HIROSHIMA / NAGASAKI
Never Again!

Across the world, the 70th anniversaries of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki were commemorated in a variety of ways. Each and every year for the last few decades, an annual tradition of civil disobedience and nonviolent resistance to this ongoing crime against humanity is renewed in the United States at many nuclear weapon-related sites.

PENTAGON
To commemorate the 70th year since the U.S. began the Nuclear Age, 30 people from the Atlantic Life Community and other peace groups participated in an early morning peace witness on August 6 at the Pentagon. The group carried signs, photos of the aftermath of the Hiroshima bombing and banners, two of which read: “Remember the Past, Repeat the Sin, Reclaim the Future – Hiroshima and Nagasaki” and “Abolish Nuclear Weapons.”

The group processed from Army-Navy Drive to the regular protest site near the Pentagon metro station. While most people entered the police-designated protest area, five people remained on the sidewalk a good distance behind the main procession, and were prevented by police from walking any further. They proceeded to kneel or stand across the sidewalk, holding photos of Hiroshima victims, as several people spread ashes on the pavement.

As the five anticipated their arrest, the others in the designated protest area held a prayer service, inviting the arriving Pentagon employees to join them in a litany of the rubble, the lies, and clouds of war. As we have denounced them, and have never accepted it.”

For more information, visit dccatholicworker.wordpress.com.

Thanks to Art Luffin for his report.

LOCKHEED MARTIN
On August 6, the Brandywine Peace Community returned to Lockheed Martin in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, the world’s #1 war profiteer and the United States’ chief nuclear weapons and delivery systems contractor.

The group’s peace bell tolled 70 times, once for every year the threat of nuclear war since Hiroshima. A litany on the meaning of Hiroshima Day concluded:

On this Hiroshima Day, we remember the dictum of Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel that “Few are guilty, all are responsible.” We remember all the victims of nuclear weapons and all those that peer out from the rubble, the lies, and clouds of war. As we have for these long decades, we bring a commitment to stopping the injustice and criminal enterprise of

Prison for Spanish Nuclear Reactor Foe

A Spanish anti-nuclear campaigner was sent to prison for 17 weeks for refusing to pay €6,000 in electricity fees for what he calls “energy and harmful pollution.

“It’s the only option left to me,” said Máximo González García of his ratepayer refusal over the Almaraz nuclear power plant, located on a reservoir west of Madrid in the Spanish Extremadura.

The president of the Association of People Affected by Nuclear Almaraz, García has been campaigning against the two-reactor plant for nearly 20 years. His son, now an amputee, is the only survivor among up to nine people in the immediate Jarais de la Vera region diagnosed with Ewing’s Sarcoma, a rare bone cancer, following a 1988 radiation leak at the plant. Many other cases of birth defects and rare cancers are reported from the area since the first Almaraz reactor opened.

On May 6, 2010, García had chained himself to the entrance to the plant to protest a ten-year extension of its operating license, which was granted that June. He called out local officials for accepting bribes to support renewing the license. “They are gangsters,” García said.

After several more arrests at the gate since then, his refusal to pay the electric rate finally resulted in the prison sentence and a court order to turn himself in by May 7, 2015. So on the anniversary of the 2010 protest, García again chained himself to the Almaraz gate, rather than surrender at the prison. “As I have reported many times, they came to offer some 40 million pesetas and take my son to Boston for treatment, but I have continued to denounce them, and have never accepted it.”

His sentence ended in early September.

VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE
Five Catholic Workers and a member of Veterans For Peace were arrested at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California on Saturday, August 8, after an hour long vigil commemorating the 70th anniversary of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Thirty-five people attended the vigil, including members of the Los Angeles, Guadalupe, and Kenya Catholic Worker communities, Veterans for Peace, and others.

On August 8, 2015, 30 people from the Atlantic Life Community and other peace groups arrived at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California on Saturday, August 8, after an hour long vigil commemorating the 70th anniversary of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Thirty-five people attended the vigil, including members of the Los Angeles, Guadalupe, and Kenya Catholic Worker communities, Veterans for Peace, and others.

