

# the Nuclear Resister

“A Chronicle of Hope”

No. 176

December 9, 2014

## ANTI-WAR VET JAILED PENDING COURT MARTIAL

A single mother and Iraq war veteran has been in jail in Colorado Springs, Colorado since her arrest in Oregon on August 27. Sara Beining went AWOL a second time last summer after a nearly year-long delay in resolving the original charge that resulted when she left her unit at Ft. Hood, Texas for reasons of conscience in January, 2007. Her court martial on two counts of desertion is now scheduled for December 9 at Fort Carson, Colorado.

On September 14, 2013, Beining was stopped for a traffic offense and held on the outstanding military warrant, more than six years after she and her newlywed husband had together walked away from war service. She was briefly jailed, then given a plane ticket and orders to report back to Fort Carson, Colorado, where, she said, “I tried for another year to play the game” and be quietly processed out of the army as many other recent military refusers have been.

But in her absence without leave, Beining had given birth to a daughter in September, 2008 and become an outspoken opponent of war. She and her husband were later divorced, and in 2010 he was arrested for going AWOL, held three months at Fort Carson, and then discharged. At the time of Sara Beining’s latest arrest, she was serving as secretary on the board of directors of Iraq Veterans Against the War.

During her past year at Fort Carson, Beining was assigned office duty and lived off-base. But as a consequence of her anti-war activity, she was repeatedly threatened with pre-trial confinement and loss of custody of her child. Progress on her case was only stalled. As the summer wore on, and the U.S. resumed aerial bombardment of Iraq, Beining could no longer abide her service nor the delay. She decided to go AWOL again, to speak out publicly against the war, and force the government’s hand in her case.

Beining left her assignment in July and headed to Portland, Oregon. In Portland she gave an interview that aired August 15 on Veteran’s Voice, a KBOO-FM community radio public affairs program. She was arrested in Portland on August 27, taken into custody on the military warrant, and returned to the El Paso County Jail in Colorado Springs.

In the radio interview, Beining described a positive, formative experience in JROTC, her chosen alternative to gym class in high school. Her 2004 enlistment at age 17 grew from a desire to serve and to experience more of the tight, family-like bond nurtured among her friends by the charismatic commander of the JROTC program.

But her service in Army intelligence in Iraq from December, 2005 through November, 2006 left her with serious doubts that it was even possible to uphold the values she vowed to support when she joined the army. She compiled daily casualty reports and reviewed video surveillance of combat in Baghdad, repeatedly witnessing death and carnage but powerless to help in any way.

“We did this oath, to swear to ‘uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic’,” she told listeners. “And the longer I was in Iraq, the more I realized that we weren’t really doing anything to defend our own constitution. I was in intelligence. There were no weapons of mass destruction. The worst that was happening there for weapons was the depleted uranium in southern Iraq. Most Iraqi women gave birth to children, and the first thing people would ask is, ‘Is it normal?’ because there were so many birth defects due to depleted uranium. So many soldiers have symptoms of radiation poisoning and sickness. We weren’t helping our country over there, without a doubt.”

This past summer, watching the news from Iraq and seeing the effects of militarism across the globe coming home to roost in places like Ferguson, Missouri, Beining came to the conclusion, “I can’t be a part of that. As sad as it is, the world’s reinforcing my decision.”

In November, her civilian attorney James Brantum wrote, “A sealed plea deal is in place, so Sara will be

## Two Arrested at Fort Benning SOA Watch Vigil

Twenty-five hundred human rights activists braved the rainstorms on Sunday, November 23 to converge at Fort Benning for the annual SOA Watch vigil and action calling for an end to militarized state violence in the U.S. and abroad. The stage program featured presenters from Mexico, Colombia, Honduras, Brazil, El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Venezuela and the U.S.

A solemn funeral procession followed, commemorating those murdered at the hands of Fort Benning’s School of the Americas/WHINSEC graduates, including the two women and six Jesuit priests who were massacred in 1989 at the University of Central America in El Salvador, as well as activists from Honduras, Mexico and Colombia killed earlier this year.

Eve Tetaz, an 83-year-old author, veteran peace and justice activist and retired public schoolteacher from Washington, D.C., crossed the line onto Fort Benning in solitary nonviolent witness at 9 a.m., carrying with her a poster of one of the 43 students disappeared in Ayotzinapa, Mexico this September, and the prophetic Isaiah verse, “they shall beat their swords into plowshares.”

After the procession concluded, Nashua Chantal, a 62-year-old human rights defender from Americus, Georgia, carried a ladder to the fence and climbed over onto base property. It was the third arrest at Fort Benning for Chantal, who previously served a three-month sentence in 2005 and six months in 2013 for crossing the line.

Tetaz and Chantal were cited for trespass and released pending arraignment in federal court on January 13.



photo by Anna Dowling

**Nashau Chantal, the No More War clown, clambers over the fence at Fort Benning, Georgia, November 23, 2014.**

military atrocities in Latin America. In its fight to close the School of the Americas/WHINSEC, SOA Watch continues to work towards a world that is free of suffering and violence. SOA Watch considers deportation quotas, mandatory detention, for-profit immigration detention centers, the militarization of the border, the drug war and the training of repressive forces at the SOA/WHINSEC as all parts of the same racist system of violence and domination.

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

## Campaign Nonviolence Arrests

Five people were arrested outside the White House on September 23 after officials at the gate refused to accept their letter to President Obama that called for an end to the bombing of Iraq and Syria and for concrete policy shifts away from war. Their action formally launched Campaign Nonviolence, a long-term movement promoted by the Christian pacifist organization Pace e Bene, to “build a culture of peace by mainstreaming active nonviolence – and by joining with people, organizations, and movements everywhere in the long-term nonviolent struggle to abolish war, end poverty, reverse climate

appearing in court to plead guilty to charges of desertion and then to make her argument in front of the judge to request a lower sentence than what was provided in the plea agreement...

“Sara appreciates all of the support she has received, including the letters and books folks have sent her. It has been hard being separated from her daughter, but she is otherwise doing fine and in good spirits.”

For more information, visit [courage.toresist.org](http://courage.toresist.org). Sentencing news will also be posted at [www.nukeresister.org](http://www.nukeresister.org). To contribute to Beining’s legal expenses, visit [www.bit.ly/BeiningSupport](http://www.bit.ly/BeiningSupport).



Letters of support should be sent to Sara Beining A0305918, Criminal Justice Center, 2739 E. Las Vegas St., Colorado Springs, CO 80906; or c/o the Nuclear Resister, POB 43383, Tucson, AZ 85733 and it will be forwarded as needed.

Five other solidarity activists were arrested the day before in a companion demonstration when about 1,000 human rights activists marched to the gates of the Stewart (Georgia) Detention Center. The five carried their nonviolent message of justice and dignity for all onto the property of the Corrections Corporation of America, which warehouses 1,800 immigration detainees at Stewart for profit in horrific conditions which have led to the death of at least one prisoner.

Activists called for an end to the unjust imprisonment of immigrants and denounced the clear connection between U.S. militarization and forced migration.

SOA/WHINSEC training (the School was renamed the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation in 2001) is among the root causes that force people to migrate and flee their countries. Many immigrants to the United States are victims of U.S.-sponsored

change, and challenge all violence.”

To dramatize the impact of the bombing that began that day, the group engaged in a die-in on the driveway and refused to move away, leading to their arrest for “incommoding.” Cited were Campaign Nonviolence Co-coordinator Fr. John Dear, David Barrows, JoAnne Lingle, Alice Sutter and Lorna VanderZamden. They were taken to a nearby police station where each posted a \$50 forfeiture bond, and were released a few hours later.

There were more than 200 Campaign Nonviolence actions and events across the U.S. during the last week of September, and arrests were also reported at actions in Nevada and California.

A three-day gathering tied to the campaign, Justice for Our Desert, was hosted by Nevada Desert Experience from September 20–22. The weekend retreat addressed four issues of environmental and social justice in Nevada: continued sub-critical nuclear bomb tests at the Nevada National Security (nuclear testing) Site; drone war operations at Creech Air Force Base in Indian Springs; recent developments in Geneva regarding justice for the Shoshone people whose land was taken for the nuclear test site; and commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the closing of the former Soviet Union’s nuclear test site at Semipalatinsk in Kazakhstan, brought about by a post-Chernobyl popular movement there that took inspiration from the nonviolent resistance at the Nevada Test Site in the 1980s and named itself the Nevada-Semipalatinsk Movement.

On Sunday, following an interfaith liturgy, ten people crossed the line to enter the test site, and were arrested

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# Resistance Reflections

Reprinted from via pacis, July 2014, newsletter of the Des Moines Catholic Worker

It was a rough start for our family. When Greg did this plowshare action, we were living in one of the Catholic Worker houses in Duluth and that community did not support Greg’s witness. Shortly before Greg went to trial and while he was in Tennessee preparing for trial, the community asked me to pack up our family’s belongings and leave. It felt like my sense of stability and safety was pulled out from under me and my family. The thought that a community we spent so many years with was taking a different direction and that we no longer fit, hurt tremendously. This difference of direction was a year in the making and probably was going to happen anyway, however, the timing couldn’t have been worse. The energy that I needed to support the action was drastically diminished.

