

# the Nuclear Resister

“A Chronicle of Hope”

No. 174

June 2, 2014

## SPRING DAYS OF ACTION TO END DRONE WARFARE

Spring Days of Action – 2014 was a “coordinated campaign in April and May to End Drone Killing, Drone Surveillance and Global Militarization” that provided a rallying point for local groups across the U.S. to act in opposition to the use of remotely-piloted aerial vehicles for warfare and surveillance. The action-oriented website knowdrones.com produces weekly bulletins bringing together news of legislative lobbying, educational lectures and teach-ins, vigils and demonstrations, religious services, “fly kites, not drones” events in tandem with Afghan peace activists, and civil resistance actions.

Arrests were reported at seven sites including Air Force and Air National Guard bases in five states, Lockheed-Martin offices, and the headquarters of the National Security Agency at Ft. Meade, Maryland. There were additional drone protest arrests on Good Friday (see page 6).

### DES MOINES AIR NATIONAL GUARD

The nationwide campaign kicked off early in March with an action in Des Moines, where the Iowa Air National Guard’s 132nd Fighter Wing is shifting its mission from F16s to combat drones. Veterans for Peace joined with midwest Catholic Workers who had gathered for their annual spring resistance gathering.

Over 100 people rallied at the base on Saturday, March 15, and a few dozen returned on March 17 to celebrate Ireland’s patron saint. As Des Moines Catholic Worker Julie Brown explained, “St. Patrick once said ‘in Christ, there is no killing,’ and we will continue the work to drive the drones and warmakers out of Iowa just like St. Patrick drove the snakes out of Ireland.”

Seven people approached the closed iron gate arm-in-arm, where they stood holding large photographs of some Afghan Peace Volunteers and victims of drone strikes. The group asked to speak with drone pilots and tried to deliver a war crimes indictment but they were rebuffed.

When they refused to leave, Elliot Adams, Eddie Bloomer, Julie Brown, Steve Clemens, Ruthie Cole, Chet Guinn and Michele Naar-Obed were arrested. They were each released after receiving a federal ban-and-bar letter and state charge of criminal trespass. At their arraignment the following week, all seven pleaded not guilty and asked for jury trials. Trial is set for June 23.

For more information, contact the Des Moines Catholic Worker, P.O. Box 4551, Des Moines, IA 50305, dmcatholicworker@gmail.com, 515-243-0765.

### BEALE AIR FORCE BASE

From Beale Air Force Base in northern California, the Air Force directs the worldwide fleet of Global Hawk surveillance drones, essential tools that support the lethal missions of the Reaper and Predator drones. Regular demonstrations led to arrests five times since March, including on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday (see reports on page 5).

On April 1, Veterans for Peace members Elliot Adams and Richard Gilchrist were arrested when they walked onto the base in protest. They were joined by more than a dozen supporters who vigiled with flags and banners in pouring rain at the gate until Adams and Gilchrist were released about an hour later. Although both were fingerprinted and their details recorded, they were released without any paperwork and have received none in the mail, yet.

Four weeks later on April 29, participants in the Veterans’ Spring Days of Drone Action briefly blocked traffic entering two gates at Beale. They sought to deliver an indictment charging President Obama, the Beale base commander, drone pilots and others with “crimes against peace and crimes against humanity.” Six veterans were among 13 people arrested, handcuffed and taken into

## Greenpeace Goes After Europe’s Old Nukes

Just days before the third anniversary of the Fukushima meltdowns, 240 Greenpeace activists carried out an unprecedented international occupation of nuclear power sites. On March 5, multi-national teams took nonviolent direct action at many of the older nuclear generating plants in six countries: Belgium, France, The Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland. At least 76 arrests were tallied from four of the protests.

The coordinated actions drew attention to the escalating risk of aging reactors, including 66 of the European Union’s 151 units now over 30 years old. Greenpeace demanded that reactors older than their initial design lifetime be closed immediately, and no further license extensions be granted. Europe should “invest instead in clean and safe energy.”

About 100 people from six countries entered the site of the two 45-year-old Beznau reactors in Switzerland. Climbers scaled the superstructure of the reactors and hung banners declaring “The End” and demanding its immediate shutdown. Overhead, a paraglider circled with a campaign banner trailing through the sky.

“Three of the oldest nuclear reactors in the world are located in Switzerland. With facilities that old/obsolete, risk increases with each passing day,” a Swiss campaigner said in a statement. Police checked the ID of everyone apprehended on the site, but no charges were filed.

In Sweden, 24 arrests for aggravated trespass were made after activists entered the 42-year-old Oskarshamn nuclear power plant. From atop the reactor roof, six climbers unfurled a massive banner, a parody of a retirement notice addressed to the three reactors at the site.

At the Garoña atomic plant in northern Spain, 30 activists staged a theatrical decommissioning outside the 43-year-old reactor. The plant was shut down in 2013 but is now at risk of re-opening. Activists who formed a blockade and chained themselves to the plant gate were sprayed with water cannons. Nine people were arrested.

Eighty activists also staged a decommissioning of the Tihange reactor complex in Belgium. They blocked the entry with barrels representing nuclear waste and projected a message onto one of the cooling towers. Ten people also climbed onto a containment building where they hung banners declaring “The End” for nuclear power in Europe. Police arrested 20 people.

Police in France cited 23 activists who crossed multiple security barriers to protest at the foot of one of the six reactors at Gravelines, on the English Channel.

At the Bugey nuclear power station near Lyon, several activists blocked the entrance with two trucks and then tried to begin its dismantlement by removing signs there.

And in the Netherlands, demonstrators projected an

custody about 8 a.m. Veterans Barry Binks, Richard Gilchrist, Michael Kerr, John Reiger, Ted Sexauer and Cres Vellucci were joined by Fred Bialy, Bev Fitzpatrick, Catherine Hourcade, Pamela Osgood, Shirley Osgood, Devan Phenix and Cathy Webster in the largest single-day arrest tally to date at Beale. They were all released two hours later with citations for misdemeanor trespass and a date in federal court in Sacramento.

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

### WHITEMAN AIR FORCE BASE

The arrest reported from Whiteman Air Force Base during an April 6 drone protest came as a surprise.

Jane Stoeve wrote:

A member of the PeaceWorks, Kansas City Board of Directors and a co-member of the Loretto Community, Tamara Severns was walking toward the base’s



photo © DPA

**Police descend from a helicopter to remove Greenpeace climbers from atop the Fessenheim nuclear reactor containment dome in France, March 18.**

animation of cracking and crumbling onto the 41-year-old Borssele nuclear power plant, but no arrests were made.

On March 18, ahead of an energy summit of European leaders, activists backed a large cargo truck up to a closed gate at France’s Fessenheim nuclear power plant.

A ramp was extended from the top of the truck over two barriers and ladders dropped to the ground inside. More than 60 Greenpeace activists from 14 countries across Europe, plus Turkey and Australia, entered the site of the country’s oldest operating reactors, which are near the Swiss and German borders. Climbers made it up onto the roof of one of the containment buildings, where they hung a gigantic banner that declared “STOP RISKING EUROPE!”

It was just the latest in a series of such infiltrations demonstrating that security weaknesses continue to plague the French reactor fleet.

Hundreds of police responded, surrounding the site while two police helicopters circled overhead. They worked carefully to remove demonstrators from the roof, and arrested 57 people. As the demonstration inside the plant was removed, other activists displayed a large banner from boats on the Rhine Canal next to the plant that read “The Future is Renewable – Stop Nuclear!”

For more information, visit [greenpeace.org/international/en/](http://greenpeace.org/international/en/).

Visitors’ Center to use the bathroom. She and other resisters had used those facilities with no problem during earlier protests, but on this day had arrived at the base entry after authorities had warned the resisters not to step across the white line on the entry road. Unaware that “the rules” had changed, Tamara crossed the line to go to the Visitors’ Center, and was taken into custody with no warning, handcuffed, searched, and detained on the base about an hour.

“The officer said, ‘Turn around. You’re being arrested,’ and clamped the metal handcuffs on my wrists,” Tamara said after her release. “They gave me no warning to leave the property.” She was given a notice of trespass violation from federal court, but it bore no date or location for the offense. Authorities are considering whether to prosecute or not.

*continued on page 4*

VANUNU STILL NOT FREE

Ten years ago, on April 21, 2004, several hundred of us from around the world waited with great anticipation outside the gates of Israel’s Ashkelon Prison, holding up signs saying “Thank you, Mordechai Vanunu: Peace Hero, Nuclear Whistle-blower”. After many years of campaigning for his freedom, the day had finally arrived: Mordechai Vanunu would walk out of the prison where he had spent each day of his 18 year sentence (12 of those years in solitary confinement) for blowing the whistle on Israel’s then secret nuclear arsenal. We were there to welcome him to freedom.

Our excitement had been somewhat dimmed a couple of days earlier, when Israel announced a list of oppressive and unjust restrictions on the soon-to-be-released whistle-blower. These restrictions continue to this day, having been renewed each April: Mordechai Vanunu remains under restrictions which require him to report and gain approval for any change in residence, to avoid diplomatic missions, to not speak to foreign nationals and which prevent him from leaving Israel, a thing Mordechai has wished to do ever since his release from prison.

Since his release he has been repeatedly harassed and taken in by police for questioning. He has served a further three months in prison for talking to foreigners, which he continues to do in spite of the restrictions.

In December 2013, an appeal to Israel’s High Court of Justice against this indefinite punishment for “crimes” for which he has served his full sentence proceeded much as previous appeals had. The government, in secret testimony, persuaded the court that “the evidentiary material suggests that there is still additional privileged

information that [could be jeopardized] by the petitioner.”

However Vanunu has repeatedly insisted that he has no more secrets to tell, including in his first public statement to the throng of international reporters gathered to cover the moment that he emerged from prison on April 21, 2004. He shared all that he knew with UK Sunday Times journalists back in 1986 (information that is now more than 28 years old) – giving the world its first photographic proof of Israel’s clandestine production of nuclear weapons at the remote Dimona factory where he had worked as a technician until 1985.

He strongly believed that in a democratic country, people have the right to know what their government is doing, and, after examining his conscience, felt it was his responsibility to share the information he had. On the eve of publication, Vanunu was lured from London to Rome by a Mossad agent, where he was kidnapped, drugged and bound and put on a freighter to Israel. A secret court convicted him of espionage and treason.

We believe that Mordechai Vanunu is a hero for his courageous act of whistleblowing, not a traitor or a spy. And we think it’s likely that Israel would view a potential Iranian nuclear whistle-blower in the same light. In any case, it is time for Israel to stop this endless persecution of Vanunu. He is currently living in East Jerusalem, but very much wishes to leave Israel and start a new life.

As we continue to work for a nuclear-free future, we invite people around the world to join us as we call on Israel to do the right thing, morally and legally, and finally lift Vanunu’s restrictions without further delay, ten

years after the original court-imposed sentence for his “crime” has expired. Mordechai Vanunu must at last be given his freedom.

- Signed:
- (Israel) Yehuda Atai, Ronnie Barkan, Rayna Moss, Gideon Spiro, Meir Vanunu
- (UK) Yasmin Alam, Pat Arrowsmith, Geoffrey Austin, Ben Birnberg, Margaret and Jacob Ecclestone, Paul Eisen, Jay Ginn, June Hautot, Ben Inman, Bruce Kent, Bruce Mackenzie, Carmel Martin, Jenny Morgan, Adeline O’Keeffe, David Polden, Ernest Rodker, Sabby Sagall, David Smethurst, Ben Soffa, James Thackera, Barry White
- (US) Miriam Adams, Barbara Beesley, Edmond L. Browning, Patti Browning, Felice Cohen-Joppa, Nick and Mary Eoloff, Brian Grieves, Ken Hannaford-Ricardi, Art Laffin, Daniel McGowen, Mary H. Miller, Ronald H. Miller, Kim Redigan, Grace Ritter, Scott Schaeffer-Duffy, Jeanie Shaterian
- (Ireland) Kevin Cassidy, Barbara Fabish, Mairead Maguire
- (Norway) Fredrik Heffermehl
- (Japan) Shinji and Ryoko Noma
- (Australia) Phillip Mudge, Rev. David Smith



Please email Israeli President Shimon Peres at public@president.gov.il and tell him to lift the restrictions given to nuclear whistleblower Mordechai Vanunu when he was released from Ashkelon Prison on April 21, 2004 at the end of his 18 year prison sentence - SO HE CAN FINALLY BE FREE.

Visit vanunu.com for more information.