Dennis Apel led the group in a short prayer of repentance, and read a poem for the occasion by David Krieger’s "God Weep, God Weep With Tears." Apel observed that August 8 also marks the 70th anniversary of the signing of the Nuremberg Charter by the United States and European nations. The charter stipulated that crimes against peace, war crimes, and crimes against humanity by the European Axis Powers could be tried in court. How ironic that this agreement was signed two days after the bombings of Hiroshima and one day before the bombing of Nagasaki, yet nobody has been held accountable.

Those arrested were Dennis Apel, Erica Brock, Jeff Dietrich, Chris Knudson, David Omondini and Mike Wisniewski. The six resisters were cited for trespass and released at Vandenberg Village an hour later. No court date is scheduled at this time.

For more information, visit lcatholicworker.org.

Thanks to Mike Wisniewski for his report.

Continued on page 6
Survivors of courts and jails, of the American flare
too, survivors of the culture and its pseudos and counters,
plaintive flute in obligato, the cry of an infant in the river
part dirge; the latter theme dominant, the former a minor
science and practice of abstract death.

buck. You drive into an industrial park, down a broad
around. Austerity, efficiency, cost value, big bang for big
We touch it; the line is not dead at all, inert. It vibrates
know how to put matters more simply. Somewhere along
[In Gethsemani, Kentucky, where Thomas Merton had
in the past, at least now and then. I went to the monastery
Division assembly plant at King of Prussia, Pennsylvania.
We spent the day uncommonly cheerful in that place of

They rounded us up, trundled us out in closed vans.
We spent the day uncommonly cheerful in that place of

We knew these hideous cones (“shrouds” is the GE
word) were concocted in a certain building of the General
Electric complex. The building is huge: we had no idea

Nuclear Resister falls on the date of the 35th anniversary
of the inaugural Plowshares action. Anne, Phil and Elmer
Presente!
by Daniel Berrigan

December 20, 1949 - July 26, 2015
Peace, justice and anti-nuclear activist, teacher, husband, father, grandfather, one of six brothers, including Dan and Phil Berrigan

For nuclear missile warheads. Once inside, the eight
were sped away in Black Maria, then you were backed
like a Mack Sennett film played backward; first you
us in vans again; back to the scene of the crime. It was
After our deed, a clamor arose among the FBI and
Of one thing we were sure. If we were to reach the
We knew a fact (the fact was there for anyone who
bothered to investigate) that General Electric in King
of Prussia manufactures the reentry cones of Mark 12A
missiles. We learned that Mark 12A is a warhead that
will carry an H-bomb of 335 kilotons to its target. That
their weapons are being attached to each of three
hundred Minuteman III missiles. That because of Mark
12A accuracy and explosive power, it will be used to
implement U.S. counterforce or first-strike policy.

They rounded us up, trundled us out in closed vans.
We spent the day uncommonly cheerful in that place of

They carried us to the police station, where we
were segregated by sex. I had to wait separately from
the women. One officer, a very young man, was
uncomfortably diffused in his hotel; rather than
be involved in the death of the men we killed,
his embarrassment had to do with the finer issues of
our language. The young man regarded the
language with a staid rectitude, and with a</div>
Manning Dodges a Set-up

Chelsee Manning endured a July encounter with the capricious, contemptuous and vengeful nature of prison rule enforcement with only a 21-day suspension of recreation. She had been threatened with punishment of indefinite solitary confinement on four separate charges, an artful escalation from the original allegation of disorderly conduct. The particulars:

- "On 2 July 2015, during dinner chow, inmate Manning was approached by [officer A] to inform inmate Manning’s surroundings because [officer B] was almost hit with some food inmate Manning swept off the table," according to a report filed five days later, alleging disorderly conduct.
- A charge of disrespect followed when Manning told officer A she wasn’t going to say anything about the incident until she spoke to her lawyer, and then walked away.
- Two days later, her cell was searched. Because she was now under administrative detention pending an investigation of the first two charges, previously received books and magazines were now considered contraband, earning a charge of prohibited property. Her tube of anti-cavity toothpaste two months past its expiration date warranted the fourth charge: medicine misuse.

An emergency campaign by supporters generated 100,000 signatures on a petition that was delivered to Army officials on August 18, the day of her disciplinary hearing. Manning was found guilty on all charges. The verdict can delay her anticipated move into minimum security next year.