Then God’s providence came through and the wider Catholic Worker movement both nationally and internationally stepped forward to embrace the Transform Now Plowshares and offered support for Greg and us. The Vets for Peace stepped forward and embraced us as did the Benedictine Sisters of St. Scholastica here in Duluth. The Sisters told us that this action is valued, it is needed, it is Spirit led and it is, in fact, pleasing in God’s eye. When my Christian Peace Team in Iraqi Kurdistan found out about the witness, they embraced us and many of my Kurdish friends wrote letters of support during and after the trial. All of this validation helped me pour my life’s energy back into the support of the action and back into following our vocation as individual and family.

Then God’s providence came through again. I am part of the Hildegard Catholic Worker House, a new Catholic Worker community focusing on providing hospitality for women caught up in sex trafficking who need a welcoming, loving and healing environment to heal. I am grateful for the outpouring of emotional and spiritual support Rachel and I receive from so many people. I am grateful when reminded that our lives as individuals and

as family are valued and that we are part of something bigger than just ourselves and our nuclear family. I am amazed at the many ways in which the web of human lives come together to help us walk through these difficult times together as individuals, as family, and as part of a bigger circle of humanity.

I also know that we are being looked after by the Cloud of Witnesses who have gone before us, by the communion of saints. I have had vivid dreams of Sr. Anne Montgomery, Elmer Maas and Phil Berrigan. All of them have let me know that they are with us on this journey.

I am reminded that when I was sentenced to 18 months for my last Plowshares action, I was sent to Tallahassee, Florida to serve my time. It was a blow to be sent so far from home. We were living at Jonah House in Baltimore, Maryland. Rachel was just two. People from the support community came together and paid for Greg and Rachel’s airfare so they could visit every three months. Pax Christi members in Tallahassee made their homes available for hospitality. We could not have done that time without that kind of support.

Now Greg is locked up in Leavenworth Federal Prison for five years, a nine-hour drive from Duluth. And our support community has made it clear that they will pay for a rental car and gas to visit every three months. Holy Family Catholic Worker and Cherith Brook House in Kansas City, Missouri have opened their doors to us as have individuals in the Kansas City area. I have been invited to stop over at the Des Moines, Iowa Catholic Worker and at Strangers and Guests Catholic Worker in Malloy, Iowa anytime I go to visit Greg. Both houses are midway points between Duluth and Kansas City and both are welcoming places in which to stay, filled with spiritual and emotional nourishment.

So to each of you who have sent an encouraging word or prayer to us or have reached out a hand to us, we say thank you. Not just for what it has meant to us, but for what it has meant for the integrity of the action.

or were Christians. No one asked me what placed me here. They were just welcoming me as a newcomer and someone who was in need.

As time went on, guys have been teaching me about the problems here. Initially, men from Minnesota explained that the dining hall tables were assigned by inmates to different states or regions. I was led to sit at the 3 tables with four seats each allotted for guys from Minnesota, North Dakota and Wisconsin. A short time later, some of the Christians in my unit urged me to sit at the four tables set aside for Christians or anyone who is rejected from their state tables. The outcasts are said to be suspected informers or people with particularly bad crimes.

After a while, I realized that the Minnesota tables where I sat were restricted to white Northlanders. A Christian in my unit repeatedly encouraged me to leave the white Northland section and sit at the Christian section which is the only integrated area. The dining hall is huge, with more than 125 tables. Some inmates comment that this segregation is like a throwback to the 1940’s and 50’s.

I switched from the Northland section to the integrated section and had no problems for a month. However, twice in that time all the 16 seats were filled when I received my food. Then I learned that guards will sometimes tell inmates waiting for a seat that we cannot stand by the tables. We must take a seat elsewhere or throw our food away and leave. When this happened to me, twice I went to sit at the white Northland tables. It wasn’t a problem the first time. But the second time I was asked where I was from and how long I had been here. When I explained and then told how the Christian tables were currently filled, I was told that I could no longer sit at the Northland section, that I was clogging up their tables. Later I consulted with others and learned that is how the system works here. “It is what it is,” is sometimes heard as a comment on life here.

Besides the dining hall, segregation by inmates is also said to apply to seats in the recreation yard and in the auditorium for movies. In some of the other cell blocks, it is said that the use of an iron to press clothes is divided by race. There is a “black iron,” a “white iron,” a “Native American iron,” a “Hispanic iron” . . .

Twice I’ve heard the two chaplains speak during sermons about the problem of segregation here. But since the system has been ingrained for so long, I haven’t met any inmate who thinks it might change.

Twice I’ve heard an account of how inmates in a special cell block for the “Life Connections Program” were willing to let a white and a black inmate share a

by Michele Naar-Obed

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## Thanks

Many thanks to the Jane Addams Peace Association Disarmament Fund ([www.janeaddamspeace.org](http://www.janeaddamspeace.org)) for their grant to the Nuclear Resister, mainly to buy supplies for our contingent in the 25th Annual Tucson All Souls Procession. Thank you Barbara, Harry, Mike, Sonia, Faith, Cindy, Mary and friend, Charlotte, Gretchen, Catherine, Bill and Rosemary for walking with the Sadako puppet in remembrance of those who have died as a result of uranium mining, nuclear power, nuclear testing and nuclear weapons. Thanks also to the small but mighty mailing party crew who helped get the last issue mailed out – Faith, Jim, Cindy and Sarah.

## BOOKS

In addition to the books recommended by Megan Rice on page 3, here are some books that we recommend - happy winter reading!

***It Runs in the Family: On Being Raised by Radicals and Growing Into Rebellious Motherhood*** by Frida Berrigan (©2014, OR Books). Frida, daughter of Liz McAlister and Phil Berrigan, shares insights on her upbringing and her new role as a mother, reflecting on ways to raise kids in a violent world. Available from the publisher online at [www.orbooks.com](http://www.orbooks.com) or send a check for \$21.99 (includes shipping within the U.S.) to OR Books, Attn: Sales, 180 Varick Street, Room 1220, New York, NY 10014.

***Waging Peace: Global Adventures of a Lifelong Activist*** by David Hartsough (©2014, PM Press. \$20, 1/2 off through December 31 at [pmpress.org](http://pmpress.org)). David Hartsough has been working around the world for nonviolent social change and peaceful resolution of conflicts since meeting Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in 1956. His story demonstrates the power and effectiveness of organized nonviolent action.

***To The Village Square*** by Lionel Delavingne (©2014, Prospecta Press) [www.tothevillagesquare.net](http://www.tothevillagesquare.net). This book of photographs provides an inspiring look at some of the history of the anti-nuclear protest movement over the past four decades. Can be purchased online from Amazon and Barnes & Noble, or ordered from your local bookstore.

### Mary Eoloff ~ Presente!

February 25, 1932 – October 11, 2014

Peace and justice activist Mary Eoloff was a woman of deep compassion, a loving wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Mary, along with her husband Nick (who died last May), adopted Mordechai Vanunu later in the Israeli nuclear whistleblower’s 18 year prison sentence. Nick and Mary – rest in peace.



## the Nuclear Resister

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### YOU CAN HELP!

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

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

### THE NUCLEAR RESISTER ON MICROFILM

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

### ABOUT THE NUCLEAR RESISTER

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

*The Nuclear Resister* is published about every three 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

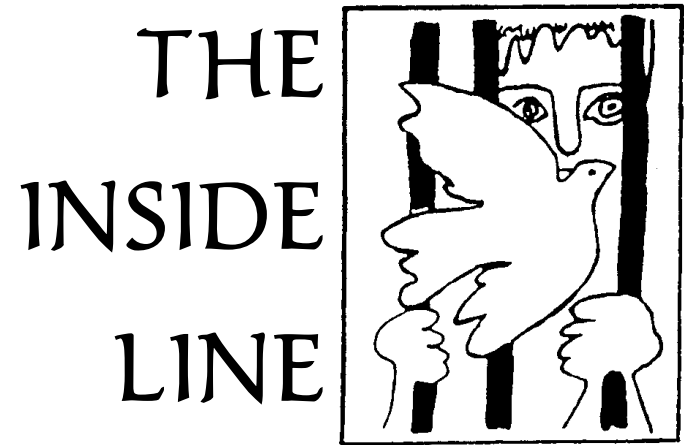
## WRITINGS FROM JAIL

### ~ from Leavenworth

Reprinted from via pacis, July 2014, newsletter of the Des Moines Catholic Worker

by Greg Boertje-Obed

USP Leavenworth is a difficult and challenging place to live. It’s the biggest (about 1600 inmates), most violent, and most segregated prison I’ve been in. Since being here a few months, I’ve heard of a death of a prisoner by beating, a stabbing, and an attack with a lock on a sleeping inmate, all inmate violence on inmates.