Plowshares Trio Now at Federal Prisons

The Transform Now Plowshares have all arrived at their designated federal prisons to serve out multi-year sentences. They were convicted in May, 2013 of sabotage and felony destruction of government property following their July, 2012 direct disarmament action at the Y-12 nuclear weapons complex in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Greg Boertje-Obed and Michael Walli are serving their 62-month prison terms, Boertje-Obed at Leavenworth in Kansas and Walli at McKean in Bradford, Pennsylvania, while Sr. Megan Rice is serving a 35-month sentence at the Metropolitan Detention Center in Brooklyn, New York.

A challenge to the sabotage charge is on its way to the U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeal. Pro bono help on

the appeal is being provided by a legal team at Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe. Briefs will be filed by fall and the appeal will be argued by the end of this year or early next.



Letters of support should be sent to Gregory Boertje-Obed 08052-016, USP Leavenworth, P.O. Box 1000, Leavenworth, KS 66048; Megan Rice 88101-020, MDC Brooklyn, Metropolitan Detention Center, P.O. Box 329002, Brooklyn, NY 11232; and Michael Walli 92108-020, FCI McKean, Federal Correctional Institution, P.O. Box 8000, Bradford, PA 16701.

Presente!



Nicholas Eoloff

October 2, 1929 – May 24, 2014



Joseph Gump

September 25, 1927 – March 8, 2014

These two good men, Joe Gump and Nick Eoloff, each brought tremendous passion and commitment to many years of peace and justice work. They were both loving husbands, fathers, grandfathers and great-grandfathers. Joe received a 30-month prison term for taking part in the Transfiguration Plowshares–West action in 1987, at the same time that his wife Jean was in prison for a similar nuclear disarmament action. Nick, along with his wife Mary, adopted Mordechai Vanunu later in the Israeli nuclear whistleblower’s 18 year prison sentence, and as a result were among the small handful of people allowed to visit him at Ashkelon Prison.

Note from Felice: I was grateful to join the Eoloffs and the Gumps at different times (starting in 1997, through 2005) on multiple trips to Israel and Palestine, where together with other activists we demonstrated at the Dimona nuclear facility, Ashkelon Prison, the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Defense and elsewhere to call for nuclear abolition and Mordechai’s immediate release. Please see above for an update about Mordechai Vanunu.

Thanks

Thanks to Jim, Charlotte, Sam, Allison, Richard, Paige, and Cindy for helping to mail the last issue.

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.

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



# Chelsea Manning Pursues Appeal, Treatment

There have been several significant developments in the case of the court-martialed Army whistleblower serving a 35-year prison sentence for releasing evidence of war crimes and diplomatic deception to Wikileaks in 2010.

In April, a Kansas City court approved the petition of Bradley Edward Manning to change her name to Chelsea Elizabeth Manning. The Private Manning Support Network has also changed its name to the Chelsea Manning Support Network, reflecting Manning’s self-identification. All mail should now be addressed to Chelsea E. Manning.

Attorney Nancy Hollander has been hired as the lead attorney to represent Manning on appeal of her multiple convictions.

Court martial defense attorney David Coombs concluded that job when he filed Manning’s clemency petition in late March. Coombs continues to represent Manning as she pursues hormone replacement therapy, the recommended medical treatment for her gender dysphoria.

In May, Coombs quickly condemned as a “strategic leak” widespread reports citing unnamed officials “who were not authorized to speak on the matter” that the Pentagon would be transferring Manning to a civilian prison for treatment.

He wrote:

[T]his story to the media is a transparent attempt to pressure Chelsea into dropping her request for needed treatment under the artificial guise of concern for her medical needs. It is common knowledge that the federal prison system cannot guarantee the safety and security of Chelsea in the way that the military prison system can. Accordingly, Chelsea would face the “choice” between receiving necessary medical treatment but potentially jeopardizing her personal safety, or not receiving necessary medical treatment but ensuring her personal safety. The Pentagon’s leak is intended to strong-arm Chelsea into backing down in her requests for medical treatment, ironically using the same method (leaking information) that sent Chelsea to prison for 35 years...

...Whether the Pentagon likes it or not, Chelsea is a military service member and responsibility for her falls on the military. Although a very small number of military inmates are transferred to federal prison each year, this is only after all appeals have been exhausted and the military inmate has been discharged from the service. Chelsea’s appeals have not yet begun and her transfer to federal prison in these circumstances would be unprecedented. Chelsea has been asking for medical treatment from the military for the past ten months. So far, the military has outright ignored her requests. The military absolutely needs to revisit its “policy” on transgender medical care and adapt it to 21st century medical

standards. It cannot continue to bury its head in the sand any longer.

Manning herself responded to say:

At the beginning of 2014, the U.S. Disciplinary Barracks at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas and the Army Corrections Command were ready to approve and implement a treatment plan that at least conservatively met the standards set forth by the World Professional Association for Transgender Health. I was content with this plan. Based on these facts I don’t understand why the Office of the Secretary of

Defense would feel the need to punt this issue by transferring me.

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



Letters of support should be sent to Chelsea E. Manning 89289, 1300 North Warehouse Road, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas 66027-2304.

## NATO 3 SENTENCED

An Illinois judge has sentenced three men found guilty of helping undercover cops make molotov cocktails for protests at the May, 2012 NATO summit in Chicago. The sentences of six years for Brent Betterly, eight years for Jared Chase and five years for Brian Jacob Church were all less than the 14-year terms that prosecutors sought for each young man, who were convicted of misdemeanor mob action, possession of incendiary devices with intent to commit arson, and possession of incendiary devices with intent for someone else to commit arson. Under Illinois law, they will all serve 50% of the sentence and will receive credit for the two years they served since their arrest. Upon release, they will each have two more years of supervision.

Although the jury acquitted the three of the high-profile, post-9/11 state terrorism charges, prosecutors at the April 25 sentencing hearing repeatedly invoked the T word by comparing the three with the accused Boston Marathon bombers. Judge Thaddeaus Wilson chimed in, adding that the men’s tape-recorded cooperation to make the incendiary devices, “...may not be terrorism, but it is terrorizing.”

Defense attorneys framed the case as they had during trial. The actions of the defendants were far less about a serious threat of terrorism and more about intoxicated young men boasting in the company of undercover cops who nurtured insurrectionary fantasies with faux friendship and alcohol.

When passing sentences that were less than the state asked for, but more than time served, Judge Wilson described the three as not so cunning as the Three Musketeers, like prosecutors alleged, nor as bumbling as the Three Stooges portrayal by the defense.

Church and Betterly both addressed the court. Church said he loves his country, and was hurt by the comparison to the Boston bombers. He has made mistakes and learned from them since his arrest, he said, and has continued to educate himself while in jail through reading. He has family and a job waiting for him when released.

Betterly acknowledged describing himself as an anarchist, and said he came to Chicago not with hatred

and violent intent, but “in solidarity with the millions of people around the world who’ve learned the true meaning of terror at the hands of NATO’s seemingly endless war agenda... I came to lend my voice to those who ... no longer have one.”

Jared Chase did not testify at sentencing. Chase is also facing a charge of aggravated battery on a police officer during his pre-trial confinement in the Cook County Jail.

On his behalf, a medical doctor provided expert testimony about Huntington’s disease, a hereditary degenerative neurological disorder affecting Chase. (“Huntington’s disease usually causes movement, cognitive and psychiatric disorders with a wide spectrum of signs and symptoms,” according to [mayoclinic.org](http://mayoclinic.org).) Dr. Kathleen Shannon testified that the disease makes those affected unable to plan ahead or learn from mistakes, and that she believes the disease was likely behind Chase’s misconduct while in jail. Shannon testified that Chase probably has about ten years to live.

When this testimony was tied to the request for leniency due to Chase’s expected lifespan and quality of life, one of the prosecutors replied that he should actually get a harsher sentence, not more lenient. His reasoning was that Chase is more “dangerous” because he has nothing to lose, and that his disease makes him unpredictable.

While in court for the sentencing, Chase turned down a plea offer on the battery charge, but negotiations continue because prosecutors have learned more about the disease and its impact. A status hearing in the case is set for June 30.

For more information, visit [freethenato3.wordpress.com](http://freethenato3.wordpress.com).



All three men have book wish lists at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) that anyone may purchase for them. Letters of support should be send to Brian Jacob Church M44717, P.O. Box 112, Joliet, IL 60434; Jared Chase M44710, 2600 N. Brinton Avenue, Dixon, IL 61021; and Brent Betterly M44724, 4017 E. 2603 Road, Sheridan, IL 60551.

## Inside & Out

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

**Please refer to**  
***[nukeresister.org/inside-out](http://nukeresister.org/inside-out)***  
**for current addresses before writing.**

### NUCLEAR RESISTERS

**Gregory Boertje-Obed** 08052-016  
USP Leavenworth, P.O. Box 1000,  
Leavenworth, KS 66048.  
(62 months – out 9/20/17)  
**Megan Rice** 88101-020  
MDC Brooklyn, Metropolitan Detention Center,  
P.O. Box 329002, Brooklyn, NY 11232.  
(35 months – out 11/14/15)  
**Michael Walli** 92108-020  
FCI McKean, Federal Correctional Institution,  
P.O. Box 8000, Bradford, PA 16701.  
(62 months – out 10/29/17)  
(*Transform Now Plowshares action group convicted of sabotage and depredation of government property at Y-12 nuclear weapons complex, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, 7/28/12*)  
**Leonard Peltier** 89637-132  
USP Coleman I, POB 1033, Coleman, FL 33521.  
(life)  
(*Native American political prisoner framed for murder while defending traditional indigenous from threats including uranium mining on sacred lands*)



### ANTI-WAR RELATED ACTIONS

**Shakir Hamoodi** 21901-045  
USP Leavenworth, POB 1000, Leavenworth, KS 66048.  
(three years – out 4/17/15)  
(*Plea agreement to one count of violating 1991-2003 U.S. sanctions by providing personal charity for family and friends living in Iraq*)  
**Rafil Dhafir** 11921-052  
Unit HB, Federal Medical Center Devens, POB 879, Ayer, MA 01432.  
(22 years – out 4/26/22)  
(*Convictions resulting from providing humanitarian and financial aid to Iraqis in violation of U.S. sanctions, 2/05*)  
**Norman Edgar Lowry Jr.** KN 9758  
SCI Dallas, 1000 Follies Rd., Dallas, PA 18612.  
(one to seven years - in 8/1/11)  
(*Repeated trespass at military recruiting office, 8/1/11*)

**Chelsea E. Manning** 89289  
1300 North Warehouse Road,  
Fort Leavenworth, Kansas 66027-2304.  
(35 years – in 5/10, out 2/3/20)  
(*Whistleblower convicted on espionage and other charges for release of military video and documents showing evidence of U.S. war crimes. To ensure delivery, any card or envelope must be addressed exactly as noted*)  
**Brian Jacob Church** M44717  
P.O. Box 112, Joliet, IL 60434.  
(5 years – out 11/6/14)  
**Jared Chase** M44710  
2600 N. Brinton Avenue, Dixon, IL 61021.  
(8 years – out 5/6/16)  
**Brent Betterly** M44724  
4017 E. 2603 Road, Sheridan, IL 60551.  
(6 years – out 5/6/15)  
(*NATO 3, convicted of possession of incendiary devices with intent to commit arson during protests at NATO summit in Chicago, May, 2012*)  
**Oh Cheol-Geun**, Prisoner No. 32  
Nambu Correctional Service, P.O. Box 165,  
Geumcheon Post Office, Seoul, Korea.  
(38 days – in 5/26/14)  
(*Refusal to pay fine for protest against naval base being built on Jeju Island, South Korea*)

**PREVIOUSLY LISTED,**  
**RECENTLY RELEASED: Margaretta D’Arcy,**  
**Yang Yoon-Mo**

# END DRONE WARFARE, CONT.

continued from page 1

## CREECH AIR FORCE BASE

A small contingent of San Francisco Bay-area CodePink activists anchored Ground the Drones Week April 6-12 with daily morning and evening demonstrations to greet commuter-warriors at Creech Air Force Base in Indian Springs, Nevada. They were joined by others from Washington, New York and Arizona, united in opposition to the remote-killing programs of both the CIA and U.S. military now underway at Creech.

Some then stayed on for the Sacred Peace Walk, an annual pilgrimage sponsored by Nevada Desert Experience that passes by Creech on the way from Las Vegas to the Nevada National Security Site (nuclear weapons test site).

The demonstrators were hosted at the Temple of Goddess Spirituality in nearby Cactus Springs, a spiritual oasis established in 1993 and dedicated to the goddess Sekhmet. There the shade of large cottonwoods created an outdoor studio space for painting the large signs and banners used for four hours of daily vigil and tableau theater at the base gate.

Protest themes during the week included a simulated drone attack on a wedding party; a funeral procession with white masks, coffins and a giant mourning mother puppet; “One Nation Under Surveillance” (illegal spying, domestic & foreign); “Call Congress Day for Drone Transparency,” and “Celebrate Whistleblowers.”