The army whistleblower is serving a 35-year military prison sentence for his conscientious public release of millions of classified documents related to U.S. diplomatic perfidy and the criminal conduct of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

For more information, visit chelseeansman.org

Letters of support should be sent to Chelsea E. Manning 98289, 1300 North Warehouse Road, Fort Leavenworth, KS 66027-2304.

Inside & Out

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

ANTI-WAR RELATED ACTIONS

Norman Edgar Lowry Jr. 3N758
SCI Dallas, 1000 Follies Rd., Dallas, PA 18612.
(One to seven years - in 8/1/11)
(Retarded trespass at military recruiting office, 8/1/11)

Rafi Dhafi 11921-052
Unit HA, 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
98289
1300 North Warehouse Road, Fort Leavenworth, KS 66027-2304.
(35 years - in 5/10, out 2/3/16)
(Whistleblowing 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
P.O. Box 99, Pontiac, IL 61764.
(8 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)
Peace Pilgrims Walk Into War Games

Faith-based peace advocates from around Australia converged in Rockhampton, Queensland in July to participate in what has become a tradition of protesting the largest United States/Australian joint military training exercise, the biannual Talisman-Saber war games. This year, 22,000 troops took part, including some from Japan and New Zealand.

Since 2005, peace pilgrims have created a legacy of walking on to the Shoalwater Bay training area during the exercises – sometimes for days at a time – to call a ceasefire.

“A pilgrimage is a sacred journey to a significant place,” said Margaret Pestorius, one of the organizers. “Our pilgrimage is to go to the traditional lands of the Darambul people where the military is rehearsing war and testing weapons. Here we are exercising the values of our faith for the preservation of life and against the costs of war.

During two weeks of additional public peace events around Rockhampton, six groups of pilgrims went into the training area, leading to arrests.

The first group entered the live training area before dawn on July 8, arriving near the landing zone just as 500 paratroopers were about to drop in after flying from Canada. The three pilgrims, pastor Simon Reeves, Quaker Greg Rolles and the Reverend Simon Moyle, made this joint statement before entering the training area:

As Australians with the question, “Have these wars been worth the cost?” we are walking into Shoalwater Bay in the midst of exercise Talisman Saber in the hope of finding a less destructive way of dealing with conflict.

All these lives lost, all this money spent and the world is a more dangerous place since 2001. Bodies of soldiers have been broken, minds and souls damaged. The blood of countless lives has been shed. Is this what we want? Is this the kind of country we want to be?

When we meet soldiers on the base we will be inviting them to share the Easter, remembering bodies broken and blood shed, in the hope of finding a better way forward together.

We also invite other Australians to consider whether more military intervention in Iraq will be worth the cost.

They were arrested that afternoon and handed over to local police. The three refused bail and pleaded guilty to the additional charge of being found in a military area, and some remained for two days before discovery.

A final group of pilgrims was arrested on July 15 and brought to court the next day. Teigan Evans, Sam Quinlan and AJ Van Tonder faced trespass charges and were fined $500 each. Quinlan told the court, “A fine is a small thing to risk compared to the violence our wars inflict on others. I am concerned the Australian taxpayers don’t want my taxes to fund war in which so many innocent people are killed with so little accountability.”

For more information, visit peaceconvergence.org

Wales

After public meetings, petitions, letters to councils of local communities as well as letters to local legislators, councils of Galloway (Scotland) and an Action Group for Reconciliation (Scotland) decided to act directly to highlight what happens in Llanbedr, Wales. A single civilian landing strip there has been contracted for testing military reconnaissance drones.

On the morning of June 13, 2014, five members of the group scaled the fence and occupied the runway. In letters large enough to be read by approaching aircraft, they painted “NO DEATH DRONES” and in Welsh, “DIM DRAU!”

The owners of the company developing unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) at the site assured the media that their drones aren’t death drones. Dozens of people have returned to protest there, knowing that recon is necessary to plan the attack of armed UAVs, and that developments now can be weaponized later, just as the first weapons were added to the reconnaissance drones of the past.

Four of those arrested exercised their right to appear in a Welsh-language court, and were arraigned in Dolgellau on June 6, 2015. Four of us packed the small courtroom, while 30 more allies held a protest outside the courthouse. Anna Jane Evans and Sian ap Gwynfor pleaded not guilty, while Ailwen Irelle did not indicate a plea, and Angharad Williams pleaded guilty. The case is now set for trial on September 17 in Caernarfon.