I’m told violence may happen nearly daily, but guards are not always aware of it.

However, the Biblical story and lessons of the three youths in a fiery furnace come to mind. I have had the good fortune of being assigned to live in one of the cell blocks with many older men where it is usually quieter and calmer than the bigger cell blocks. One person estimates there are at least eleven men serving life sentences in this unit. There are about 100 inmates here in mostly 2-men cells. The biggest cell block is said to house about 400 men and is known for being the wildest here and the biggest in the Bureau of Prisons.

If one understands an angel to be a helpful stranger, it would be accurate to say that a host of angels have been active here. When I initially arrived, many inmates came forward, offering needed items such as shower shoes, toothpaste, toothbrush, soap, soap dish, shampoo, etc. It was the most generous welcoming I have ever had in a jail or prison. Many of the givers were from Minnesota



# HANCOCK AIR BASE DRONE RESISTERS IN COURT

It surprised everyone in court when Mark Colville was sentenced on December 3 to one year of conditional release, a \$1000 fine, \$255 court costs and ordered to give a DNA sample to New York state. At a meeting with Judge Robert Jokl and the prosecutor immediately before his September 19 trial, Colville, a Catholic Worker from Connecticut, was promised the maximum sentence if he were to be convicted.

“Why?” he asked. “Because I think you deserve it,” replied the judge.

Colville was arrested in December 2013 at Hancock Field, protesting the weaponized drones piloted from there by the New York Air National Guard. He was convicted by a DeWitt, New York town court jury on five charges: obstructing governmental administration, trespass and two counts of disorderly conduct.

The fifth charge was contempt of court for violating the court’s controversial Order of Protection (OP) granted to the base commander “to keep the protesters away from my base.” Dozens of others have also been served the OP after their first arrest. Last summer, the only other town court judge sentenced Mary Grady Flores to one year in prison after she unknowingly violated the OP. She is out on appeal. The OP was not renewed as part of Colville’s sentence.

On October 1, the same Judge Jokl had sentenced Jack Gilroy to three months in jail, three years probation and a \$1,000 fine for trespass and obstructing government administration during an April, 2013 mock funeral procession to the base. The 79-year-old retired teacher and Veteran for Peace member told the court, “It’s time for our justice system to identify the real criminals ... not those who carry the message to stop the killing to the gates of Hancock Air Base.” Gilroy was taken to the county jail where he served his sentence and was released on November 28.

One condition of Gilroy’s probation is that he is confined to Broome County, where he lives, except to visit his lawyer in Tompkins County. Hancock Field is in Onondaga County, so the probation guarantees a certain cost if he returns to protest there. Upon his release, Gilroy said he was not “corrected” at the Jamesville Correctional Facility and that any remorse he has is for the district attorney’s office and the DeWitt judges who “just don’t get it.”

On December 3, at his sentencing, Colville also condemned the court:

The drone base within your jurisdiction is part of a military/intelligence undertaking that is not only founded upon criminality, but is also, by any sober analysis, allowed to operate beyond the reach of law. ...Yet never has any of this been subject to congressional approval or, more importantly, to the scrutiny of U.S. courts. In this case, you had the opportunity, from where you sit, to change that. You’ve heard the testimony of several trials similar to mine; you know what the reality is. You also

heard the desperate plea of Raz Mohammad, which was read in open court during this trial. What you chose was to further legitimize these crimes by ignoring them....

His attorney, Jack Wallace, told the court that the law is like a sail, and it is driven to its purpose by the wind of morality. Without morality, the law “is just a pile of cloth on the ground.”

When Judge Jokl announced the unexpected sentence, he said it would serve no purpose to jail the father of four, who with his family serves the poor in New Haven.

Wallace will ask that imposition of the fine be stayed pending appeal, but in any event Colville will not pay, preferring instead to raise the money for peace and humanitarian efforts in Afghanistan.

He wrote:  
The most important thing to be taken from this experience is the understanding that the drone attacks continue. Children and families in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Yemen, Somalia and other nations continue to live with the perpetual trauma of weaponized and surveillance drones hovering over their communities and striking without warning, killing innocents at an alarming rate. We have much work

still to do, and the risks we are willing to take for peace must constantly be contextualized by a deepening awareness of the sufferings of our sisters and brothers living and dying on the other end of these homicidal weapons. My family and I will use this unexpected outcome as an opportunity to rejoice, cultivate hope, and reenergize ourselves for the works of mercy, justice and peace.

Other defendants have also avoided jail sentences this fall. Eve Tetaz, 83, was arrested at the same April, 2013 demonstration as Gilroy while she stood at the edge of the driveway into the base and read aloud from the Preamble to the United Nations Charter and the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. When police ordered her to stop, she had continued to read aloud, facing the base in a clear exercise of her right to peacefully petition the government. Video evidence at her September 15 trial showed the arresting officer grabbing those documents from her hands and tossing them aside. The judge granted her attorney’s motion for dismissal after the prosecution rested its case.

Bill Ofenloch came to court for a hearing on September 24 and found his case had been dismissed, as was

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## From the Transform Now Plowshares

Greg Boertje-Obed, whose Inside Line appears on page 2 of this issue, wrote to thank readers of the Nuclear Resister for all of the letters and books. He advises that all mail must include a full, handwritten return address. Avoid labels, paperclips and staples. All mail is subject to inspection. Stamps or other items cannot be received in the mail.

Unfortunately, staff does not tell the prisoner who sent the books received, nor always when books are returned to sender. Prisoners may only receive five books at one time, and twice Boertje-Obed was told parcels were sent back for exceeding the limit. Books must come from the publisher or a bookstore, and be labeled as books on the package.

Michael Walli recently also sent his greetings and thanks, and included a poem he wrote that can be found, along with writings from Sr. Megan Rice, Boertje-Obed and other prisoners, on the Inside Line page at [www.nukeresister.org](http://www.nukeresister.org).

Recent visitors at Sr. Megan Rice’s prison in Brooklyn include the authors of two new books on nuclear weapons issues, and Rice recommends their work.

***Thermonuclear Monarchy: Choosing Between Democracy and Doom***, by Elaine Scarry (©2014, W.W. Norton & Company) lays out in lucid argument how nuclear weapons violate the U.S. Constitution, undermine

the presumption of a social contract between government and the governed, and cannot be reconciled with democratic principles.

***The Nuclear Terrorist: His Financial Backers and Political Patrons in the U.S. and Abroad***, by Robert Gleason (©2014, Forge Books/Tom Doherty Associates) left Rice full of hope despite the grim topic. Gleason sides with historian Arnold Toynbee when he concludes that “The United States does not have to continue down this road. Middle East oil dependency and nuclear power addiction [fueling nuclear weapons production] are curable diseases. We still have choices.”

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



Letters of support should be sent to Greg Boertje-Obed, Michael Walli and Megan Rice at the addresses below.

The New York City chapter of Anarchist Black Cross, a prisoner support project, in consultation with the prisoners, has posted book wish lists at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) for Boertje-Obed (short link: [bit.ly/Boertje-Obed](http://bit.ly/Boertje-Obed)) and Walli ([bit.ly/Walli](http://bit.ly/Walli)).

## Inside & Out

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

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

**NUCLEAR RESISTERS**  
**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**  
**Sara Beining** A0305918  
Criminal Justice Center, 2739 E. Las Vegas St., Colorado Springs, CO 80906.  
(in 8/27/14)  
(*Iraq war veteran and public military refuser jailed pending court martial 12/9/14*)  
**Shakir Hamoodi** 21901-045  
USP Leavenworth, POB 1000, Leavenworth, KS 66048.  
(three years – out 4/07/15)  
(*Plea agreement to one count of violating 1991-2003 U.S. sanctions by providing personal charity for family and friends living in Iraq*)  
**Norman Edgar Lowry Jr.** KN 9758  
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*)

**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*)  
**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 envelope or card must be addressed exactly as noted*)  
**Jared Chase** M44710  
XD20, 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*)  
**PREVIOUSLY LISTED, RECENTLY RELEASED:**  
**Brian Jacob Church**

# Pentagon Burns Extreme Energy

More than 100 people were arrested during a five-day series of civil disobedience actions in early November that marked the end of the Great March for Climate Action. Sit-ins and blockades organized by Beyond Extreme Energy at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in Washington, D.C. denounced the agency’s permitting support for fracked gas extraction.

Day Four of the actions was November 6, the United Nations Day of Observance on War and the Environment. Addressing the need to integrate an anti-war analysis into the climate change movement, Veterans for Peace and the National Campaign for Nonviolent Resistance led a group of 35 people who blocked the agency entrance with a silent vigil and die-in, leading to several arrests.