On the morning of April 11, seven women were arrested as they blocked traffic into the premier remote warfare base. Each wore a garland string of pink paper drones, each one bearing the name of a civilian drone casualty.

“There was a somewhat playful mood as we wiggled around crossing the (arbitrary) boundary and approached the gate entrance as close as possible,” write Martha Hubert. “They really didn’t want to arrest us. But our actions were making a statement, and the arrests were part of our plan. Along with confronting the President and the Congress, we feel it’s important to confront the judicial branch of the government, and the arrest process is an important part of that picture.”

Hubert was arrested along with Toby Blome, Renay Davis, Maggie Huntington, Catherine Hourcade, Lisa Marcus and Edwina Vogan. They were taken to Las Vegas for processing and released later that day. Vogan was the last woman out, as she also had to address an outstanding warrant from previous drone protest at Creech.

For more information contact Toby Blomé, ratherbenyckeling@comcast.net, 510-541-6874.

More evidence that both CIA assassination orders and military combat missions are flown by the Creech chair force was published in *the Guardian* just three days later, as participants in the Sacred Peace Walk prepared for their action at Creech. Adding the latest revelations to a long list of particulars, nine walkers approached the gate Wednesday morning, April 16 to deliver an indictment for war crimes to the base commander, charging:

“...the United States President, Barak Obama and the full military chain of command to Commander Colonel Jim Cluff, every drone crew, and service members at Creech Air Base, with Crimes Against Peace & Crimes Against Humanity, with violations of part of the Supreme Law of the Land, extrajudicial killings, violation of due process, wars of aggression, violation of national sovereignty, and killing of innocent civilians...”

Denied access to the base, they blocked the gate. Clark County deputies arrested Vera Anderson, Barry Binks, Darcy Ike, Seamus Knight, Robert Majors, Margaret McChesney, Marcus Page-Collonge, Dan Shay and Brian Terrell. All were taken into Las Vegas and released later that day.

For more information, contact the Nevada Desert Experience, 702-646-4814, nevadadesertexperience.org.

## NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY/FORT MEADE

The National Campaign for Nonviolent Resistance

returned to the headquarters of the National Security Agency (NSA) in Fort Meade, Maryland on May 3, to challenge the NSA’s involvement in the U.S. drone assassination program. Twenty people vigiled outside the base, reading the names of civilian drone casualties as prelude to a die-in. Following the die-in, Ellen Barfield, Marilyn Carlise and Manijeh Saba approached the guardhouse to seek a meeting with someone with authority to respond to a letter sent a week earlier to the NSA director calling on the NSA to end its involvement in drone attacks. Police blocked the road and arrested the activists, charging them with failure to comply with a lawful order, entering protected property and disorderly conduct. No court date has been set, and prosecution of such arrests at the NSA in the past has been uncommon.

For more information, contact NCNR c/o Max Obuszewski, mobuszewski@verizon.net, 410-366-1637.

## VOLK FIELD AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Half a dozen people demonstrated outside the gates of Volk Field in Camp Douglas against a new drone operator training center there during the Wisconsin Air National Guard’s annual open house on May 17. Bonnie Block and Fr. Jim Murphy boarded a bus onto the base, and began leafletting the passengers as they got off at the National Guard Museum. Their little flyer asked a few simple questions, beginning with “Would you have heightened anxiety if surveillance drones were flying over your community all day long?” and encouraged the reader to “Call your members of Congress and ask them to ground the drones before we become targets.”

These small sheets of Socratic inquiry proved too much for base security, and when the two said they intended to continue passing them out, the sheriff’s deputies were summoned. Within minutes the two were handcuffed and taken into town. Both were cited for trespass and disorderly conduct, then released with a court date of June 18.

For more information contact Joy First, joyfirst5@gmail.com.



photo by Barry Binks

A CodePink drone war resister is removed from the road at Creech Air Force Base, April 11, 2014

## DRONE RESISTERS IN COURT

While the scenarios resulting in arrest at drone sites across the country are similar, recent protest prosecutions reveal varied responses in both state and federal courts.

## HANCOCK FIELD AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Dr. Cornel West spoke in Syracuse on April 27 on the topic, “Connecting the Dots: Racism, Poverty and Drones,” then joined the march to a rally behind a building in a parking lot adjoining the Hancock Air Base just outside Syracuse, New York. The rally site was positioned so that none of the protesters could see the base and no one on the base could see them. The line-of-sight agreement was reached between organizers of the Upstate Coalition to Ground the Drones and End the Wars and the Onondaga County Sheriff’s Office so that any of more than 50 protesters who are restrained by an Order of Protection (OOP) granted to New York Air National Guard Colonel Earl A. Evans, commander of

the MQ-9 Reaper drone operations, could participate in the rally without being arrested for violating that order. A permitted march to the main gate followed the rally, and people named by the order chose whether or not to risk arrest by marching to the main gate. About half a dozen did so, and although no one was arrested that day, police acknowledged “pulling pictures” from their photo collection to help them identify the enjoined resisters.

And while the legitimacy of the OOP itself is in doubt, one woman just convicted of violating it, Mary Anne Grady-Flores, awaits sentencing on July 10. She faces a maximum of one year in jail.

On March 19, a New York State Supreme Court justice reversed the controversial Order of Protection (OOP) in the case of Daniel Finlay. Justice John Brunetti cited grave flaws with the order itself but based his action on habeas corpus protections. The order was imposed on Finlay after his arrest at the base on April 28, 2013. He was ordered to stay away from the person, home, and place of work of the commander at the base, a man Finlay had never met and certainly never threatened with violence. Brunetti held that in Finlay’s case, he has yet to be convicted of a crime. OOPs issued as part of a sentence can be appealed to a higher court, and while a temporary OOP may be issued to pre-trial defendants, Finlay was left with no statutory appeal of its prima facie faults except to the court that issued the order. Brunetti declared his jurisdiction based on the Common Law principle of *habeas corpus* to vacate the order.

Of the more than 50 others arrested during the no-drones campaign at Hancock and served with an OOP, about 20 of those cases are also pre-trial OOPs almost certainly covered by the broad order. The DeWitt town attorney intends to appeal, and the court has now scheduled trials a year into the future to continue the restrictions on as many protesters as possible for as long as possible.

The first of the 31 people arrested on April 28, 2013 to face trial was found not guilty in a bench trial on the first anniversary of the arrests. John Amidon, president of the Albany, New York chapter of Veterans for Peace, was charged with loitering and attempted trespass. He testified that he was arrested while garbed as the Grim Reaper and standing atop a barrier within the “free speech zone” established for the permitted demonstration. Prosecution witnesses testified that they thought he was headed over the barrier into prohibited space. Amidon defended his costume as a permitted prop at a permitted demonstration, and explained to the court that he had a “Constitutional right to wear the mask.” Noting that the ghastly image is featured on a Navy unmanned aviation program logo, Amidon explained, “The Reaper drone is killing indiscriminately and the Grim Reaper collects the souls of the innocent and guilty alike.” After viewing video of the demonstration, DeWitt Town Judge David Gideon agreed that the evidence showed Amidon did not intend to cross the barrier.

Most of the other April 2013 defendants were in court for a status hearing on May 8. Some, due to personal circumstances, took the plea offer to admit guilt to two disorderly conduct violations while the state drops the misdemeanor obstruction of government administration charge, and accept a two-year extension of the OOP as their sentence. Most rejected the offer, demanding their right to a jury trial. Gideon agreed to consolidate only four of the cases for trial, and set twelve trial dates for fifteen defendants stretching from July, 2014 through June, 2015. He also extended each defendant’s temporary OOP for another two years.

The following week, Mary Ann Grady-Flores faced a jury trial for criminal contempt of court, the charge for violating the OOP on Ash Wednesday, February 13, 2013. The OOP was applied to her in October, 2012, so on the day of her arrest she did not take part but observed the protest outside the Hancock gate from across the road, conscious not to participate and violate the OOP. She briefly crossed the road to take some pictures of the event. It was only later, as Grady-Flores walked to a diner down the road away from the gate, that police stopped and arrested her. The base claims half the road and the center line as its boundary, and she was accused of entering the commander’s workplace.

The first witness was Colonel Evans, the base commander who sought court-ordered protection akin to that granted victims of violent crime and physical abuse. He admitted he did not know Grady-Flores, had never met her, and was not in fear of her. Despite this and her own testimony and that of four others, the jury deliberated all of five minutes to find her guilty as charged. She will be sentenced on July 10. The judge told her to “expect some jail time.”

For more information, visit upstatedroneaction.org or contact Upstate Drone Action c/o The Syracuse Peace Council, 2013 E. Genesee St., Syracuse NY 13210.

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# Vandenberg 1st Amendment Issue Back at 9th Circuit

The U.S. Supreme Court has rejected Dennis Apel’s appeal of his permanent ban and bar from Vandenberg Air Force Base. Ruling 9-0 on February 26 the court affirmed the narrow issue that the base commander has authority over “all property within the defined boundaries of a military base [and] those limits do not change when the commander invites the public to use a portion of the base for a road, a school, a bus stop, or a protest area.” And while the court explicitly did not address the free speech elements of Apel’s case, Justice Ginsberg, joined by Justice Sotomayor, wrote that it is “questionable whether Apel’s ouster from the protest area can withstand constitutional review.” The case was sent back to the 9th Circuit, which may take the opportunity to consider the First Amendment issue.

Apel returned to Vandenberg a week later for the monthly peace vigil, which this time coincided with Ash Wednesday. Apel and Fr. Steve Kelly SJ, who is also barred from the base due to previous protest convictions, were arrested, handcuffed and taken from the protest zone, cited for trespass, then released off-base.

Apel read a statement responding to the Supreme Court ruling before he was arrested (see sidebar, below).

On Friday, March 14, Apel was again arrested when he joined a protest at the gate on the occasion of the annual meeting of the Global Network Against Nuclear Power and Weapons in Space. More than 30 peace activists from around the globe attended the three-day gathering.

Also identified and arrested at the demonstration was MacGregor Eddy. Apel and Eddy were both cited for trespass and released at an off-base location. Base security overlooked Fr. Kelly, who was also reportedly in attendance.

In federal court in Santa Barbara on May 15, Eddy’s and Kelly’s charges were dismissed. Apel was granted a postponement until July 17, a strategic move intended to position this case to follow his 9th Circuit Appeal on court calendars.

For more information, contact [info@vandenbergwitness.org](mailto:info@vandenbergwitness.org) or visit [vandenbergwitness.org](http://vandenbergwitness.org).

## RESISTERS IN COURT, CONT.

*continued from page 4*

### BEALE AIR FORCE BASE

In the face of more protest arrests at Beale Air Force Base, federal prosecutors in Sacramento appear to be prosecuting only repeat line-crossers. Trespass charges made last November against MacGregor Eddy, Michael Kerr and Flora Rogers – the first Beale arrest for each – were recently dismissed, but prosecution of two time Beale arrestee Shirley Osgood concluded with a bench trial on April 16.

Judge Dale Drozd heard testimony and watched a video of her arrest that was introduced into evidence by the prosecution. To his eye, the video seemed to contradict the testimony presented by both the defense and prosecution, suggesting that where Osgood was arrested on the shoulder of a road is not base property.

“I am not convinced beyond a reasonable doubt,” he concluded. “I will not convict Ms. Osgood of this misdemeanor.” He then lectured Osgood about the trouble and expense her protest put on the federal court, shook his head when she raised her hand to respond, and then left the courtroom.

### VOLK FIELD AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Five grandmothers arrested together at Volk Field drone base in Wisconsin in May 2013 were denied their bid for a group trial, so faced individual bench trials in April and May in Juneau County Circuit Court. Bonnie Block was convicted of trespass after a 30-minute hearing, and fined \$232. A disorderly conduct charge was dismissed.

Joyce Ellwanger had the same outcome from her May 6 trial, but during sentencing she told the judge she refused to pay the fine and would instead like to go to jail that day. When the judge told the bailiff he should take her away, Ellwanger asked if she could have lunch with her husband first and the judge agreed she could report to the jail at 1:30 p.m., after lunch. She was sentenced to five days, but was unexpectedly released a day early.

Joy First learned she could not attend her scheduled May 9 trial, so in a brief hearing after Ellwanger’s trial, she pleaded no contest to trespass and was fined \$232. Her disorderly conduct charge was dismissed.

Mary Beth Schlagheck was convicted in a similar manner on May 23. Kathy Walsh entered a plea of no contest, and both women were also fined \$232.

# Repenting War on Ash Wednesday



photo by Guarionex Delgado

**While resisters kneel in prayer, a military policeman warns of their imminent arrest at Beale Air Force Base, California on Ash Wednesday, March 5.**

## Beale Air Force Base

Christian clergy involved in the drone resistance campaign at Beale Air Force Base led an ecumenical morning demonstration there on Ash Wednesday, March 5.