For more information, visit www.cymdeithasycymru.org.uk.

Scotland

The intruder alarm inside the Faslane nuclear submarine base in Scotland went off during the wee hours of June 9, and three peace campaigners poking about to see what the fuss was all about were arrested, and released a few hours later.

Four people from the Camp were reported and arrested on the roof of a Dunbarton, Scotland building on July 5. They had planned to drop a banner from there as the Armed Forces Day parade passed by later in the day.

For more information, visit faslanepeacecamp.wordpress.com.

Peace Pilgrims Walk Into War Games

Over the 65 days from March 26 through May 29, hundreds of people traveled 2,600 km from the Scottish Faslane Nuclear Base to the German Büchel Air Force Base to join in a series of blockades protesting the U.S. nuclear weapons deployed there. Federal governments have repeatedly declared their intention to end “nuclear sharing” under the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty but have done nothing to stop nuclear arms development.

The first group entered the live training area before dawn on July 8, arriving near the landing zone just as 500 paratroopers were about to drop in after flying from Canada. The three pilgrims, pastor Simon Reeves, Quaker Greg Rolles and the Reverend Simon Moyle, made this joint statement before entering the training area:

As Australians with the question, “Have these wars been worth the cost?” we are walking into Shoalwater Bay in the midst of exercise Talisman Saber in the hope of finding a less destructive way of dealing with conflict.

All these lives lost, all this money spent and the world is a more dangerous place since 2001. Bodies of soldiers have been broken, minds and souls damaged. The blood of countless lives has been shed. Is this what we want? Is this the kind of country we want to be?

When we meet soldiers on the base we will be inviting them to share the Easter, remembering bodies broken and blood shed, in the hope of finding a better way forward together.

We also invite other Australians to consider whether more military intervention in Iraq will be worth the cost.

They were arrested that afternoon and handed over to local police. The three refused bail and pleaded guilty to the additional charge of being found in a military area, and some remained for two days before discovery.

A final group of pilgrims was arrested on July 15 and brought to court the next day. Teigan Evans, Sam Quinlan and AJ Van Tonder faced trespass charges and were fined $500 each. Quinlan told the court, “A fine is a small thing to risk compared to the violence our wars inflict on others. I am concerned the Australian taxpayers don’t want my taxes to fund war in which so many innocent people are killed with so little accountability.”

For more information, visit peaceconvergence.org

Wales

After public meetings, petitions, letters to councils of local communities as well as letters to local legislators, councils of Galloway (Scotland) and an Action Group for Reconciliation (Scotland) decided to act directly to highlight what happens in Llanbedr, Wales. A single civilian landing strip there has been contracted for testing military reconnaissance drones.

On the morning of June 13, 2014, five members of the group scaled the fence and occupied the runway. In letters large enough to be read by approaching aircraft, they painted “NO DEATH DRONES” and in Welsh, “DIM DRAU!”

The owners of the company developing unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) at the site assured the media that their drones aren’t death drones. Dozens of people have returned to protest there, knowing that recon is necessary to plan the attack of armed UAVs, and that developments now can be weaponized later, just as the first weapons were added to the reconnaissance drones of the past.

Four of those arrested exercised their right to appear in a Welsh-language court, and were arraigned in Dolgellau on June 6, 2015. Four of us packed the small courtroom, while 30 more allies held a protest outside the courthouse. Anna Jane Evans and Sian ap Gwynfor pleaded not guilty, while Ailwen Irelle did not indicate a plea, and Angharad Williams pleaded guilty. The case is now set for trial on September 17 in Caernarfon.

For more information, visit www.cymdeithasycymru.org.uk.

Scotland

The intruder alarm inside the Faslane nuclear submarine base in Scotland went off during the wee hours of June 9, and three peace campaigners poking about to see what the fuss was all about were arrested, and released a few hours later.

Four people from the Camp were reported and arrested on the roof of a Dunbarton, Scotland building on July 5. They had planned to drop a banner from there as the Armed Forces Day parade passed by later in the day.