“The Pentagon is the single biggest consumer of

## PETRAEUS PROTEST PREEMPTED

Outspoken former CIA analyst and anti-war activist Ray McGovern was confronted by name and denied entry to an event where retired general David Petraeus was speaking in New York City on October 30.

Very quickly after being blocked by 92nd Street Y security, McGovern was injured by New York police officers, arrested, held overnight and charged with criminal trespass and resisting arrest.

McGovern had a ticket for the event, as part of an action organized by War Criminals Watch, which has protested Petraeus many times since 2009. McGovern was at the building entrance, when he was told by security, “Ray, you can’t go in.” McGovern protested that he had a ticket, and expected to go in as other members of the public were. Quickly, he was grabbed by security, and then handed over to the NYPD, who roughly arrested him. His previously injured shoulder was re-injured, requiring a trip to the hospital.

For more information, read McGovern’s posts at consortiumnews.com.

*Thanks to Debra Sweet for her report.*

fossil fuels in the entire world,” said Army veteran Ellen Barfield. “War, even just training for it, is massively destructive and wasteful. War is bad for the environment... The very fracked gas Beyond Extreme Energy activists are protesting this week is being used as an economic weapon by the Obama administration, threatening Russian gas exports to Europe through Ukrainian pipelines.”

When the arrestees went to court for arraignments in late November and early December, they found their cases were not on the docket.

## Kicked Out of Court

Eve Tetaz and other members of Witness Against Torture attended a federal court hearing on October 7 in Washington, D.C. about the force-feeding of Guantanamo prisoner Abu Wa’el Dhiab. As she entered the courthouse, a guard told Tetaz to turn her blaze orange “Shut Down Guantanamo, Stop Torture” t-shirt inside-out, and cover it with a jacket. She did, and after the hearing began, Tetaz removed her jacket. Bailiffs immediately told her she had to leave.

She took off the inside-out shirt, which she wore over a plain white shirt, and gave it to the guard. More guards came back moments later and told Tetaz she would have to leave anyway. They took her hands to escort her from the courtroom. Offered a wheelchair to help her leave, Tetaz insisted she would leave as she came, of her own volition.

A guard who identified himself as a Homeland Security officer “put his arm around and tried to walk me out as you would a child,” she told thinkprogress.org. She told the guard she would only leave in handcuffs, and he obliged, producing the cuffs from his pocket. Once outside, she was uncuffed, not cited, and told to wait there for her friends.

See Future Actions on page 7 for information about Witness Against Torture’s January fast and nonviolent direct action at the State Department.

## NOTED DEFENSE COUNSEL TO AID DR. DHAFIR

Rafil Dhafir met the deadline and filed his own 2255 habeas corpus motion to reduce or set aside the 22-year prison sentence he is serving for sending humanitarian aid to Iraqi civilians during the U.S. and U.K.–led sanctions regime, 1990-2003. While the former oncologist completed his review of thousands of pages of documents related to his prosecution and the government surveillance of his charitable and anti-war activity during that time, Dhafir was visited by defense attorney Charles Swift, Director and Counsel of the Constitutional Law Center for Muslims in America. Swift is the retired military attorney who successfully argued Hamdan v. Rumsfeld before the Supreme Court, and the Center is the latest project of the Muslim Legal Fund of America (MLFA). In mid-November, Swift and the MLFA announced Swift’s legal representation of Dr. Dhafir, who he will now assist in preparing the necessary documents and legal arguments in support of the 2255 motion.

Four days before he was released from disciplinary segregation at the end of August, Dhafir’s stripped-down cell had been searched, his prescription medications confiscated, and he was accused of hoarding them. Back in general population, he was not allowed to “self-carry” his hypertension medicine. His prescription was not filled, and because daily “pill call” was during his daily prayer time, he faced an impossible choice. The physician’s assistant on duty said only the doctor could reinstate self-carry, but the doctor was away. After ten days without the medicine, Dhafir again asked supporters outside for help. Within days, a few calls and letters prompted the prison administrator to direct the PA to do the right thing.

For more information, visit [www.dhafirtrial.net](http://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.

# Campaign Nonviolence, continued

*continued from page 1*

and briefly detained. On Monday, twenty people gathered for silent meditation outside Creech Air Force Base. One group stayed on the roadside, while others moved in the road to block entry to the base. Clark County deputies warned them to leave or face arrest. Five left, and police then arrested Susan Dillon, Dennis Duvall, Evy Hubb and Kelley Kolberg for blocking a roadway. They were cited and released across the highway. All have since been fined \$50.

California activists returned to Beale Air Force Base, north of Sacramento, for two days of Campaign Nonviolence demonstrations on September 29 – 30. Beale is home to the worldwide Global Hawk surveillance drone fleet, which performs reconnaissance for armed drones.

Two people were arrested at Beale on Monday afternoon, September 29. Rev. John Auer, a retired United Methodist pastor from Fresno, was assisted in his wheelchair by Guarionex Delgado, a veteran from Nevada City. Delgado pushed Auer’s wheelchair the length of the mile-long road to the Wheatland gate. Rev. Auer stated that he was attempting to deliver a letter to Colonel Phillip A. Stewart, the base commander, informing him of a recent anti-drone resolution passed by United Methodists in the California-Nevada region.

After he was released, Auer explained, “I oppose drone warfare because the more we depersonalize war the easier it is for us to fight, and to act as if it is not costing us anything. When we mechanize war it makes others expendable. Everyone becomes collateral damage... I want to be able to say that we offered some kind of resistance and some kind of hope.”

The next day, several demonstrators gathered in a circle and began singing and dancing in front of Beale’s main gate. Nine people were arrested while doing “Dances of Universal Peace”, including veterans Barry Binks and Andrew Hayes, and Toby Blome, Sharon Delgado, MacGregor Eddy, Pamela Osgood, Shirley Osgood, Lorraine Reich and Flora Rodgers.

### MORE ARRESTS AT BEALE AFB

Anti-drone demonstrators have kept up a regular



photo by Guarionex Delgado

**Mauro Oliveira and his daughter Mahai’a vigil before crossing the line October 28 at Beale Air Force Base, Maryville, California.**

presence at Beale Air Force Base over the past three years. Over fifty arrests for civil disobedience have been made; eight people have been convicted in U.S. Federal Court. Thirty-one arrests were made in March and April of 2014 alone. Sixteen of the demonstrators were summoned to be arraigned on September 9, but at the last minute all charges were dismissed.

The following month two more people were arrested at the Beale vigil. At dawn on October 28, Mauro Oliveira and his 17-year-old daughter Mahai’a, her sign reading “Syrian Children are Our Children”, slipped inside the gate as military police moved to close it after a blockade.

Mauro Oliveira wrote:

Since 9/11 my wife and I, and eventually our children as well, have witnessed one immoral act after the other by Washington in the name of “America(ns)”... in the name of you and me. One lie after the other, from who committed and what acts were committed on 9-11, to the non-existent link to Saddam Hussein, to weapons of mass destruction that didn’t exist, a nuclear hoax, a promise of a fast

war, that we would be greeted as liberators, that we would leave the Iraqis better off.

That’s just the start... the Patriot Act, depleted uranium and phosphorous weapons, Guantanamo, Abu Ghraib and torture. And more torture.

There was the anthrax letters shell game, BlackWater, Halliburton and pallets of money that disappeared much like Iraqi treasure. The greed and slaughter continued with Obama, presidential ordered secret assassinations, the NSA, telecoms, banks and other corporations conspiring against and committing crimes against U.S. Citizens and the Militarization of the every day cop.

But it is the drone strike that makes Americans the most hated people and nation on Earth. It is a cowardly act that disregards whatever rules of war that ever existed in the however misguided “honor” of men. These bombs not only have killed children, teenagers, mothers, fathers, grandparents, neighbors and entire wedding parties; they have created a level of anxiety and fear across vast regions. Mentally they are a torture of mass destruction...”

On the day before Thanksgiving, vigilers were again up at dawn to leaflet at the base.

Chris Nelson tried to deliver a letter to the base commander, handwritten on the back of a photo of her late husband, Michael Pike. She was there, two months after the Vietnam veteran’s death from Agent Orange related cancer, “in loving memory of that fine man to ask you to stop your role in the kill chain which uses the Northrup Grumman Global Hawk drone to identify human targets for extrajudicial execution. This is neither lawful (international and higher law) nor moral and you must know that. Horrible acts, like drone strikes, are leading to the atrocities we are seeing now. Inhumanity met with inhumanity.”

Nelson and Shirley Osgood, who accompanied her, were arrested for trespass instead of meeting with the commander. They were released a short time later, in time to watch a Global Hawk drone take off from the base. They await a date in federal court.