The service included a call to faithfulness and action, songs, prayers, scripture, Holy Communion (open to all) and spreading ashes to symbolize repentance, human mortality and our interrelatedness with the whole web of life. It concluded with the arrest of five people who crossed the line, some carrying white crosses with drawings memorializing children killed by U.S. drones.

Arrested were Rev. Sharon Delgado, Rev. Elizabeth Griswold, Flora Rogers, Michael Kerr and Reverend Dr. Jerry Pedersen, retired Lutheran pastor who was a Marine on the U.S.S. Missouri when Japan surrendered.

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

## London

For 32 years Christians have gathered at the Ministry of Defence (MOD) in London on Ash Wednesday to call on the government to repent and move away from nuclear war preparations. On March 5, about 100 people joined with the London Catholic Worker and members of Pax Christi and Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament from around the country to pray and take part in symbolic acts of repentance and peacemaking as they processed, with three prayer stops, around the MOD building. They called on the government to cancel the planned replacement of Trident, the United Kingdom’s quasi-independent nuclear program.

During their procession, three men marked the MOD building with crosses using charcoal and ash blessed at

the beginning of the service. Only Scott Albrecht was arrested, pulled away by police after he managed to write “Repent” on the wall inside the door to the Old War Office. He was released a few hours later and barred from Westminster until he reports to police on June 26 to learn if he will be charged with criminal damage and/or entering a protected military establishment.

On March 14, Fr. Martin Newell of the London Catholic Worker, who had marked the building on Ash Wednesday but was not arrested, returned to the MOD office and again wrote with charcoal on its walls: “Choose Life, No Trident, says God” and “God is Peace”.

Newell was held overnight and brought to the bench at Westminster Magistrates Court the next day. The Catholic priest has refused to pay fines totalling £565 from various peace and anti-nuclear actions over the past few years, stating reasons of faith and conscience. The judge said he had no option but to sentence Newell to 28 days in prison.

The priest said, “Jesus taught us to love not just our neighbors but also our enemies. He showed us by his life and example how to resist evil not with violence but with loving, persistent, firm, active nonviolence. It was this revolutionary patience on behalf of the poor and oppressed that, humanly speaking, led to him being arrested, tried, tortured and executed by the powers that be.

“The acts of witness that resulted in the fines I have refused to pay were a form of conscientious objection. Refusing to pay them is a continuation of that objection. It is a privilege to be able to follow on the path that led Jesus to the way of the cross and resurrection.”

Newell was released after serving 14 days at HMP Wandsworth. For more information, visit [paxchristi.org.uk](http://paxchristi.org.uk) and [www.londoncatholicworker.org](http://www.londoncatholicworker.org).

## Dennis Apel’s Statement on Ash Wednesday at Vandenberg Air Force Base

For nearly 18 years, I along with other concerned citizens have held vigils and protests here at the front gate of Vandenberg Air Force Base. Since 2010 the base and the federal prosecutor’s office have waged a campaign to silence my voice and the voices of others who would hold the base and our government accountable for the crimes against humanity in which they are involved.

The base would have us believe that an act of civil resistance 13 years ago, namely spilling a few ounces of my blood on their sign 5 days before the illegal assault on Iraq, which spilled thousands of gallons of Iraqi blood and killed and maimed thousands of our own citizens, justifies a forfeiture of my First-Amendment right to stand peacefully outside their gate with a sign. The base claims security concerns while it simultaneously allows anyone to traverse the highway with no accountability for who they are or what they might be carrying in their vehicle. My only weapon is my voice, and that is enough for the base to declare me a security risk.

The mission and purpose of this base are not as clean and honorable as the base’s public relations department would lead us to believe. This base is responsible for testing the delivery system for the most hideous and immoral weapon of mass destruction ever designed by humankind. This base is responsible for launching the satellites which make operational the drones our country uses to assassinate foes and innocent civilians alike in countries around the globe with no declaration of war or judicial oversight or accountability. This base is responsible for the continued irradiation of the Marshall Islands as every I.C.B.M. launched from this base carries in its warhead depleted uranium which it deposits in the lagoon and on the islands of Kwajalein Atoll. As if years of above-ground nuclear testing which irradiated the islands and people of the Marshall Islands were not enough.

As citizens of the most powerful nation on earth, we have an obligation to hold our government to the basic human standards of decency and respect for our global family. When our government is guilty of crimes against humanity, it is our obligation to take them to task.

But what happens when the government which is carrying out those crimes begins to whittle away at its citizens’ right to dissent? Prior to one week ago today, any concerned citizen could legally stand along this public highway outside the fortified gate of this base and peacefully proclaim that the mission here is dishonorable. However, one week ago today the Supreme Court ceded authority to the commander of this base to exclude, for any reason, at any time, at his or her discretion, any private citizen from this public highway – Highway 1, the Pacific Coast Highway. No Circuit Court or even the United States Supreme Court has ever interpreted any statute, let alone a trespassing statute, to allow such unbridled power to be left in the hands of a military commander over private citizens. This ruling is dangerous for our freedom of speech, it is dangerous for our obligation to hold our government accountable, and it is another step in the erosion of the constitutionally guaranteed rights which were put in place to secure our liberty.

From the loss of our privacy to the NSA, to the loss of our government to corporate interests, to the loss of free speech to the military, we are slowly and willingly giving up our freedoms. And even those who are sworn to protect those freedoms and who are fond of saying that we are free because of their sacrifice are now complicit in that loss. It is time to wake up and act like a democracy before it slips away from us.

# Good Friday Peace Actions

## NEVADA NATIONAL SECURITY SITE

The Sacred Peace Walk concluded at the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) on Good Friday, April 18. Walkers, numbering about 40 this year and from as far away as the Netherlands, took part in a morning ritual commemorating victims of war and nuclear technology.

Afterwards, they moved towards the gate, stopping at the cattle guard marking the boundary line. There, River Victor and Ming, both Council Members of Nevada Desert Experience (NDE), the group that organizes the annual trek, first took a step together into marriage. In a ceremony officiated by Western Shoshone National Council Chief Johnnie Bobb, they exchanged vows “as a sign of personal power to bless the enemies of the USA, rather than curse them.”

The couple met on the Sacred Peace Walk in 2011, and are committed to the end of drone warfare and a nuclear-free future. As soon as their wedding concluded, the newlyweds crossed into the nuclear weapons test site to protest nuclear weapons and urge their prompt abolition. They were followed by 18 more men and women. The happy couple were the first to be cited for trespass and released. A wedding reception followed at the Temple of the Goddess Sekhmet in Cactus Springs.

For more information, visit [NevadaDesertExperience.org](http://NevadaDesertExperience.org) or call 702-646-4814.

Sadly, after hosting the week-long CodePink vigil at Creech Air Force Base and then the Sacred Peace Walk, the statue of Sekhmet was stolen sometime overnight April 18-19 from the temple. A reward is offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the thief.

For more information visit [www.sekhmettemple.com](http://www.sekhmettemple.com).

## LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE

About 40 people participated in all or part of a Holy Week Stations of the Cross walk through the nest of military facilities in the Hampton Roads, Virginia region. The Norfolk Catholic Worker coordinated the six-day, 53-mile pilgrimage, which visited 12 military bases, an army recruiting center, and a Lockheed-Martin facility as the 14 stations.

At each military installation, walkers remembered the crucifixion of Jesus, the crucifixion of humanity in war, and the Christian call to disarmament, nonviolence, and peacemaking.

The pilgrimage ended on Good Friday at Langley Air Force Base in Hampton, part of the drone warfare network. There, six people attempted to deliver a letter to the base commander addressing the illegality of drone warfare, and to block the gate going into the base with banners reading “Drones Crucify Christ” and “No War, No Drones, Love One Another.” All six were taken into custody on base property, handcuffed and removed from the base.

Russell DeYoung, Bill Frankel-Streit, Sr. Carol Gilbert and Joan Wages were released after processing, and told they would be notified of federal charges via U.S. mail. Steve Baggarly and Sr. Ardeth Platte, who knelt in the street when stopped, were separated and brought before a local magistrate, charged with impeding the flow of traffic. They will appear in Hampton Court on June 24.

For more information, contact the Norfolk Catholic Worker, 757-423-5420, [williamsbaggarly@gmail.com](mailto:williamsbaggarly@gmail.com).



photo by Marcus Page-Cologne

**After exchanging wedding vows, Ming and River Victor crossed the boundary line into the Nevada nuclear test site, pledged to each other and to nuclear abolition.**

## LIVERMORE

More than 100 people attended the annual Good Friday service outside the gate of the U.S. nuclear weapons laboratory in Livermore, California, hosted by the Tri-Valley Cares, Ecumenical Peace Institute and Livermore Conversion Project. This year’s early morning gathering featured liturgy, lab updates and a talk by Kathy Kelly of Voices for Creative Nonviolence who has witnessed first-hand the impacts of military intervention in Afghanistan and Iraq. Following the program, participants marched on the lab’s west gate, where 40 people lined up to face helmeted police brandishing clubs who blocked the entrance. When the blockaders did not leave, they were arrested, cited for obstructing traffic and released.

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

## LOCKHEED-MARTIN/ SUNNYVALE

Fifty people observed Good Friday with liturgy and witness at Lockheed-Martin’s aerospace facility. After the Stations of the Cross, three people walked up to the main gate. When stopped by police, they knelt down in prayer. Mary Jane Parrine, Ed Ehmke and Fr. Steve Kelly SJ were cuffed and held by the Sunnyvale police. Parrine was charged with trespass and released pending a June 4 court date in Santa Clara. Ehmke and Kelly were held over Easter weekend and were released without charges near midnight on Tuesday, April 22.

Ehmke and Parrine were both told by their federal probation officer that their arrest was being reported as a violation to authorities in Washington State, where the pair had been sentenced last October in federal court for crossing the line at the Trident nuclear submarine base at Bangor. They have not heard from the Washington court.

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

## LOCKHEED MARTIN/ PENNSYLVANIA

One of this year’s traditional Good Friday peace protests drew particular attention to the growing role of Lockheed-Martin, the #1 global war profiteer, in drone war and spying technology. This includes both Lockheed-Martin’s production of remotely piloted aircraft and the Hellfire missiles launched from armed drones, as well as the many space-based satellites that enable warriors to fight overseas from stateside safety.

across the U.S., maintains that the Obama administration and the CIA drone program are in violation of U.S. and international law.

When the six activists arrived at the U.S. Attorney’s office at 11:00 a.m., they discovered the doors to the public building were locked. A uniformed security officer came out and told them that they would not be allowed into the building.

Then a plainclothes security officer from the U.S. Attorney’s office came out to speak to them. He acknowledged that the doors were locked specifically to keep the activists out. Other members of the public were let into the building while the officer spoke with the activists. The officer said that they had received

# 3 Days, 4 Vigils, 34 Arrests – PLC Does Vegas!

Over the first weekend in March, about 60 people took part in the 8th annual gathering of the Pacific Life Community (PLC). This year the group met at the Las Vegas, Nevada Catholic Worker.

The PLC is largely comprised of peace activists motivated strongly by their religious faith to engage in and support civil resistance at locations across the American west involved in preparation for nuclear war. This year, attendees ranging in age from their 20s into their 80s came from Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, Arizona, Colorado and even Maine and New York to learn from and support each other, break bread and protest together.

Some rose before dawn on Saturday, March 8 to travel 45 minutes away for a vigil at Creech Air Force Base, a major drone training and piloting base in Indian Springs. On Sunday, the group held another early morning vigil at Nellis Air Force Base outside of Las Vegas, once a major nuclear weapons storehouse with an unknown number of warheads still on site.

The group rose early again on Monday, March 10 to travel to the Mercury gate of the nuclear weapons testing grounds northwest of Las Vegas, now known as the Nevada National Security Site. An ecumenical liturgy incorporated the burying of the ashes of Peter Ediger, Mennonite minister, poet and anti-nuclear activist who died two years ago.

The group then proceeded to the cattle guard crossing on the entry road that marks the NNSS boundary, where Nye County sheriff’s deputies were waiting. Over the next 30 minutes, 34 people crossed the line. They were eventually arrested and held in the large holding pens built more than 25 years ago when thousands came and crossed onto the site to demand an end to nuclear weapons testing. All 34 were issued citations and released a short time later without further consequence.

The community of resisters returned to town for a final protest at the Department of Energy/National Nuclear Security Administration field office in North Las Vegas. Several people entered the office to speak with people inside, while others picketed out front and hung banners over the signs at the road. A printed statement was handed to drivers, condemning nuclear weapons and nuclear power, and memorializing the downwind victims of nuclear testing in the Pacific and at the Nevada site, and of the ongoing nuclear catastrophe at Fukushima, Japan. Some protesters spoke with the head of public relations before leaving, to share their concerns.