For more information, visit faslanepeacecamp.wordpress.com.
Sicilians Shut Down MUOS

Opponents of an expanding U.S. military satellite communication base in Sicily, arrested last year after scaling one of the antennas, had the first session of their trial in July and return to court on September 14.

For four years, Sicilians have organized growing resistance to the installation of the Mobile User Objective System, or MUOS, inside the larger Naval Radio Transmitter Facility which exists within a cork oak forest preserve on the outskirts of Nescomi. MUOS is the United States’ next-generation system for integrated, real-time global military communication via satellites through a set of four satellites (one from Australia, one from Hawaii and one from Virginia). The MUOS antennas will increase the exposure of the local population to electromagnetic pollution that is already a cause for concern from the 46 NRTF antennas. This health issue, the environmental impact, and the deepening involvement of U.S. in Italy warfighting around the world resulting by MUOS, brought opponents together.

Beginning in 2013, local No MUOS committees took many direct action initiatives along with legal tactics to stop construction of the new antennas – roadblocks of materials and equipment, trespassing onto the base, occupations of existing NRTF antennas, and the purchase of adjacent land for a permanent protest camp “Pegasus NO MUOS”. This popular mobilization forced the government of the Sicilian Region to step back and revoke permissions to the U.S. Navy. Even the Regional Assembly adopted a resolution that defined MUOS as a “monstrous” and that the U.S. had violated the law by building the new Italian base in a nature reserve.

Even though construction was completed in January, 2014, mass protest and the legal roadblocks have kept MUOS out of service, most recently a court ruling last February.

On August 9, 2013, over a thousand people took down fences and flooded into the military base in protest. The mass occupation was repeated on August 14, 2013, and dozens were arrested and sent to prison. The police once again cited and released for “trespassing”.

On the eve of this year’s August 6-9 No MUOS actions, dozens of activists inaugurated the event by cutting through the fence in several places, defying Italian and U.S. military police. Two nights later, as hundreds prepared for Saturday’s mass action, they also placed two barricades to keep police from closing in on their protest camp.

On the afternoon of August 8, more than 500 people walked through the sughereta (cork oak forest) and their noisy demonstration faced off with a large police force through the fence. With the fence on both sides of the road, several sections down at the feet of the police, but no arrests were made. Their message was that even in a time of apparent victory, with the MUOS antenna not functioning, their struggle will not stop.

For more information, visit nomuos.info.

Hinkley Blockaders Fined

Even though Hinkley B nuclear power station in Somerset, England is now shut down for major work to extend its operating lifetime, safe energy activists simply want it shut down for good, because it is too expensive and too old and dangerous to keep running. The protesters were closed in 2006 for testing of defective components, and then restarted at less than full capacity only when regulatory safety margins were moved from “zero” to “calculable.”

To highlight that their concerns are no laughing matter, last April Fools Day ten campaigns from Southwest Against Nuclear War, Park Free Heel and Jail for Nuclear Disarmament brought out banners, traffic cones and lockdown devices to shut down the shut down. Arriving at daybreak, they placed tarps and blankets out on the cold asphalt as they prepared to keep up with regular calls to remove resistors from the site, which was already behind schedule and exceeding cost estimates due to discovery of defective components.

In court August 14, the women entered guilty pleas and gave statements to the court. The crown prosecutor claimed their action had cost the utility £700,000 (more than $1M). The court fined each woman £300 plus £105 in costs and fees.

The next week, it was revealed that investors in Hinkley C, a next-generation reactor project touted as Britain’s premier “nuclear new build”, have suspended all work at the site, which was already behind schedule and exceeding cost estimates due to discovery of defective components.

For more information, visit hokyaalto.net.

Jeju, South Korea

In August, Koreans celebrated the 70th anniversary of their liberation from Japanese imperialism. Residents of Gangejong village who have been arrested in acts of nonviolent resistance to the nearly complete navy base on Jeju Island were excluded from the special anniversary President Park Geun-Hye granted to about 2 million people across South Korea.

For the residents, it was the second such exclusion from special events and special rights on their behalf by both ruling and opposition party members as well as religious leaders. Nevertheless, the villagers have long expressed strong opposition. Special amnesty would be a betrayal unless the base construction is stopped.