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

*Thanks to Sharon Delgado for her report from Beale AFB.*



# Missouri War Resistance Updates

Georgia Walker was on trial in Kansas City, Missouri municipal court on September 26. She was arrested last May when she crossed the property line at the Bannister Complex, site of the old Kansas City plant where non-radioactive nuclear weapons parts were manufactured for decades. Two of Walker’s aunts who worked at the adjacent IRS office died of rare cancers linked to widespread contamination from hundreds of the chemical toxins used in nuclear weapons production.

Walker and defense attorney Henry Stoever were stymied by Judge Anna LaBella’s insistence to limit Walker’s testimony to the issue of trespass. After several prosecution objections were sustained by the court, Walker accepted the challenge and testified:

“I don’t understand one fact: Trespassing laws surely were passed because there was property to be protected. I took steps to call attention to an issue that should concern all Kansas Citians: What’s going to happen to that property? The agency that managed that property [Honeywell] should be on trial. They should be prosecuted. I don’t get it. In this case, ‘protecting’ that property was a way of limiting the amount of public discourse. It’s a misapplication of city resources to charge me. We weren’t going to do anything to that property.”

Walker was found guilty. The judge took note of her earlier conviction for a July, 2013 line-crossing at the new nuclear weapons plant and sentenced her to one year probation and an order to stay away from Honeywell and Department of Energy property. Three days later, the judge phoned Walker and without explanation rescinded the stay-away order. Georgia Walker has often been in LaBella’s courtroom in her role as executive director of a program helping women and men coming out of prison.

On October 7, Walker was again in court, this time the federal court in Jefferson City, Missouri. She was arraigned alongside co-defendant Kathy Kelly for trespassing at Whiteman Air Force Base on June 1, the day after her arrest in Kansas City. Both actions were part of the Trifecta Resista weekend of resistance in the heartland that also included solidarity vigils outside the prisons in Leavenworth, Kansas, where army whistleblower Chelsea Manning and Plowshares activist Greg Boertje-Obed are doing time.

While Whiteman also hosts B-2 nuclear/conventional bombers, the focus of their protest that day was armed drones, another of the base’s missions. The women both pleaded not guilty, and will face trial beginning December 10, Human Rights Day. Kelly has a record in this federal court, having served one year in federal prison for her part in the 1988 Missouri Peace Planters. She was one of 13

## SUSPENDED JAIL SENTENCE FOR ANTI-NUCLEAR GRANDMOTHERS

A group of four grandmothers arrested at the Pilgrim nuclear power plant last Mother’s Day have been convicted of trespass. Three of the women - Susan Carpenter, Sarah Thacher and Diane Turco - had also been convicted in the same Plymouth, Massachusetts district court last March and sentenced to time served for a similar protest in 2013.

After a three-day trial, the three were sentenced this time to 30 days in jail, suspended for one year of probation, plus a court fee of \$50 *and* \$50/month to the probation department for the next year. Mary Conathan, who has no prior record, was fined \$100.

The grandmothers each took the stand during the trial, and presented experts to testify in support of a defense of necessity for their civil disobedience action.

Judge James Sullivan initially rejected testimony about the health related dangers of the Pilgrim plant from pediatrician Dr. Helen Caldicott, a former instructor at Harvard Medical School and staff member at Boston Children’s Hospital well known for her anti-nuclear work. He agreed with the prosecutor that testimony addressing “potential hypothetical harm” did not meet the standard of “imminent” harm, but left the door open for other witnesses to provide foundation for Caldicott’s testimony.

“Annoyed” by the ruling, Caldicott told a reporter, “I don’t think the law should be deciding the medical dangers of nuclear plants. We who know medicine should be deciding. International studies show children living within two miles of a plant have double the incidence of leukemia, and that’s almost certainly happening here.”

people to serve 6 – 26 month sentences for the occupation of a number of Minuteman nuclear missile silos controlled then from Whiteman Air Force Base.

Henry Stoever was in Kansas City municipal court again on October 21, but this time as a defendant. He was arraigned along with Mark Bartholomew, both men having been arrested on August 22 protesting at the formal dedication of the new nuclear weapons plant that has now replaced the old Bannister facility. Bartholomew, of the Holy Family Catholic Worker community, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to the same 40 hours community service as the third defendant, Jim Hannah, had earlier been. Stoever pleaded not guilty and is set for trial on December 19.

At a rally before court, Stoever declared, “It matters what we are doing here! These weapons have consequences!”

Duty and truth are essential focuses of a court, he said, and attorneys are supposed to elevate the law and improve the practice of justice. “There’s no disputing the facts” of the line-crossing. “Yet there’s no acknowledgment by the city that these are weapons of mass destruction, part of a global threat,” nor that producing these weapons of mass destruction violates the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, and that making these weapons has consequences of illness and death from the contaminants involved.

“Only through activism will we bring truth to the public.”

In federal court on December 5, Fr. Carl Kabat faced charges of property destruction and disturbing the peace for his July 4 “Interdependence Day” action at the new nuclear weapons plant, when he blood-stained the big sign with a pail of red paint. His testimony echoed Stoever’s as he told the court, “It is up to us, it’s our country; things only change if we cause a ruckus.”

Kabat quoted many individuals who have spoken out against nuclear weapons, adding his own conclusion that “nuclear weapons are the gas chambers and crematoriums of the 21st century.”

The judge convicted Kabat of property destruction but found him not guilty of disturbing the peace. He told Kabat that he had “kind of put me in a box.”

“Frankly, I am a little befuddled by what to do with an 81-year-old priest who will most likely do this again,” Judge Larsen said. To give himself time to deliberate, he scheduled sentencing for 10 weeks later.

For more information, visit [www.peaceworkskc.org](http://www.peaceworkskc.org).  
*(Thanks to Jane Stoever for her reporting from court.)*

The expert testimony of two returning witnesses from the March trial – Massachusetts Senator Dan Wolf and Dr. Richard Clapp, Professor Emeritus of Environmental Health at Boston University School of Public Health and founding Director of the Massachusetts Cancer Registry persuaded Judge Sullivan to hear Dr. Caldicott on the last day of the trial.

From the witness stand, the doctor’s prescription was blunt. “If I had young children, I would not live on the Cape. And if I was a pediatrician here, I would advise parents to leave. It’s a very dangerous situation.”

Sullivan was not persuaded, and delivered the guilty verdicts.

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

## DRONE PROTEST, CONT.

*continued from page 3*

Joan Pleune’s on October 8. Both were arrested last July 23 at an Atlantic Life Community action at Hancock. The prosecutor failed to appear in court for Pleune’s hearing, where her attorney argued for dismissal on First Amendment grounds and poor boundary marking at the base.

There are 11 more trials scheduled for Hancock protesters in DeWitt between now and next July stemming from the April 2013 protest. Next up on December 10 is Julien Oldfield, who faces a year in prison if convicted.


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

## NATO Protester Out of Prison

Brian Jacob Church was released from prison in Illinois on November 21 to a halfway house in Chicago. With statutory credits, he served 2½ years of a five year term for possession of incendiary devices with intent to commit arson at the May, 2012 NATO summit in Chicago. Church was convicted along with two other men for helping undercover cops make molotov cocktails. For more information, visit [freethenato3.wordpress.com](http://freethenato3.wordpress.com).



Letters of support should be sent to co-defendants Brent Betterly and Jared Chase at the addresses on page 3, Inside & Out.



### What If They Gave a WAR and Nobody Paid?

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**National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee**  
PO Box 150553, Brooklyn, NY 11215  
1.800.269.7464 · [www.nwtrcc.org](http://www.nwtrcc.org)

## INTERNATIONAL NOTES

### Swan Island

Australia’s Special Air Services (SAS) 4 Squadron was created after 9/11 as the premier national counter-terrorism force, tasked for “capture and kill” missions in the “War on Terror.” It trains alongside the CIA-equivalent Australian Security Intelligence Services (ASIS) at the isolated Swan Island military facility on the mouth of Port Phillip Bay.

For the fifth year, a few dozen people at the Swan Island Peace Convergence set about to block the gate on the narrow causeway leading to the island in an act of nonviolent resistance to SAS involvement in Afghanistan. Authorities simply shut down the base for the first two days of the blockade, and no arrests were made. Anticipating this response, some of the activists decided to disrupt activity inside by crossing the shallow, narrow channel separating the island from the town of Queenscliff and scouting about a bit on foot.

Two groups of four people each left the convergence gathering place very early on October 2. Both groups made it ashore to Swan Island, and began walking about a mile to the training area. One group took photos to document the many training facilities on the island before they were apprehended by Victoria police who were on the scene.

The other group hung a banner, took more photos and even phoned a live radio call-in show in Melbourne to chat about where they were, what they were doing and why. They split into pairs soon after, and almost immediately all four were discovered by SAS soldiers.