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

At the sprawling King of Prussia, Pennsylvania campus, members of the Brandywine Peace Community observed the Stations of the Cross, planting crosses and tolling a bell for the victims of war and the domestic casualties of the war economy. Nine people then blocked the driveway. Bernadette Cronin-Geller, Genie and William Durland, Rev. Barry Kreider, Tom Mullian, Rev. David Reppert, Paul Sheldon, Rev. Patrick Sieber and Robert M. Smith were arrested and cited for disorderly conduct.

For more information, visit [brandywinepeace.com/events](http://brandywinepeace.com/events) or call 610-544-1818.

# LOCKED OUT OF JUSTICE

Members of the National Campaign for Nonviolent Resistance (NCNR) first brought a criminal complaint against President Obama, CIA Director John Brennan, and others at the CIA who are involved in the drone program to the U.S. Attorney’s office in Alexandria, Virginia last May when Neil MacBride held the office of U.S. Attorney. After numerous attempts to follow-up on the complaint, no action was apparently taken. A copy of the criminal complaint was then sent to the new U.S. Attorney Dana Boente in mid-March.

On March 25, six members of NCNR followed up at the U.S. Attorney’s office in person to demand action as drone attacks continue to murder innocent people around the world. NCNR, along with drone resisters taking action

the complaint and U.S. Attorney Boente would take it under advisement. After several minutes of dialogue, the nonviolent activists left the area.

Malachy Kilbride from Arlington, Virginia explained, “We tried to give voice to the victims of U.S. drone strikes and their families by going to government officials responsible for maintaining the rule of law. But what we encountered was the U.S. government legal system that is literally shutting out those who want to report serious crimes and accept their responsibilities under the law.”

The National Campaign for Nonviolent Resistance will not give up in their pursuit of this matter. They can be contacted via [Max.Obuszewski@verizon.net](mailto:Max.Obuszewski@verizon.net).



# WRITINGS FROM JAIL

~ from FC1 Coleman

by Leonard Peltier, March 29, 2014

Greetings my friends, relatives, supporters, and all those who support the cause of freedom, not only for Native Americans, but for all people.

I know it's sometimes not easy being involved and staying involved, so for all of you that have done just that, I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart to the top of my soul. We need more people all over the world who not only care about the freedom of others, but who care about our future generations and what kind of Earth we leave behind.

I know there are prophecies and predictions and beliefs that predict the end times of life as we know it, and I want to say to you that all of these things that have been said are said for our benefit so that we may choose a different path. All over the world there are people who seek to serve God or the Creator or the Great Spirit or whatever name you call that greater power that gives us life, and I want to say to you at this point in time, that our greatest enemy isn't some supernatural being with horns and a long tail or some other ghoulish spirit; our greatest enemy throughout the world is gluttony, people wanting and taking more than they need. That is the cause of all the wars, the invasions and the dictatorships and the pollutions that face mankind.

## THE INSIDE LINE

It is the way of our Native people that we should not take more than we need. It is in the teachings of the Christians, it is in the teaching of the Muslims, and of the Buddhists. It is a basic, fundamental teaching of all the major approaches to spirituality throughout the world that we do not take more than we need. It is also a teaching of my people that when you take from the Earth you must give something back in return. Mankind has built up a great debt to the Earth, and a great debt to Nature and whether we like it or not or recognize it or not, that debt will be repaid one way or another.

When people set off explosions underneath the Earth, this Earth we call our Mother, when they make poisons and radiation and other deadly things and put them within our mother, then they cause birth defects for all of nature, including man. This may not sound very scientific and quite simplistic, but it is a truth and that truth is being born out in obvious ways throughout all mankind. We see it in birth defects in animals and fish of the ocean, birds of the sky and the reptile. We see it in our waters and in our air. We must find a way to stop these corporations whose CEOs live in air-conditioned penthouses and chalets inside an artificial environment that only they can afford.

We must convince them, in whatever way we can, to respect our Earth and to respect us, and not allow them to destroy our Mother the Earth with fracking and oil-filled pipelines crossing the land, and steel platforms in the ocean that spill oil, or pesticides that kill the bees and destroy the food chain of the birds. Our Mother the Earth is a living creation, and we are all part of that life cycle, all dependent on one another. Every time I turn on the television in the day room or pick up an international magazine of some sort, I read about and see the evidence of this destruction.

I know sometimes we feel that there is nothing we can do, but there is – if each one of us does something then together we can and will make a change. It might be doing a demonstration and carrying a sign or it may be writing your Senator or Congressmen or it may be voting for a person who supports natural, renewable energy from the wind and the sun or other sources.

Whatever it is you choose to do, choose something, make a difference, make your life count for something. Right now in various parts of the United States and Canada there are people of all ages and all races trying to stop these oil pipelines that will carry sludge, and this fracking that sets off explosions under the Earth,

which also causes earth tremors and quakes. This is an immediate danger; it is very real, and you can do something about it.

I want to remind you that if it wasn't for people like yourselves that have taken a stand for something, we wouldn't have the national forests, the redwoods, there wouldn't be animals and various other forms of life, there would be no Yellowstone Park, and there would be a lot more species totally extinct than there are now.

So taking a stand DOES make a difference. How we pray to the Creator for help and how we thank the Creator for what we have is important, but what is truly more important, is that you demonstrate your faith and your belief. You demonstrate it by protecting and respecting this very nature and Earth that we have been given to live upon. Who you are is not defined by what you do when everything is in balance. Who you are is defined by what you do when you are faced with imbalance, when you are faced with a challenge that requires a sacrifice or some sort of intestinal fortitude, which we call courage. THAT defines you.



I am not in this prison for anything that I did wrong. I am in this prison because I was a part of a people that tried to right a wrong. I am in this prison as a statement by the corporation controlled government forces that want to say, "Give up your resources, give up your freedom, don't stand against us." THAT is their message in keeping me in here.

I want to tell you sincerely, this is not an easy place to be. It is a terrible place to be, but when I chose to answer the call along with other Native people, many of us took a vow to stand up even unto death if necessary. Some were shot and killed and their lives were taken immediately. My life has been taken one day at a time. But if I had it all to do over again I would still choose to stand up for my people and your people and our future generations to protect our freedoms and our Mother Earth, and in doing that I am honored that you remember me. I want to thank you for that remembrance and of all those before me, and the ones now that do the same and know that there will be others in the future.

I can't tell you that these choices will always make you feel good, I can't tell you that these choices won't hurt or cause moments of depression or sorrow, but I can tell you that there is a closeness with the Creator that is unlike any good feeling you could ever know anywhere else, a closeness with the Creator that no one can take away, and makes it all worth it. I am saying these things at this time because I get a lot of letters and communications now from groups around the country that are facing crisis within their organizations in trying to stop these pollutions and destructions. As I have in the past, I want to encourage you to do your best to do what is right and right what is wrong and protect what we have and regain what we have lost.

I want to thank you for your support and I want you to know that as long as I walk this earth and have some say, myself and this committee will do the best we possibly can to always do what is right.

In the Spirit of Crazy Horse  
Most sincerely,  
Leonard Peltier  
Mitakuye Oyasin

[Leonard Peltier is serving two life sentences, wrongly convicted for the 1975 death of two FBI agents while defending traditional indigenous from threats including uranium mining on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.]

# Mother's Day Tea at Bangor

On the Saturday before Mother's Day, May 10, activists from Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action held a tea party at the main gate of Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor, the West Coast home port for the U.S. nuclear ballistic missile submarine fleet.

Members of the Seattle Raging Grannies provided musical entertainment and knitted a 40-foot-long section of pink scarf that was used in the direct action. The scarf will be sent to the United Kingdom in support of Wool Against Weapons, a project that originated in the U.K. and will culminate in a massive direct action in August at the Atomic Weapons Establishments there.

Protesters walked onto the roadway just outside federal property in successive waves, briefly blocking the entrance. They offered tea and cookies to the Washington State Patrol officers standing in the median. Officers escorted them from the road and issued citations for walking on the roadway where prohibited to eight people: Rose Betz-Zall, Victor Edward Digilio, Anne Hall, David Hall, Norm Keegel, Tom Rogers, Michael Siproth and Christine Warmedahl.

They were released at the scene after receiving the citation. Four of the group then re-entered the roadway, carrying the long banner reading, "THE EARTH IS OUR MOTHER — TREAT HER WITH RESPECT".

Officers arrested Digilio, the Halls and Siproth. All four were taken to the Kitsap County Jail where they were booked for obstruction and released.

The nonviolent direct action at the Bangor gate was part of a day-long event by Ground Zero to bring attention to Bangor's nuclear arsenal and honor Julia Ward Howe's work to establish a Mother's Day for Peace. Bangor, 20 miles west of Seattle, represents the largest concentration of operational nuclear weapons in the U.S. arsenal, supplying the eight Trident ballistic missile submarines based there.

## BANGOR UPDATE

At a March 7 hearing for mitigation of his ticket from entering the roadway last January, Michael Siproth cited and explained the Nuremberg Principles to a Kitsap County judge, stating that they have had an important impact on him both because he is Jewish and was, as a youngster, profoundly affected by the film *Judgment at Nuremberg*. The judge listened carefully, acknowledged Siproth's deeply held beliefs, and explained that the only issues before the court were those of public safety, and since he had admitted the violation of the traffic charge, she found him guilty, but would reduce his fine to \$20.

Siproth told the court, "I respectfully decline that because I didn't come for that purpose, but with the hope that the judiciary would finally uphold the higher international laws which prohibit the planning for, production of and use of nuclear weapons which would cause great loss of life and destruction of property, not just the small violation of being in the roadway." The judge said she had made the Nuremberg Principles a part of the record in this case.

In April, Tom Krebsbach was notified that the Navy was dropping a federal criminal trespass charge he got at the same King Day demonstration where Siproth was arrested.

For more information contact Ground Zero, 16159 Clear Creek Rd. NW Poulsbo, WA 98370, 360-930-8697, info@gzcenter.org, gzcenter.org.

# POSTER ART IS A CRIME IN D.C.

School of the Americas Watch has launched a poster campaign to remember the martyrs and expose their killers. A set of "MISSED" posters available at soaw.org/posters shows the names, faces and stories of people who were murdered at the hands of graduates of the School of the Americas, while a set of "WANTED" posters shows the names and faces of SOA graduates responsible for such crimes.

On May 14, a dozen activists brought wheatpaste, brushes and rollers, a stack of the posters and some custom graphic embellishments to a bare brick wall in Washington, D.C.'s Adams Morgan neighborhood. They had just finished pasting up a giant mural when police moved in and arrested four activists. Dominique Diaddigo-Cash, Maria Luisa Rosal, Gail Taylor and Nico Udu-gama were handcuffed and taken away to the police station for six hours before being released with a citation for defacing public or private property. Arraignment is set for June 5.

For more information, to download posters and to sign a petition asking the U.S. attorney to drop the charges, visit soaw.org/action.



~ from FMC Devens

by Dr. Rafil Dhafir

*[From a recent letter to Katherine Hughes, co-founder of the Dr. Dhafir Support Committee. Dhafir is writing about his government records recently released under Freedom of Information requests. Excerpted with permission.]*

More than 98% of the documents sent from Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) were redacted, but it shows you how they think and act. I am not done yet but can you imagine that these thugs were spying on me way, way, way, way before 1999, the year [the head prosecutor] kept telling [the judge] they started. It had nothing to do with his claim at trial that it was due to a SAR report. They claim that my alias was Abu Abdulla (I never used that name) and that my middle name was SADY!...

They had scores of full-time FBI thugs working on my abduction, scores of alleged translators brought from all over the corners (San Francisco!). These greedy thugs were traveling and living lavishly claiming that they were investigating. They milked the cow so much that they even had the audacity to ask to work “overtime” during holidays. Their first contact to spy on me was in Tel Aviv. Yes, Tel Aviv! What do I have to do with Tel Aviv? Now you get the picture! Sydney, Canberra, Amman, Cairo, London, Detroit, St. Louis, Tampa, San Francisco, Chicago. Agencies involved? You wouldn’t believe. I always say that criminals, no matter how hard they cover their tracks, they inflict themselves.

You were in attendance at my trial almost 100% of the time. Did you know that the items they put as their goal of charging me with were written a long, long time before their “investigation”? At trial time they were exactly the same.

All this time they had a mindset that I was a terrorist. All their correspondence between themselves, and all over the world, was only on this subject. It is only when they failed to prove any terrorism, because there was none, and to justify spending these hundreds of millions, that they had to justify their theft with the bogus charges they made years earlier.

They could not believe a Muslim, an Arab, can be wealthy, travels a lot all over the world and is generous.