In July, two more people went to jail rather than pay fines for their participation in anti-base protests. Ms. Kim “Joan” M.K., known for drawing a paper lantern every month to represent the peaceful and nonviolent protest against the Jeju Base, was arrested on July 27. Two days later, on August 21, the court sentenced the residents to two years in jail for the protest. The court fined each resident for an estimated N$100,000 with three years probation. Activists stressed that they would continue to fight against the base.

For more information, visit hyokyaalto.net

Buddish workers are delayed as supporters care for locked-down blockaders, April 1, 2015. In the background is the Hinckley nuclear power station.

In August, Koreans celebrated the 70th anniversary of their liberation from Japanese imperialism. Residents of Gangejong village who have been arrested in acts of nonviolent resistance to the nearly complete navy base on Jeju Island were excluded from the special anniversary President Park Geun-Hye granted to about 2 million people across South Korea.

For the residents, it was the second such exclusion from special events and special rights on their behalf by both ruling and opposition party members as well as religious leaders. Nevertheless, the villagers have long expressed strong opposition. Special amnesty would be a betrayal unless the base construction is stopped.

In July, two more people went to jail rather than pay fines for their participation in anti-base protests. Ms. Kim “Joan” M.K., known for drawing a paper lantern every month to represent the peaceful and nonviolent protest against the Jeju Base, was arrested on July 27. Two days later, on August 21, the court sentenced the residents to two years in jail for the protest. The court fined each resident for an estimated N$100,000 with three years probation. Activists stressed that they would continue to fight against the base.

For more information, visit hyokyaalto.net

In August, Koreans celebrated the 70th anniversary of their liberation from Japanese imperialism. Residents of Gangejong village who have been arrested in acts of nonviolent resistance to the nearly complete navy base on Jeju Island were excluded from the special anniversary President Park Geun-Hye granted to about 2 million people across South Korea.

For the residents, it was the second such exclusion from special events and special rights on their behalf by both ruling and opposition party members as well as religious leaders. Nevertheless, the villagers have long expressed strong opposition. Special amnesty would be a betrayal unless the base construction is stopped.

In July, two more people went to jail rather than pay fines for their participation in anti-base protests. Ms. Kim “Joan” M.K., known for drawing a paper lantern every month to represent the peaceful and nonviolent protest against the Jeju Base, was arrested on July 27. Two days later, on August 21, the court sentenced the residents to two years in jail for the protest. The court fined each resident for an estimated N$100,000 with three years probation. Activists stressed that they would continue to fight against the base.

For more information, visit hyokyaalto.net

In August, Koreans celebrated the 70th anniversary of their liberation from Japanese imperialism. Residents of Gangejong village who have been arrested in acts of nonviolent resistance to the nearly complete navy base on Jeju Island were excluded from the special anniversary President Park Geun-Hye granted to about 2 million people across South Korea.

For the residents, it was the second such exclusion from special events and special rights on their behalf by both ruling and opposition party members as well as religious leaders. Nevertheless, the villagers have long expressed strong opposition. Special amnesty would be a betrayal unless the base construction is stopped.

In July, two more people went to jail rather than pay fines for their participation in anti-base protests. Ms. Kim “Joan” M.K., known for drawing a paper lantern every month to represent the peaceful and nonviolent protest against the Jeju Base, was arrested on July 27. Two days later, on August 21, the court sentenced the residents to two years in jail for the protest. The court fined each resident for an estimated N$100,000 with three years probation. Activists stressed that they would continue to fight against the base.

For more information, visit hyokyaalto.net

In August, Koreans celebrated the 70th anniversary of their liberation from Japanese imperialism. Residents of Gangejong village who have been arrested in acts of nonviolent resistance to the nearly complete navy base on Jeju Island were excluded from the special anniversary President Park Geun-Hye granted to about 2 million people across South Korea.

For the residents, it was the second such exclusion from special events and special rights on their behalf by both ruling and opposition party members as well as religious leaders. Nevertheless, the villagers have long expressed strong opposition. Special amnesty would be a betrayal unless the base construction is stopped.

In July, two more people went to jail rather than pay fines for their participation in anti-base protests. Ms. Kim “Joan” M.K., known for drawing a paper lantern every month to represent the peaceful and nonviolent protest against the Jeju Base, was arrested on July 27. Two days later, on August 21, the court sentenced the residents to two years in jail for the protest. The court fined each resident for an estimated N$100,000 with three years probation. Activists stressed that they would continue to fight against the base.