“We discovered first-hand the training techniques of the people on the island,” wrote Greg Rolles, who was taken down in a flying tackle by his captor as he shouted “We’re nonviolent peace protestors...”. They were handcuffed, struck in the face, had burlap bags placed over their heads, their clothing pulled and cut off with

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# INTERNATIONAL NOTES

## Swan Island

*continued from page 5*

knives, then choked, dragged and dropped repeatedly across the dirt. Soldiers stood on their backs and heads while threatening to kick the men.

Only when the Victoria state police arrived on the scene did the assaults cease. “I was thankful for the arrival of the police. When they got there I finally felt safe,” said peace activist Sam Quinlan. Rolles wrote, “The tactics used on the four of us are designed to instill fear and compliance within dominated people. People have been tortured and murdered using these strategies to intimidate and control.”

The abused group met up with the other four in the police van. An ambulance was called to the front gate as activists were released from custody to attend to their injuries. The eight were charged with trespass and await their day in court.

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

## France

The World Nuclear Industry international exhibition opened in Paris on October 14, the same day French representatives began considering an energy plan to decrease nuclear’s contribution to French electricity production from 75% to 50% by 2025. Greenpeace greeted the nuclear industrialists with a 35’ long banner that declared “Exhibition of Bad Business” and hung over the entryway to the convention center. Fourteen activists were quickly taken into custody and the banner removed, but the questions asked by Greenpeace remained: How can nuclear be good business when its contribution is declining world-wide and investments in nuclear foreclose investment in less expensive renewable technologies? The activists were in custody for several hours before release without charges.

In September, a French court in Colmar gave a two-month suspended sentence to 55 anti-nuclear activists arrested last March inside the nearby Fessenheim nuclear power plant. One of France’s oldest, Fessenheim sits near the German border. The activists were highlighting the danger of old reactors when they were arrested in one of a series of civil disobedience actions across Europe that month.

Greenpeace-France was soon in the news again, denying any involvement in a series of reported drone overflights of French nuclear power plants.

In October, the French energy company EDF began noticing small drones flying in restricted airspace over some of its nuclear power plants. By early November, more than 30 overflights involving at least 13 nuclear power plants and several nuclear research facilities had been reported, including four on the same night at plants hundreds of miles from each other, all across the country. Most of the reported overflights have been at night, and videos reveal the drones involved are not lightweight toys, but larger ones capable of flying several miles, equipped with lights and possibly cameras. A trio of radio-controlled model airplane enthusiasts were arrested near one reactor but were cleared of suspicion in the suspect overflights.

The government insisted there was minimal threat from the drones. But Greenpeace pointed out that one cannot rationally conclude the absence of danger without knowing more about who is piloting the drones and why. After denying any involvement in the covert, apparently coordinated drone surveillance, the group commissioned a risk analysis from British nuclear consultant John Large. He presented his report to a government committee.

In the interests of public safety, Greenpeace did not publish his report, which detailed available drone capabilities, French nuclear plant vulnerabilities, and several potentially successful terrorist scenarios involving the small aircraft. Instead, Greenpeace renewed their call for a shut-down of the nuclear power industry.

## Finland

Site preparation has barely begun for a controversial Russian-Finnish Hanhiviki nuclear power project, but anti-nuclear activists are already blocking road construction at the site on Finland’s northwest coast. Nine members of Rising Tide Finland (Hyokyaalto) erected tripods in the construction zone in mid-October. They bound themselves together with ropes and chains. Three police patrols responded but could not persuade the blockaders to leave. Six were arrested and taken away for processing, with one who resisted in handcuffs.

## Faslane Trident Base

Despite a narrow defeat in the polls, the wake of September’s Scottish independence vote has lifted opposition to Britain’s Trident nuclear submarine fleet, based at Faslane, north of Glasgow. Five Trident Ploughshares activists locked themselves together in front of a banner reading “Trident No, Scotland Yes” to block the main gate on September 23. They were held for 32 hours, then released without charges. A Faslane Peace Camp resident was also arrested and held in the attempt to block the back-up gate to the base.

On November 30, more than 1,500 people demonstrated outside the base, the largest turnout in a decade. A current resident of Faslane Peace Camp, the 32-year peace presence squeezed along the roadway opposite the base, was arrested that day paddling his kayak into the restricted area of the base. He was held for 70 hours before a court appearance and trespass charges, then released pending arraignment in February.

Two peace campers had also infiltrated the base just before the vote, on September 16. One was quickly released, and the other held overnight. When a convoy delivering nuclear weapons to the base was due to arrive the night of November 9, three van loads of police led the way and arrested two campers in front of the peace camp for resisting arrest and obstruction. Both were released the next morning without charge.

The surge in Scottish support prompted a call by Scrap Trident for a mass demonstration next March 28 and

## Jeju Island

Two more women went to jail on Jeju Island, South Korea in October, in lieu of paying all or part of their fines for nonviolent resistance to the navy base under construction and now dominating life in the coastal village of Gangjeong.

Choi Sung-Hee spent 12 days locked up in full payment of a fine of 600,000 KRW(~ \$600), and Choi M.K. served nine days for part of fines totaling 3 million KRW(~ \$3,000).

Also in October, after the government promised not to build housing in town for any of the 7,000 personnel expected at the base, construction began on a scaled-down military housing project of 72 units in the village. A tangerine grove was cleared and a new protest front opened.

After a village meeting, the mayor, villagers, peacekeepers and other supporters started working in shifts around the clock to prevent cement trucks from entering the housing construction area. Two peacekeepers blocking the gate there were injured on November 12 by a construction supervisor in his car who drove over the foot of one, dragging the other along as he grappled with the car window.

This, while dozens of police brought in on rotation from the mainland continue to spend time each day carrying and pushing people from the road in front of the main base construction gate.

At least 650 arrests and more than 550 indictments have been reported over the last eight years of resistance, and 46 prison terms served. Some people have served

## Australia

Among the 14 arrests reported during November’s G20 summit in Brisbane was that of native son Ciaran O’Reilly, back in Australia after a stint at the London Catholic Worker. He and three others were declared “prohibited persons” in advance of the meeting, but he was given no specific reason. A Plowshares disarmament activist convicted in two countries and acquitted in a third, O’Reilly suggested his public intention to confront President Obama may have contributed to the order barring him from the vicinity of the meeting.

On Saturday, November 15, O’Reilly entered the area with a placard calling for freedom for Chelsea Manning, Julian Assange and Edward Snowden. He was arrested and charged under special G20 security laws, refused bail and was released on Monday, after the summit ended. He has a court date on December 4 in Brisbane.

O’Reilly told Guardian Australia, “I know Julian’s dad and Chelsea’s mother so it’s quite a personal connection I have with them really, so I feel obliged to do some kind of action while I’m here in Brisbane and the guy holding the keys to their bondage is in town.”



Trident Ploughshares photo

**Police work to remove the lock-down device from two women taking part in the September 23 blockade at the nuclear submarine base at Faslane, Scotland.**

blockade of the base on April 13 in the lead up to the next parliamentary elections. The new government will have the final say in whether to replace Britain’s aging nuclear deterrent.

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

more than three jail terms, and trials and appeals are ongoing.

In recent cases, on November 21 the trial court sentenced Mr. Park Jong-Hoon to 14 months in prison in 23 cases of obstruction of business and obstruction of justice. Sr. Stella Soh Hee-Sook, the first Catholic nun in Korean history to be convicted, was sentenced to 5 months imprisonment and 1 year probation for obstruction of business as a dedicated coordinator for the daily Catholic mass that blocks the construction gate. Both cases are on appeal.

More than a dozen recent Supreme Court appeals were dismissed, affirming the original sentences, mostly suspended jail terms, probation and fines ranging up to 67 million KRW (~\$6,000).

In a victory against government repression of the anti-base movement, the high court in Incheon found two former secretaries of the Solidarity for Peace and Reunification of Korea (SPARK) not guilty of national security violations. SPARK is a leading member of a national network opposing the navy base in Jeju. Their defense showed that the 2012 investigation and raids on the SPARK offices and staff houses were part of a government intention to diminish opposition to the Jeju base.

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

## Update Files, cont.

*continued from page 8*

**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE:** Fr. Martin Newell was found guilty on September 8 of criminal damage for anti-Trident graffiti on the Ministry’s building in London last March 14. He had already served 14 days in gaol immediately after his arrest to pay off accumulated unpaid fines from earlier protests, and this time was simply given conditional discharge...

**GERMANY:** A woman was fined €100 in September for peeing in public following her arrest last August blocking a uranium transport train in Hamburg. As the chains tying her to the rails were being cut, she told police of her need to go. Her pleas and warning were ignored while she had to stand in custody away from the train on a nearby street. When she finally relieved herself, she was ticketed for the offense. Twenty German anti-nuclear activists, tired of repeated postponements delaying their trial for blocking the Lingen nuclear fuel processing facility in August, 2013, returned to block the road into the plant for the day on October 14, the latest court date to be scheduled but again postponed. No arrests were reported, but Lingen is a regular target of protest. It is part of a network of uranium industry plants across Europe, and an international movement opposing the trade and hazardous shipments between these hubs is alive and well...