They had theorized early on that there is only one explanation for all this, terrorism. There was no way (to them) that there may be other explanations, if they only did their work properly and honestly and had simply asked me. Can you imagine how much \$\$ could have been saved? And how many lives spared?...

...I am not done yet, but as late as 2010 they were still fishing for terrorism! They spied on every one who called me, wrote me, visited me, emailed me, faxed me, etc. for years, and also who contacted those people as well. It will be interesting to see what they wrote about you [and other Support Committee members], if you ever file a FOIA.”

*From an email to the Nuclear Resister:*

Please advise everyone to get their FOIA and see for themselves how these thugs are spying on everyone and putting false information [out] to deceive the politicians to blackmail them for more money for their ineptitude. You will see what I mean when you see yours.

*[Rafil Dhafir is an Iraqi-American physician. His donations to help family and friends in Iraq violated the post-1991 sanctions, leading to unfounded accusations that he funded terrorists, a malicious medicare fraud prosecution, and a 22-year prison sentence.]*

# Veterans Honor Constitution at NYC Memorial

On April 4, the anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, veterans were again arrested at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Manhattan, New York City. Although the memorial plaza is not fenced and is regularly traversed by pedestrians at all hours of the day, police have taken to enforcing a 10 p.m. closing time whenever veterans stay to pay tribute past the obscurely posted 10 p.m. closing.

The April arrest of three veterans and two supporters was part of a “world-wide wave of actions” called by Occupy activists, and it was the fourth time arrests have been made while veterans stayed to hold an overnight vigil at the site.

Just three weeks earlier, a group of five veterans were convicted on charges resulting from a night-time lock-down effort to stay at the memorial last October, on the anniversary of the war in Afghanistan.

The trial of Ellen Barfield, Tarak Kauff, Ken Mayers, Micah Turner and Jay Wenk on six counts each – resisting arrest, obstructing government administration, disorderly conduct, failure to obey a park sign, trespassing and failure to obey a lawful order – was headed for a jury until prosecutors dropped the first two more serious counts and they faced only a judge.

Ellen Davidson writes at stopthesewars.org:

## Support Committee Seeks Pro-Bono Help for Dr. Rafil Dhafir’s Last Legal Remedy

from the Dr. Dhafir Support Committee

for all 25 counts was, because Dhafir was sometimes not present in his office when patients were treated, the Medicare claim forms were filled-out incorrectly and he was not due any reimbursement for treatment or for the expensive chemotherapy his office had administered.

From the outset of this case the government was duplicitous. Using unfair tactics and innuendo, and aided by a compliant media, the government aimed to transform Dhafir’s community image from a compassionate humanitarian into a crook and supporter of terrorists.

Unfair tactics: On the day of the arrests then-Attorney General John Ashcroft announced that “funders of terrorism” had been arrested. And just before Dhafir’s trial began in October 2004, then-New York Governor Pataki described the case as a “money laundering case to help terrorist organizations ... conduct horrible acts,” an announcement perfectly timed to reach potential jurors.

Innuendo: First prosecutors successfully petitioned the presiding judge to exclude any mention of terrorism from the proceedings. Then, throughout the trial, the prosecution hinted at more serious (terrorism) charges, but now the defense was prohibited from addressing these inflammatory innuendos head on.

Dhafir was convicted of violating the International Economic Emergency Powers Act (IEEPA), white-collar crimes related to his charity, and Medicare fraud. Yet he is now serving 22 years (release date April 26, 2022) in the Federal Medical Center in Ayer, Massachusetts for a crime he was never charged with in a court of law – money laundering to help terrorist organizations.



The Dr. Dhafir Support Committee is searching for a lawyer to submit pro bono, on behalf of Dr. Dhafir, his last remaining legal remedy, a 2255 motion, partly on grounds of ineffective trial counsel. The deadline for this is early November 2014. His former appeal lawyer, Peter Goldberger, will make available all pertinent legal background. Goldberger has exhaustively appealed Rafil’s case through the three tiers of the federal court system without the courts shaving a day off his sentence.

To help defray expenses related to this motion, the Committee has authorized its treasurer, Bob Elmendorf, to solicit and deposit checks made out to “Dr. Dhafir Support Committee”. These checks, which are NOT tax deductible, should be mailed to: Bob Elmendorf, P.O. Box 76, Malden Bridge, NY 12115.

If you can assist, or know an attorney who might be able to, please contact Bob at 518-766-2992, poetapoetus@taconic.net; or Committee Coordinator Katherine Hughes, 315-479-6897, khughes@sy.edu. For more information visit www.dhafirtrial.net

Letters of support should be sent to Rafil Dhafir 11921-052, Unit HB, Federal Medical Center Devens, POB 879, Ayer, MA 01432.

Fraudulent Medicare charges usually involve fictitious patients and made-up illnesses; Dhafir’s case had none of this. The government never contested that patients received care and chemotherapy medicine. Its argument



# OLD NUKES? NEW NUKES? NO NUKES!

## VERMONT YANKEE

“We wanted to do something fun and positive,” said Nancy First, 84, of Northampton, Massachusetts, a member of the Shut It Down affinity group. Dressed in their colorful hand-painted shirts with signs encouraging green jobs and green energy, ten women from the group held green balloons and waved as children and their parents exited Vernon Elementary School on March 19. One sign said “Confronting the Nuclear Lies” with a finger pointing in the direction of the Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant less than a mile away.

Many parents and children waved enthusiastically.

After school was out, the women moved their demonstration to the gates of the nuclear power plant where they blocked the gate, tied their balloons to the fence and held signs. Vernon Police Officer Matthew Stains arrested them for trespass.

Booked at the station and released were Anneke Corbett, Frances Crowe, Nancy First, Marcia Gagliardi, Ellen Graves, Connie Harvard, Susan Lantz, Ulrike von Moltke, Hattie Nestel and Judy Wolter (ages 65-95).

With a Mothers’ Day message to love Mother Earth, the women were back on May 9. Visiting CodePink co-founder Madea Benjamin joined their persistent call to shut down the aging reactor. It was pouring rain, so the twelve women stood in front of the locked plant gate with banners, balloons and umbrellas. Vernon police officer Albrey Crowley single-handedly transported the arrestees by threes and fours to the nearby Vernon Police Station.

Cited and released were Medea Benjamin, Anneke Corbett, Frances Crowe, Nancy First, Marcia Gagliardi, Ellen Graves, Jean Grossholtz, Susan Lantz, Priscilla Lynch, Hattie Nestel and Linda Pon Owen (ages 61-95).

There is strong precedent for not prosecuting these cases, but change may come: the Vernon townspeople voted the previous Monday to terminate its police department as of July 1.

*Thanks to Marcia Gagliardi for her reports.*

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

## PILGRIM

Four women, three of whom were recently convicted of trespass at the Pilgrim Station nuclear power plant in Massachusetts, were arrested on Mother’s Day. They tried to enter the “aging death factory” with potted flowers, “to show them what a plant looks like, it’s full of life and color...”

Susan Carpenter, Mary Conathan, Sarah Thacher and Diane Turco were taken to jail and charged with trespass, then released. They have a pre-trial hearing on July 31, but were not ordered to stay away from the Pilgrim station as previous arrestees have been.

The new arrests came after a dozen members of Cape Downwinders were in Plymouth district court for two spring 2013 nuclear power protests at the site, when they tried to delivered a letter calling for the plant’s closure. The Pilgrim plant sits south of Boston on the west side of Cape Cod Bay, and in the event of a major radiation release, the plume and evacuation zone would encompass the two bridges leading to and from the Cape and make retreat from the area impossible, particularly in summer.

Judge Beverly Cannone allowed them to present a defense of necessity, so their four-day trial included a series of expert witnesses. Four defense attorneys were joined in the opening statements by two pro-se defendants. The prosecution presented a straightforward case alleging trespass.

On the second day of trial the defense began its case. Expert evidence came first from epidemiologist Dr. Richard Clapp, who testified about his studies linking higher adult leukemia and thyroid cancer rates to areas nearer the nuke. A local fire chief, Kevin Nord of Duxbury, compared his experience at the site of the World Trade Center after September 11, 2001, to what he might expect should the Pilgrim plant “blow.” The “woefully inadequate” emergency evacuation plan on the books was detailed for all its shortcomings and foolish assumptions about human behavior, particularly in the new age of social media.

## TURKEY

The Nuclear Engineers Society of Turkey hosted a Nuclear Power Plants Summit in Istanbul on May 30-31 to promote the nascent national industry. Turkey has a joint reactor project signed with Russia and another with France and Japan, but construction has not begun on either.

Greenpeace Mediterranean invited themselves to the summit’s opening day, hacking into the wireless network of the hotel hosting the event to link guest users to the Greenpeace message.

Activists also climbed on the roof above the hotel entrance and displayed signs and a banner in Turkish and English that declared *Nukleer Felaket Burada Başlıyor*



photo by Greenpeace

**A giant anti-nuclear banner greet attendees at a nuclear power summit in Istanbul, May 30, 2104.**

The next day, Dr. Gordon Thompson testified about voluminous state-sponsored research into the catastrophic impact of a Fukushima-like event affecting the spent fuel cooling pools at Pilgrim, packed tighter than original design specifications and estimated to hold even more radioactivity than those at the Japanese reactors. Mary Thompson, founder of Pilgrim Watch, testified about the design of the reactor, placement of the spent fuel rods, deficient emergency planning and the impact of the plant on Cape Cod Bay.

On the final day of testimony, philosophy professor Dr. Steven Nathanson addressed the historical context of civil disobedience as a tool for creating change. Having exhausted other avenues, such as regulatory and legislative, he said the defendants were justified in using civil disobedience to raise awareness of the reactor as an imminent danger. Massachusetts State Senator Dan Wolf testified about his efforts to protect his constituents on the Cape and nearby islands, and that he had tried every available means himself, without success, to lessen the danger should a catastrophic accident strike the plant.

As part of her closing argument, pro-se defendant

(Nuclear Disaster Starts Here). Another group rappelled down from a balcony six floors up, briefly unfurling a giant banner with the same Turkish slogan before hotel security and police caught up with them. Nine people were arrested and taken into custody.

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

## TAIWAN

The political fallout from the Fukushima nuclear catastrophe descended heavily on Taiwan in April. Popular opposition to a fourth nuclear power plant on the island nation escalated rapidly when Lin Yi-hsuing, former chairperson of the main opposition DPP party, began a hunger strike in front of the President’s office on Earth Day, April 22 over the government’s refusal to call a referendum on the controversial reactor, which is nearly complete. Opinion polls show up to 70% of the population oppose operating the two-reactor plant.

The size of street demonstrations grew with each passing day of his fast, with marchers rejecting a government counter-offer to finish construction first and only then hold a referendum about whether to operate the plant or not. By Sunday, April 27 more than 50,000 people turned out to protest, many joining a sit-in on one of Taipei’s busiest avenues and promising not to leave until the government stopped construction.

The long-ruling Koumintang (KMT) party leaders held urgent talks around the country, and that afternoon the party announced that the government had agreed to halt construction. But it was not a government announcement, so demonstrators occupying the road in front of the main rail station rejected the deal and remained after their permit to demonstrate expired at midnight.

More than a thousand remained seated in their raincoats, arms locked, anticipating what was to come. Police moved in with water cannon before 3 a.m., ordered to clear the roads before Monday rush hour. Dozens of people were injured and up to eleven arrests were reported.

Lin ended his fast on April 30, not yet satisfied with the government response but acknowledging the “unprecedented, touching and admirable” struggle of millions of Taiwanese over the preceding weeks that led to the halt in construction.

Diane Turco, co-founder of Cape Downwinders, derided the emergency evacuation plan’s “shelter in place” directive for stranded Cape residents and visitors because it “really means ‘Sit down, shut up, and eat your cesium...’” She said that Cape Codders would be “collateral damage”, and asked that the NRC “remove the threat, and not the people.” She concluded, “We will not be radiation refugees. It was Entergy which refused to take our letter. So we refused to leave. We were not trespassing. We were entering a crime scene.”

Although the judge did not accept their defense of necessity, her verdict of guilty came with a sentence of one day, time served, for their several hours in custody on the day of their arrest. None were ordered to stay away from the Pilgrim plant site.

On Memorial Day, Cape Downwinders stretched out along the traffic-tied approach to Sagamore Bridge with signs and banners that elicited honks and cheers of support from the vacationing masses: “No Escape From the Cape – Close Pilgrim.”

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

# INTERNATIONAL NOTES

## Belgium

Irish journalist David Cronin blogged on March 27 at [blogs.euobserver.com](http://blogs.euobserver.com):

I spent seven hours today in a police station cell. Why? Because I tried to disrupt a feast of flesh-pressing between weapons dealers and top political figures.

