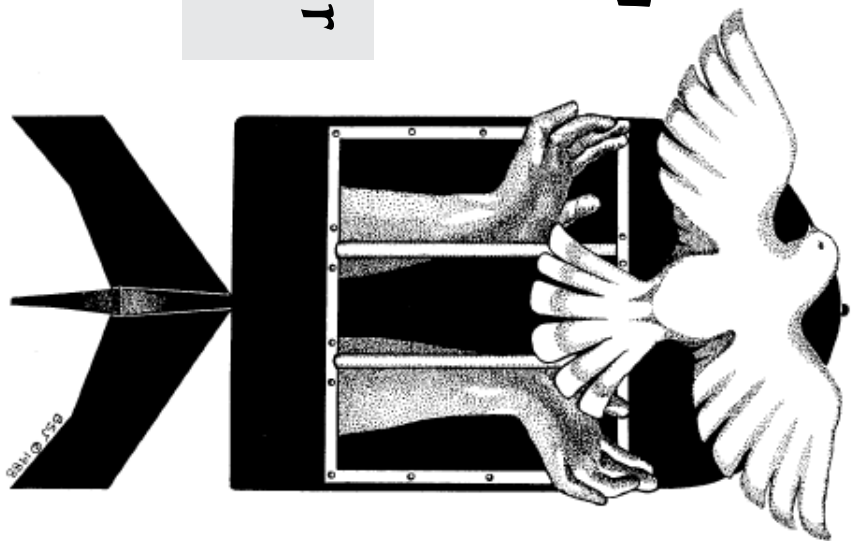
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