THE INSIDE LINE, cont.

continued from page 2

cell. However, when the two were assigned to a cell, they received death threats and one was said to have been beaten up within 24 hours.

Despite all the problems, the thought comes to me of what Dan Berrigan said at a scripture class in New Orleans. He said in many ways our lives inside prison are similar to our lives outside prison. We try to study the Bible and pray with others, develop community or fellowship, promote nonviolence, and be of service to others. In my cell block, a group of about 7 to 10 Christians usually meets nightly for Bible readings and prayer. This is often where I learn about specific sufferings in the prison.

Recently I’ve started playing Scrabble again as a way to meet others and develop community. It gives a more lighthearted atmosphere if competition does not become extreme. There is quite a bit of interest in our unit with some very good players and many people stopping to watch and share comments.

One way I’ve tried to be of service to others is by responding to requests to help edit others’ legal motions of appeal and to write letters. My cellmate, Mr. Lam is a good example of how the justice system doesn’t work. Mr. Lam is from Vietnam and initially pled not guilty to arson which resulted in a death. The jury deliberated six days, and the judge then declared a mistrial. His public defender repeatedly delayed and seemed to be working for the government. Mr. Lam repeatedly asked for substitute counsel and was denied, until he threatened suicide. A new lawyer advised a conditional guilty plea which meant that an appeal could be filed on certain criteria. He ended up receiving a life sentence. It’s been a legal nightmare every step of the way. Mr. Lam has been appealing for 17 years and is now representing himself. But he is still hopeful and is looking for a good pro bono lawyer. A new magistrate who reviewed his latest motion recused herself from his case.

When listening to my cellmate and others appealing their sentences, a quote comes to mind which was in a recent Oak Ridge Environmental Peace Alliance booklet. It said, “One does not become compassionate without suffering.” Although I don’t feel that I am suffering inordinately, the thought comes that compassion may increase with contact with suffering people.

Another impression of the prison is that many of the guards are unhappy with their work. People say that guards recently protested working conditions by picketing out front. Some men say they saw news reports on television. One person said the protests concerned three issues: the ratio of staff to prisoners, health and safety. Reportedly, at times there is only one staff person for over 200 inmates. Within a few days of these protests, a newly arrived inmate was beaten terribly by inmates and died after being taken off life support. It is said that he was mistakenly suspected of being an informant.

Other factors contribute to the impression that the Bureau of Prisons is limited in the funding USP Leavenworth is receiving. The Prison Industries factory building is largely vacant. The furniture making and textile making sections are now closed. It is said that furniture for the White House used to be made here. Only a printing shop is now in operation. When I attended orientation, an inmate asked if the unused areas of the factory building could be converted to use for vocational training. The reply was that it would be too expensive and funds are not available.

On the upside, when I arrived, the prison library had very few books on peacemakers or peacemaking. I found one book for junior readers about Martin Luther King Jr. Many people have been sending me excellent books on peacemaking, which I am passing on to the library...

Many people have written to me saying, ‘God is always with you,’ which has been encouraging.

[Greg Boertje-Obed is serving a 62-month sentence for his part in the Transform Now Plowshares disarmament action at the Y-12 nuclear weapons complex in Tennessee.]

Update Files, cont.

continued from page 8

**NEW YORK VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL:** Three veterans and two supporters arrested April 4 for violating curfew with an overnight memorial anti-war vigil had their cases adjourned contemplating dismissal in September. On October 7, when veterans for peace gathered again for a fourth overnight vigil on the anniversary of the invasion of Afghanistan, they were not arrested as they had been in the past. The new mayor sided with the vets on the Constitutional question over a curfew that had only been enforced when vets exercised their rights to peaceably assemble in large numbers during the height of the Occupy movement. Wee hour visitors paying their respects alone had never before been harassed...

FUTURE ACTIONS

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

holy innocents stratcom

The Annual Feast of the Holy Innocents Retreat and Witness at STRATCOM/Offutt Air Force Base will begin at 7 p.m. Friday, December 26 at St. John’s Church (2500 California Plaza, Omaha, Nebraska on the campus of Creighton University) and conclude with liturgy beginning at 11 a.m. Sunday, December 28, at STRATCOM Main Gate. For more information contact Frank Cordaro ([frank.cordaro@gmail.com](mailto:frank.cordaro@gmail.com), 515-282-4781) or Jerry Ebner ([jerryebner07@gmail.com](mailto:jerryebner07@gmail.com), 402-670 6749).

pentagon

Dorothy Day Catholic Worker and Jonah House communities invite peacemaking friends to join in a nonviolent witness at the Pentagon to commemorate the Massacre of the Holy Innocents – past and present. Meet Monday, December 29, 2014 on corner of Army-Navy Drive and S. Eads St., south of the Pentagon at 11:30 a.m. for noon witness. Please bring your New Year’s Resolution for a world of nonviolence, peace and justice to offer during this witness. For more information, contact Dorothy Day Catholic Worker: 202-882-9649, [artlaffin@hotmail.com](mailto:artlaffin@hotmail.com) and Jonah House: 410-233-6238, [disarmnow2@verizon.net](mailto:disarmnow2@verizon.net).

livermore lab

Earth Abides Catholic Worker Farmers from Calaveras County, California invite others to join their monthly vigil at Livermore nuclear weapons lab on January 6. It’s likely that peaceful prayer-activists will discourage the use of some entrances into the nuclear weapons research and development complex. For more information, call (505)379-6942 or visit [livermore.catholicworker.biz](http://livermore.catholicworker.biz).

witness against torture

Witness Against Torture is looking for 73 people who are willing to risk arrest on January 12 at the State Department, each of whom will take a name and learn a story of one of the men in Guantánamo cleared for release. The nonviolent action will be part of the group’s annual fast in solidarity with the men at Guantánamo. January 11, 2015 marks 13 years of torture and indefinite detention at the extra-legal prison. People are also invited to join the group from January 5 – 13 for all or part of the fast. Please email [witnessstorture@gmail.com](mailto:witnessstorture@gmail.com) if you have any questions or are considering risking arrest. For more information, visit [witnessstorture.org](http://witnessstorture.org).

martin luther king, jr. day bangor

Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action will honor the nonviolent legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. on Saturday, January 17, including nonviolent action at Bangor nuclear submarine base. The monks from the Nipponzan Myohoji Bainbridge Island Dojo will lead their annual Peace Walk from January 12–17, arriving at Ground Zero Center in time to join the event. For more information, visit [www.gzcenter.org](http://www.gzcenter.org), email [info@gzcenter.org](mailto:info@gzcenter.org) or call 360-930-8697, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Pacific time.

lockheed-martin

You are invited to join the Brandywine Peace Community for their 37th annual Martin Luther King Day of Nonviolent Resistance at noon on Saturday, January 17 at the main driveway entrance to Lockheed Martin Valley Forge weapons complex, 230 Mall Boulevard in King of Prussia, PA. There will be audio broadcasts of Dr. King’s speeches and sermons, speakers, music, litanies and nonviolent resistance honoring his message of nonviolent resistance to injustice. For more information, contact Brandywine Peace Community at (610)544-1818 or [brandywine@juno.com](mailto:brandywine@juno.com).

creech air force base

Join Code Pink, Veterans for Peace and Nevada Desert Experience for a dance party of nonviolent loveliness to Shut Down Creech Forever, March 4 – 6. It all starts with nonviolence training, education about drone assassins, and connecting with our brothers and sisters who engage in remotely piloted warfare. For more information call 702-646-4814, visit [nevadadesertexperience.org](http://nevadadesertexperience.org) or email [info@nevadadesertexperience.org](mailto:info@nevadadesertexperience.org).

büchel 65

Groups and individuals opposed to the stockpiling of U.S. nuclear weapons in Germany are invited to participate in a 65-day campaign of nonviolent blockades of Büchel air force base in the lead-up and through the 2015

Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference at the United Nations. The campaign begins on March 26, the fifth anniversary of a Bundestag vote that the federal government take action in NATO and appeal to the United States to take the nukes back. Instead, the government has agreed to NATO nuclear modernization plans that could bring precision atomic weapons into Germany and further provoke Russian nuclear hawks. Lodging and logistical support for visiting blockaders and their supporters will be provided. For more information, email [info.buechel65@buechel-atomwaffenfrei.de](mailto:info.buechel65@buechel-atomwaffenfrei.de) or visit [www.buechel-atomwaffenfrei.de/buechel65/](http://www.buechel-atomwaffenfrei.de/buechel65/)

burghfield



Burghfield Lockdown! – a major blockade of both gates of the British Atomic Weapons Establishment at Burghfield – will begin Monday morning, March 2, 2015. The event is intended to be open ended as it launches a month of sustained actions at

Burghfield and the nearby Aldermaston site in the lead up to the United Kingdom’s 2015 general election. For more information, visit [tridentploughshares.org](http://tridentploughshares.org) and [actionawe.org](http://actionawe.org).

faslane trident base

In the wake of the Scottish independence vote and a surge of local interest and support, Scrap Trident is planning a mass demonstration in Glasgow on March 28 and a blockade of Faslane on April 13 in anticipation of the next general election. The next Westminster Parliament will determine whether to replace Trident at a cost of up to £100 Billion. For more information, email [scraptrident@gmail.com](mailto:scraptrident@gmail.com) or visit [scraptrident.org](http://scraptrident.org).