As the annual conference of the European Defence Agency (EDA) was about to begin in Brussels this morning, two peace activists poured buckets of fake blood outside the venue's entrance. Disguised as corporate lobbyists, I and a few others then sat down in the dark red puddle. We were promptly arrested.



photo by vredesactie.be

The purpose of the action was to make the invitation-only attendees walk through "blood". This was entirely appropriate: the arms industry thrives on wars in which innocent people are killed as a matter of routine.

We may not have caused too big a headache for the event's organizers. But we certainly drew attention to how the EDA, an official European Union institution, is trying to confer respectability on an industry that deserves to be reviled.

For more information, visit [www.vredesactie.be](http://www.vredesactie.be)

## Jeju Island

The longest-serving political prisoner in the epic struggle to stop the first navy base being built on Jeju, the Peace Island of South Korea, was released from prison just after midnight on April 12.

Yang Yoon-Mo was freed after 435 days, the fourth and longest time behind bars for the Jeju native and noted film critic.

He emerged to the cheers of 100 supporters, eating the traditional first food in freedom of raw tofu before hugging those gathered. Yang took a microphone and shouted to the crowd, "Absolutely no naval base!" He told everyone, "It's thanks to you and your spirit of sharing, despite your desperate struggle, that I, who am insufficient, could get by daily. This is how I am able to return back to you healthy and with a stronger will after my prison life... I once ignorantly thought that as time went by the odds would grow against our struggle. But in prison, I realized that time is on our side."

Yang reported receiving letters from 30 countries during his imprisonment, a show of international solidarity that greatly encouraged him. He declared his renewed commitment to the campaign to make Jeju the Demilitarized Peace Island.

Since 2007, residents of Jeju's coastal Gangjeong village have led the campaign of sustained nonviolent resistance to the navy base. They refuse to give in, even when two years ago construction blasted most of Gureombi, the unique lava rock at the coast with its freshwater spring, a place which islanders consider sacred – and which remains a key inspiration for their struggle.

While base opponents have gained support from across Korea and abroad, the local residents still endure the stress of constant police harassment, surveillance and noise from the 24/7 construction schedule.

When the complaints of a neighboring motel owner over loss of business because of the nighttime noise went unanswered, he went to the construction gate on the night of March 7 and blocked it with his vehicle, then laid down in front of it in protest. He was eventually arrested and while in custody suffered a stress-induced stroke. He was taken unconscious to the hospital where he remained for some time.

The daily Catholic Masses in front of the construction gate are joined by regular Presbyterian and Buddhist religious services dedicated to peace. Police have taken to moving protesters and restraining them away from the road even when no construction vehicles need to pass by.

On April 7, the police acted in a particularly aggressive manner and restricted the activities of the protesters even more than usual. They eventually arrested

## Sussex

NATO's next summit in Newport, South Wales this summer could bring out the largest protests in that country in a generation (see Future Actions, page 11). At the agenda-setting "Post-2014 Strategic Narrative Conference" on March 17 at Winston House, a stately mansion in Sussex, anti-militarists hung banners to greet the delegates and blockaded the front entrance for more than an hour. Traffic was snarled on the A283 and police escorted cars into the conference by a back gate, where police arrested one person.

The conference's official website describes it planning "the elements of a proactive communications strategy to convey NATO's post 2014 strategic narrative and validation of the utility of military force to member state politicians and publics."

A spokeswoman for Smash EDO, the direct action anti-arms trade group behind the protest, said: "Some of us have visited regions that have been targeted by NATO. We have seen buildings devastated by bombings and we have met local people who have lost friends and family. We oppose the demonisation by western governments and the media of people from countries that are the victims of NATO's invasions."

## RAF Croughton

The ever-ready Lindis Percy of the Campaign Against American Bases stopped to vigil for peace at Royal Air Force Croughton as she drove home April 9 from Dorset to North Yorkshire. She parked her car and pulled out her upside-down U.S. flag, inscribed with the words "WHISTLE BLOWERS URGENTLY NEEDED" written on its stripes, and stood briefly in front of cars as they stopped and exited the base. As an electronic communications center, Croughton plays a central role in the National Security Agency's mass surveillance program and U.S. drone warfare.

four activists who were in the road blocking a cement truck. Sr. Roselina Park (Park Youn) and Lee Jong-Hwa were questioned and released, while Fr. Kim Sung-Hwan and Fr. Mun Jeong-Hyeon were held in custody for a couple of days.

While in jail, Fr. Kim Sung-Hwan told supporters, "The war base is in front of our eyes. It may last forever. However, I will keep resisting. I will let the world know the anti-base movement has not ended."

### COURTS AND JAIL

The more than 600 people who have been arrested opposing the base, many on more than one occasion, have so far been fined a total of more than 300 million KRW (South Korean Won –about \$300,000). Gangjeong village now reports the highest "crime rate" in South Korea.

Several trials are still ongoing, with sessions frequently held weeks apart. Dozens of appeals have recently been completed and mostly denied, so the court is demanding payment of fines or prison time to pay them off at the rate of 50,000 KRW/day.

Many object to the imposition of these heavy fines for nonviolent protest, saying it is a violation of their constitutional right to freedom of assembly. Some are refusing to pay all or part of their fine, as a continuing act of civil disobedience. Mr. Kwon Sool-Young was jailed for two weeks in early May, then paid the remaining half of his fine.

At a news conference on May 20, dozens of activists who refused to pay told the government, "If you want us, come get us." That day three people, Yeo-ok Yang, Jungmin Choi and Reverend Bora Im turned themselves in rather than pay 2,000,000 KRW fines. They each

*Many thanks to Fr. Mun Jeong-Hyeon and Eunmi Pang for the beautiful calligraphy wood carving that now hangs in the Nuclear Resister office, and also to Sung-Hee Choi for all that she did to help get it to us! It was finished shortly before Fr. Mun was arrested with three others on April 7 and jailed for two days for blocking a cement truck at the naval base construction site on Jeju Island. He told a supporter in the jail's visiting room, "I feel the people on the Earth community are of one family."*

After half an hour, Percy was confronted by agitated military police who demanded she stand in a certain spot. As she was on public land, she refused and cited High Court precedent for standing in front of the exiting cars. Unconvinced, the arresting officer read out a citation for aggravated trespass, told Percy to leave and then immediately arrested her. She was handcuffed and taken to the police station in Northampton. Percy was released hours later with a summons for a bail hearing on May 5. At that hearing she was told she was being "reported with a view to prosecution."

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

## Faslane Naval Base

Faslane Peace Camper Heather Stewart writes in the April 2014 issue of *Peace News* (UK):

Early on 19 March, I was arrested on board HMS Ambush hunter-killer submarine inside Faslane naval base (which houses Britain's Trident nuclear missile submarines) along with fellow peace camper Jamie Watson.

We'd set off a couple of hours previously with a ladder, carpet and boltcutters and no expectation of getting further than the outer fence. I'm still amazed we got as far as we did.

Nobody had got inside the base for months, so our action was long overdue. That night the conditions were right so we decided to go for it. After a long, muddy walk we reached the appointed spot and rather gracelessly climbed over the razor-wire-topped fence – with the help of the ladder and bolt-cutters. The carpet helped us surmount the three coils of razor wire inside. ...We were in!

Being natural pessimists, we hadn't spent very long at all considering this eventuality. It seemed logical to head downhill towards the most interesting part of the base.

We somehow found the pedestrian entrance to the *continued on top of page 11*

served about a week in prison before the remainder of their fines were paid by the Gangjeong Fines Fundraising Committee, one of the many grassroots support organizations that have grown with the resistance.

A young Gangjeong activist was arrested on the street in Seoul in April for refusing to pay, then released that night after the Committee paid his fine.

On May 26, Quaker activist Mr. Oh Chul Geun, known for his 500 days of One Hundred Bows, a walking meditation of three steps, one bow to the construction gate, announced that he would refuse to pay the fines. In lieu of payment, he is serving 38 days in jail in Seoul, where he had recently gone to be closer to family. That same day, Dr. Song Kang Ho was arrested at The Frontiers, the intentional peace community where he lives on the mainland, and jailed for three days in lieu of his outstanding 120,000 KRW fine.

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



Letters of support should be sent by mid-June to Mr. Oh Cheol-Geun, Prisoner No. 32, Nambu Correctional Service, P.O. Box 165, Geumcheon Post Office, Seoul, Korea.

Contributions to support the ongoing resistance and payment of fines for those who cannot afford them should be made payable to the Global Network, with "Jeju" in the memo line, and sent to the Global Network Against Nuclear Power and Weapons in Space, P.O. Box 652, Brunswick, ME 04011. Donations can also be made online at [donatenow.networkforgood.org/Space4Peace](http://donatenow.networkforgood.org/Space4Peace).



photo by Rom





continued from page 10

submarine docks without seeing anyone. Unfortunately the turnstiles were locked. The guard on one side didn’t even wake up and the second asked for my pass but apparently didn’t raise the alarm when I patted my pockets and walked away.

Thinking they might be onto us, we headed for an open gate. The guard saw us but all we had to do was keep walking, and we were halfway along the Astute jetty before the bandit alarm sounded. Five minutes later, we were finally arrested on the deck of the submarine, having had time to ring the bell, watch the police boat arrive and wonder how it had all happened.

We were charged with malicious mischief, by-laws offences and offences under the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act. We were held for court but eventually released without appearing after nearly 33 hours in custody.

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

The Netherlands

Speaking at the U.N. in April, the Dutch ambassador boasted that the recently-concluded Nuclear Security Summit in The Hague had been well organized, and “no disturbances had occurred.”

Maybe he was expecting more?

After all, the “International City of Peace and Justice” was fortified for the glorified photo-op of 58 world leaders with 13,000 police officers, 3,000 military police, 4,000 soldiers, two F-16s aloft and Navy warships just offshore.

And though the mayor said no demonstrations would be allowed during the summit, the city bent a bit under international pressure. About 250 people joined a permitted march on Sunday, March 23 behind a “Stop Nuclear Power – Abolish Poverty” banner, escorted by many more police. The marcher’s prescription for true security went beyond the slim risk of dirty bombs and stolen nukes. They demanded nuclear weapons abolition.

When the 2-day summit began the next morning, more than 100 people answered a call from the Amsterdam Catholic Worker. They wanted to carry the message beyond the designated protest zone, which was far from the view of summiteers and world media, to an unpermitted rally and march on the formal venues.

As they took to the street, police quickly surrounded the marchers, whose banners and songs had already drawn media attention. Nearly all refused to leave the area, so police arrested up to 70 people ranging in age from their 20s up to 88. They were all confined for six hours in small cells on police buses before being released. Most were fined €150, although by the end of the day the last few were simply let go. Most of those fined will refuse to pay.

Meanwhile, four disarmament activists had waded into the Hofvijver, a spring-fed pond and popular protest site between government buildings in the city center. They displayed two large abolition banners, the one in English declaring “Disarm All Nuclear Weapons.” Police told them they were under arrest but could instead move their protest to a nearby park.

The activists replied, “No thanks, and if we are under arrest you’ll just have to come and get us.” Which police did, by boat, before citing the four and releasing them.

The next day, energy executives from around the globe attending the Nuclear Security Summit visited the research reactors at Petten, a site proposed for new commercial reactors. Nuclear trade opponents met their buses at two gates in protest, and 28 were arrested and held for several hours.

The Stop Nuclear Trade group condemned the nuclear power industry’s official participation in the Nuclear Security Summit. “While politicians in The Hague talk about the reduction of nuclear material and resisting the spread of nuclear technology, in Amsterdam, CEO’s from the most important nuclear power companies have made plans for further spreading the material and the technology”, the group said in a statement.

On March 18, the hypocrisy of such an event in the Netherlands was also exposed when four Dutch activists entered the secured zone of Volkel Airbase and photographed one of the SW3 bunkers in which American B61 nuclear bombs are kept. A note posted on the bunker and captured in the photo read: “In this bunker are two nuclear weapons. Back to the USA!”

The group Disarm explained in a statement that they acted to spotlight the fact that the Netherlands continues to store U.S. nuclear weapons for NATO and that these weapons should be given back to Obama when he visits the Netherlands. Their action echoed similar anti-war forays in recent years into nuclear bunkers in Belgium. The four were arrested, questioned by military police and then released pending possible prosecution.

For more information, visit [stopdenss.nl](http://stopdenss.nl) and [noelhuis.antenna.nl](http://noelhuis.antenna.nl) (Dutch).

More future actions and event details can be found at [nukeresister.org/future-actions](http://nukeresister.org/future-actions)

keep space for peace

Keep Space for Peace Week, the annual International Week of Protest to Stop the Militarization of Space, takes place October 4-11, 2014. This year’s theme: Full Spectrum Resistance to Full Spectrum Dominance. For more information and to include your local event or protest in a growing list of international events, visit [space4peace.org](http://space4peace.org) or call 207-443-9502.