2015 sacred peace walk

The Nevada Desert Experience’s annual spiritual pilgrimage begins March 28 with orientation in Las Vegas and urban pilgrimage the next day. Then walk the ways of peace in the desert from Las Vegas to Creech Air Force Base and the Nevada National Security (nuclear test) Site. Join nonviolent witness and resistance at Creech on April 1 and the Test Site on Good Friday, April 3. For more information and registration, visit the Events link at [nevadadesertexperience.org](http://nevadadesertexperience.org) or call 702-646-4814.

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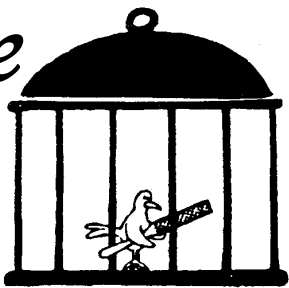
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# Update Files



**PHILADELPHIA:** A two-day federal bench trial ended with the conviction on all counts of Iraq War veteran and folk musician Emily Yates. Charged with five misdemeanors (three counts of assault, plus trespassing and resisting arrest), Yates was fined \$3,250 and placed on three years probation. In August, 2013, she was arrested and jailed for three days after park police provoked a scuffle by grabbing her from behind when she questioned their demand to leave the area where she had just performed at an anti-war rally. She told the court, “I panicked,” when the police forcefully handcuffed and dragged her away. The government would not permit a Veterans Administration psychologist to testify about diagnosing Yates’ post-traumatic stress disorder as part of her defense against the assault charges. Supporter John Grant wrote that Judge Rueter told Yates she was lucky the park rangers were not as violent as some police, who might have seriously injured her. Still, he ignored the prosecutors’ suggestion that “Ms. Yates could do with some more incarceration time to think about what she did.”...

**PENTAGON:** Prior to a scheduled October 17 trial, the three defendants from a Hiroshima Day commemorative demonstration at the Pentagon each received not one, but two notices in bold type that their charges of disobeying a lawful order had been dismissed...

**VANDENBERG:** Five Catholic Workers arrested on August 9 at the California missile base appeared in federal court in Santa Barbara on October 26. To their surprise, Magistrate Sharon McCaslin accepted their pleas of no contest. After each defendant addressed the court, she imposed fines and court costs reflecting the record of arrest for each at Vandenberg. Karan Benton and Mark Kelso were each fined \$100, Mike Wisniewski, \$300, and Jeff Dietrich and Fr. Steve Kelly, \$500 each. All five resisters stated they would not pay anything, and the court in reply set December 1 as a due date for payment...

**VOLK FIELD:** Fr. Jim Murphy of Saints Anthony and Philip Catholic Church in Highland, Wisconsin, was found guilty of trespassing following a bench trial in Juneau County court on September 11. He was charged after leafletting during an open house bus tour of the base and its new Shadow drone training center. He told the court, “I cannot quietly accept another class of more deadly weapons used on my behalf by my country. On May 17, I encouraged others to ask questions about the use of military drones. They can be lethal but they can also be a constant source of fear and tension as they fly over homes and families for up to 24 hours at a time. They are not precise; they cannot discriminate between civilian and combatant. I cannot be silent before this immoral weapon, prepared for use by soldiers in my own state. It is my duty as a citizen and one who values human life to stand up and question weapons used on my behalf. Today is 9/11. In 2001, 2,993 people died in New York. In the war in Iraq, 4,489 U.S. soldiers died and 189,000 Iraqis have died. It appears that violence is not a solution.” Fr. Murphy was fined \$232. Co-defendant Bonnie Block is set for a jury trial in January...

**KOODANKULAM:** More than one year after the Supreme Court of India ordered authorities in Tamil Nadu state to “withdraw all the criminal cases filed against the agitators so that peace and normalcy be restored at Kudankulam and nearby,” thousands of sedition charges remain pending against hundreds of individuals who took part in protests against the nuclear power plant. In September, protest convener S. P. Udayakumar was prohibited from leaving India to attend the No Nukes Asia Forum in Taiwan and a U.N. human rights consultation in Nepal due to 380 outstanding police complaints. Meanwhile, the controversial Russian-built reactor, which went critical in July, 2013, has experienced repeated unplanned shut-downs and had still not entered commercial production when it was shut down in September for major repair or likely replacement of a defective turbine generator...

**BANGOR:** Two men cited by the Washington State Patrol for being in the roadway illegally last August as they blocked entry to the Trident nuclear submarine base were in Kitsap County court on October 24. Each opted for a mitigation hearing, requesting that their fine be reduced to \$1 or less. The judge listened and responded with respect, and in keeping with precedent fined the men \$25 each...

**NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY:** Three women won a split verdict on October 9 in federal court in Baltimore. Last May they went to the agency’s Ft. Meade headquarters to get a response to their written request for a meeting to talk about NSA targeting of drone attacks. While Judge Sullivan let Ellen Barfield, Marilyn Carlisle and Manijeh Saba testify freely to implicate the NSA in war crimes worthy of the court’s attention, he did not allow the expert testimony of drone opponents Medea Benjamin or Col. Ann Wright. Sullivan deferred that it is “way beyond my pay grade” to make rulings on such government policies. He agreed with the defendants that areas generally open to public access, such as the gate house where they were arrested, cannot become “protected property” only when certain activities take place, and so dismissed the “attempting to enter” charge. But the women were convicted of failure to comply and disorderly conduct, and ordered to pay fines and fees totalling less than \$100 each...

**SCOTLAND:** Four women charged with breach of the peace and vandalism for unfurling a “Resist Militarism” banner from the Finnieston Crane in Glasgow on June 28, were in court on November 26. They said they had no case to answer, as four young women who were polite and laughed with police is no cause for alarm. The court agreed, and the four adjourned to share hot drinks and free food outside with supporters, while leafletting passersby about the connection between prisons and militarism. In a separate case, Jamie Watson was acquitted of resisting arrest but fined £300 for breach of the peace. Civilian police accompanying a military convoy last July were briefed (in ignorance of the convey’s nuclear load) that there may be attempts to stop it, but were not told that it would likely be peace activists. Two testified that they were alarmed when disarmament activists stopped the trucks transporting nuclear weapons on a country road leading to the Royal Navy’s Coulport nuclear bunkers...

**SWITZERLAND:** Swiss authorities have filed criminal charges of trespass and damage to property against 66 activists who took part in a mass occupation of the Beznau nuclear plant last March. At the same time, the Federal Nuclear Safety Inspectorate (ENSI) filed two criminal charges alleging activists damaged the Leibstadt nuclear plant during a 2008 action. The damage – holes for mounting fire extinguishers drilled into the containment wall – was not discovered until last summer...

*continued on pages 6 and 7*

the Nuclear

# Resister

“A Chronicle of Hope”

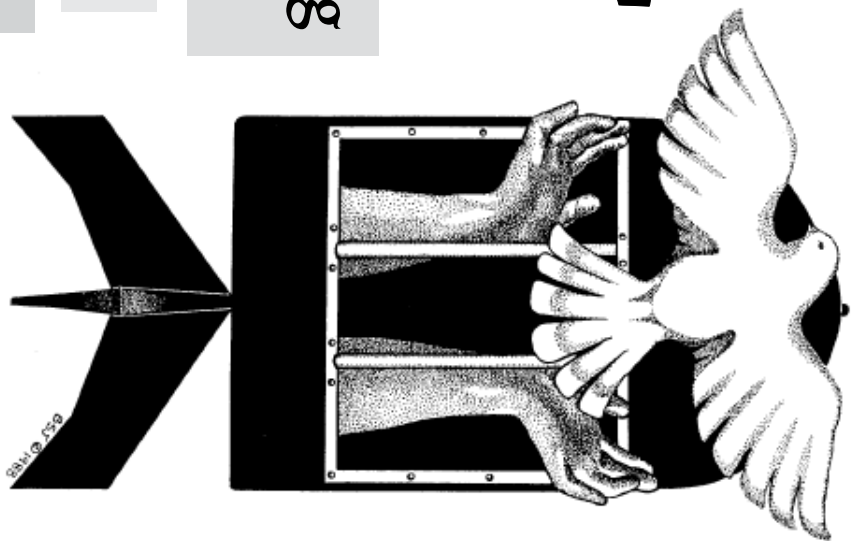
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Around the Globe



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