4.10.2014 - International Actionday Against Use of Drones for Murder and Surveillance

October 4, 2014 has been designated an International Day of Actions Against Drones. CodePink is promoting events in the U.S. in coordination with activists in at least Germany and the United Kingdom, including nonviolent direct actions at drone bases and makers. As plans are still in formation, more information will be announced this summer. For updates visit [droneswatch.org](http://droneswatch.org) and [knowdrones.com](http://knowdrones.com).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

...**The War Tax Resisters Penalty Fund** has been re-energized with a new steering committee and is seeking potential contributors. The fund provides a process of mutual support through which war tax resisters and their supporters can distribute financial assistance to war tax resisters when the IRS seizes their assets and for whom this collection of penalties and interest is a burden. Requests for reimbursement are reviewed and the fund asks its mailing lists for contributions to fulfill the accepted requests. In providing this mutual support, the Penalty Fund hopes to sustain and expand war tax resistance as a form of conscientious objection to war. For more information and to register with the Fund, visit [wtrpf.org](http://wtrpf.org) or contact WTRPF, 1036 N. Niles Ave., South Bend, IN 46617; 574-532-3720; [psmith1036@gmail.com](mailto:psmith1036@gmail.com).

...**The Best 500 Nonprofit Organizations for Prisoners and Their Families 2014** (ISBN 9781492805397) is an indexed and cross-referenced resource edited by George Kayer, an Arizona prisoner. It also includes 100 organizations *en español*. Paperback, 110 pp, \$14.98 from Amazon.com or also available for family and friends outside as a free .pdf file from [inmateshoppermall.com](http://inmateshoppermall.com). Free to prison libraries – have the librarian contact [orgEditor@inmateshopper.com](mailto:orgEditor@inmateshopper.com).

...**Surveillance, Secrecy and Sovereignty: How a Peace Campaign Challenged the Activities of a U.S. Base in Britain** by Margaret Nunnerley (ISBN 9780992840600) is built on the 20-year history of the Campaign for the Accountability of American Bases. With particular emphasis on the American-run spy base at Menwith Hill in North Yorkshire, the book discusses the methods of peaceful protest used by campaigners and their challenges through the courts, including cases resulting from protest arrests. It also examines the adverse impact on democracy and civil rights on both the lack of effective parliamentary oversight of massive foreign intelligence gathering, and the evolving police and courts response to peaceful, lawful protest. £7.99 + shipping from [ypdbooks.com](http://ypdbooks.com).

...**Help The Golden Rule sail again!** Back in 1958, pacifists were arrested attempting to sail into the nuclear testing zone in the Marshall Islands. They were sentenced to prison after their second attempt, and their actions sparked anti-nuclear demonstrations across the U.S. In 2010, the vessel was found, wrecked and sunk in California’s Humboldt Bay. Thanks to Veterans for Peace chapters, the ship is being rebuilt! They need your donations to finish the restoration and take the ship back to sea in 2014 on its new mission: “educating future generations on the importance of the ocean environment, the risks of nuclear technology and the need for world peace”. Visit [vfpgoldenruleproject.org/donate/](http://vfpgoldenruleproject.org/donate/).

hiroshima-nagasaki days bangor

The Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action will host a Hiroshima/Nagasaki commemorative retreat and nonviolent action on August 8-9, times to be announced. For more information, contact Ground Zero, 16159 Clear Creek Rd. NW Poulsbo, WA 98370; 360-930-8697; [info@gzcenter.org](mailto:info@gzcenter.org)

livermore

Stand with survivors of the atomic bombings to proclaim “Never Again!” beginning at 7:30 a.m. on August 6 at the corner of Vasco and Patterson Pass Roads in Livermore, California (the northwest corner of Livermore nuclear weapons lab). A short procession to the gate will follow, where those who choose to will peacefully risk arrest. Park at the rally site or call to reserve a seat on van-pools from the Dublin-Pleasanton BART station. Contact Tri-Valley CAREs at 925-443-7148.

germany

The Atomic Baltic Network invites activists to the International Camp To Gather Forces To Stop Atomic Business, August 9-16 near Kiel in northern Germany, to learn about atomic threats, share campaigning skills, develop international networks and to prepare and participate in public actions against the nuclear industry. For more information visit [atomicbaltic.nuclear-heritage.net](http://atomicbaltic.nuclear-heritage.net) or email [atomicbaltic@nuclear-heritage.net](mailto:atomicbaltic@nuclear-heritage.net).

nato summit/wales

The Celtic Manor in Newport, Wales will host the NATO summit on September 4-5. A week-long peace camp will begin following a major demonstration on Saturday, August 30, building up to mass action to disrupt the summit’s opening day, with many events and actions planned for the days between. For more information, visit Stop NATO Cymru at [network23.org/stopnatocymru](http://network23.org/stopnatocymru) and No NATO Newport at [nonatonewport.org](http://nonatonewport.org), or email [stopnatocymru@riseup.net](mailto:stopnatocymru@riseup.net).

swan island

For the fifth year in a row, peace activists are returning to the Swan Island Military Base in Queenscliff, Victoria, Australia for a week of nonviolently resisting Australian special forces involvement in dirty wars in Afghanistan and Africa. Join the Swan Island Peace Convergence September 28 – October 3 for educational workshops, non-violence training, engagement with the local community and creative direct action to blockade the bridge to Swan Island military base. For more information, visit [swanislandpeace.org](http://swanislandpeace.org), or email [swanislandpeace@gmail.com](mailto:swanislandpeace@gmail.com)

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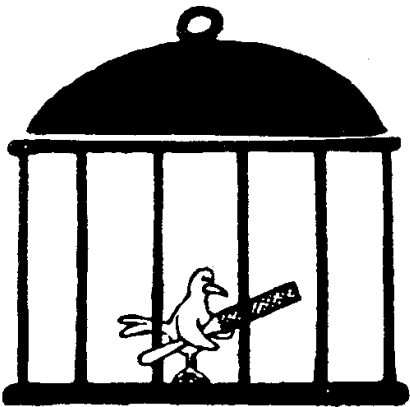
# Update Files

**SHANNON, IRELAND:** Margaretta D’Arcy was released on March 22 after nine weeks in prison, and continued her condemnation of Irish complicity in military transport and CIA kidnapping planes passing through the international airport. “President Michael D. Higgins has called on Irish citizens to have ‘conversations’ in public places as part of active citizenship. I have sat on a runway, had a court hearing and gone to prison in an attempt to have this ‘conversation,’” she said at a press conference. “I am facing another trial in exactly three months’ time [for a second protest on the runway in September 2013]. I hope to continue this conversation/dialogue with the Irish people and our government and judiciary, and to highlight what we have sacrificed as Irish and world citizens by allowing this colonising of our airport for illegal and immoral purposes.” D’Arcy added, “I will also be highlighting the conditions in our prisons, which I have unfortunately been able to experience in both Limerick and Dublin.”...

**NORMANDY, FRANCE:** Out of more than 100 people who took part in a symbolic action in March, 2012 against property seizures in the path of a high-voltage line for nuclear-generated electricity in Normandy, only three were brought to court on suspicion of damaging a construction site. Asserting their innocence, all refused to surrender DNA samples or fingerprints as part of the investigation. Their refusal prompted an entirely separate round of state action threatening a €15,000 fine and one year in prison. At a hearing in January, the court challenged the legitimacy of the effort, noting that the prosecutor’s file had no evidence to support the original charge. Two defendants testified they believe they were targeted because they had registered complaints of police abuse with the same local prosecutor, who took no action. The third told the court, “I wonder what I’m doing here?” because he was not even at the demonstration, evidenced by his absence from any of 40,000 police photographs of the protest. When their cases continued in April, the prosecuting attorney moved to dismiss the charges, which the court did...

## VICTORIA BARRACKS:

Shane Anderson and Santa double Greg Rolles were in a Melbourne, Australia court on April 9, and found guilty of trespass last December when they vaulted over the stone wall at the fort. A more serious charge of unlawfully entering military land was dropped. Both men accepted responsibility. Anderson told the court, “I would first like to acknowledge the Kulin nations as the traditional and rightful custodians of these lands and waters, and that they are the legitimate keepers of law. I acknowledge that this court under the British crown has the ability to inflict a penalty against me for my actions, although I in no way imply that I accept the legitimacy of this. I entered the Victoria Military Barracks in an attempt to draw attention to Australia’s involvement in drone strikes in Pakistan. I have seen for many years, that the killing of dark skinned peoples in foreign nations by our military is not considered newsworthy. In the case of drone strikes by the U.S., even less newsworthy, although we know that Australian infrastructure plays a vital part... I did this in the full knowledge that I risked penalties for my actions. Looking at the highest potential penalties for the charges I am faced with, they are insignificant compared with the suffering inflicted on the nation of Pakistan by the U.S. and its allies, including Australia... I am here to accept [the consequences]. And I would just conclude by saying that it is common practice to see a guilty plea as a sign of remorse. Please understand that in this instance that is not the case.” The men refused the sympathetic judge’s offer of a good-behaviour bond. Rolles told him, “I can’t do this in good conscience – if the government goes into illegal wars I want to reserve my rights to protest and disrupt it nonviolently to the full extent of my ability.” The magistrate nodded, noted he did not make the rules so had to convict the men but imposed no penalty...



**SWAN ISLAND:** Eleven people were in a Geelong, Australia court on April 16, to answer charges of trespass at the special forces base near Melbourne last fall. The judge listened to the statement each had prepared for court. He acknowledged that as a group of self-professed Christians, well-spoken, educated and sincere, none were likely to commit serious offenses. Noting that Shane Anderson and Simon Moyle had prior convictions at Swan Island, however, he fined both men \$100, and for the others, found the charges proven and dismissed...

**GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN:** The judge asked Deb Van Poolen if she had created a disturbance on January 31 at the convention center. “Yes, I stood up and spoke in front of several hundred people,” she replied. “I said ‘General David Petraeus, you are a war criminal responsible for the deaths of thousands of innocent men, women and children. I am a graduate of Calvin College and a follower of Jesus Christ and I am here to speak out.’” Her lawyer told the court it was an intentional act of civil disobedience. The tradition sees it as appropriate to break laws and deal with the consequences, and he said Van Poolen had performed a public service by challenging military aggression that often goes unchallenged. The judge accepted the unusual guilty plea and ordered she pay \$160 restitution and about \$300 in court costs and fees...

**MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY:** Trespass citations from January were finally dismissed after campus police, university administrators, the local prosecutor and the court all got on the same page with promises made by the university’s legal counsel in a letter to one of the small group of people who regularly, peacefully protest the Jesuit campus’s ROTC program as contrary to Christian values...

**JAPAN:** Prosecutors in May told activist Mari Takenouchi that they have closed their investigation and she will not face charges of criminal contempt for a tweet that offended a group called Fukushima ETHOS, who filed a complaint. The group encourages residents to keep living in contaminated areas while measuring radiation in the background and in their own body...

# the Nuclear Resister

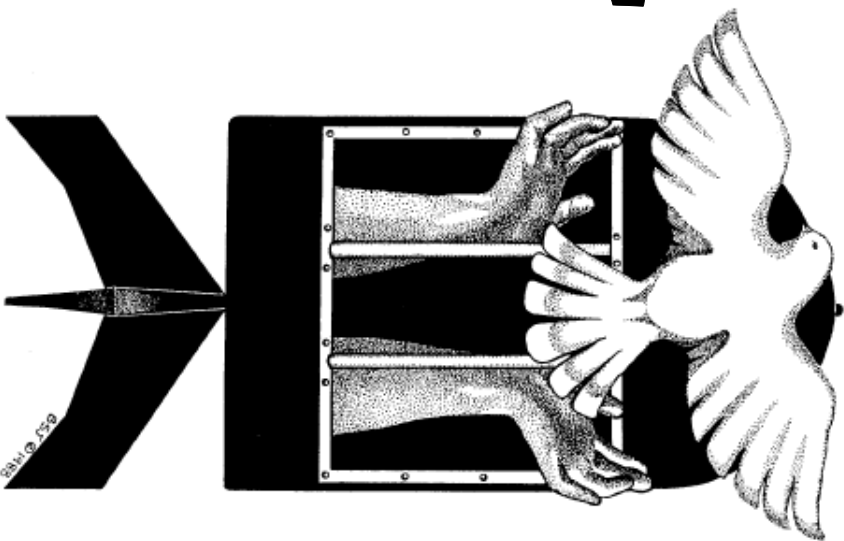
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INFORMATION ABOUT AND SUPPORT FOR IMPRISONED ANTI-NUCLEAR & ANTI-WAR ACTIVISTS

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