For more information, visit hyokyaalto.net
Drone Defendants Return to Las Vegas

A dozen of the more than 30 people arrested during protest of drone warfare at Creech Air Force Base last spring returned to Las Vegas for arraignment on June 30.

Las Vegas Justice Court Judge Melissa Saragosa first dealt with four of the defendants for bond hearing on May 15. Five accepted a plea deal to pay a $50 fine, stay off of Creech property, and have their cases dismissed in six months. The defense attorney had the court specify in each case that the bond was set at $150, even if the property was adjacent to the base.

Three of those present then entered a no contest plea. Fred Bialy, Mauro Oliveria and Fr. Louis Vitale OFM all made brief statements of opposition to drone warfare with their plea. The court set their cases for the next hearing.

A dozen others, in person or by mail, entered pleas of not guilty. An attempt to join their trial was rejected, and individual trials are now set for October 26, 27 and 28.

Ten other defendants who were cited for a traffic infraction sought dismissal, since the statute has no maximum 15 days, though with time already served right on property of the new plant. On July 4, Kabat had sometimes with others, took action in July on the “campus,” the new home for the facility that from the Security Administration has directed the production and production of non-nuclear parts for nuclear weapons at the “campus,” the new home for the facility that from 1949 to 2014 did its work at that location which became contaminated from materials for the bomb.

The action followed four previous defendants when Kabat, sometimes with others, took action in July on the property of the new plant. On July 4, 2014, Kabat had “sloshed” oil-based red paint from baby bottles on the barge at the main entrance to the National Security Campus.

After he “sloshed” the paint on this sign, he said, “I thought I might have to walk to the front and say, ‘The Fourth of July is over! All of the guards came to call me, coming out, ‘Carl Kabat, is it you?’”

Kabat asked this reporter, “Did you get a picture of it (the sign)?” When he heard someone went to the site to take a picture but that an expandable red paint, Kabat said with regret, “Unfortunately, I used water-soluble paint. They probably washed it off.” A federal judge told Kabat this April that the federal work with based paint cost $8,000 to repair. Unwilling to put Kabat in jail, where he might be endangered, the judge asked him to next time use water-based paint.

The priest was released on time served the next day, following arraignment by video from jail.

“As far as I know, I’m clear and clean and everything else,” said Kabat, laughing. “I guess I’m through with this base.” He added, “I’ve gotten tired for anything except July 4 next year or something like that, huh?”

BANGOR TRIDENT BASE

Following a weekend of 70th anniversary commemorative activities at the Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action, twelve people were arrested during blockades of the Ktispak/Bangor Trident nuclear submarine base in Washington State. The Center hosted guest houses and campers from Friday night, and an overnight vigil at the main base gate preceded the nonviolent actions on August 10.

As employees entered the base for the Monday morning shift, seven protesters walked into the roadway and waited for air traffic entering the base. The banners read, “We Can All Live Without Trident” and “Abolish Nuclear Weapons.” The two incoming lanes were blocked for about 45 minutes until Ktispak Sheriff’s deputies and Washington State Patrol officers arrived and removed the protesters from the roadway. Meanwhile, Navy personnel diverted incoming traffic around the base via the outbound lanes.

Two men of the protest were also blocked near the Ktispak office building illegally were Mack Johnson, Brenda McMillan, Doug Millholland and Michael Siptroth. All paid a $56 fine.

Eight others then walked onto the base, where they also blocked the roadway and staged a die-in. While three activists were arrested on the roadway, others were blocked about acres representing the ashes of those incinerated in the atomic bombings. Two of them attempted to deliver a letter to Trident facility administration, and use every available power to him to call for an immediately halt to the updating and expansion of the Trident fleet under his command. The letter was left on orders from “gang intel.” Returning to his predictable cell, Carl Kabat bested about the need to celebrate her birthday was gone. “I flipped out. She writes, and the ensuing conflict ended with Chase maced andsubjected to brute force by guards. She was interrogated without mattress, sheets, clothes, medical attention, or shower, followed by two months of other restrictions.

For more information, visit freethenato3.wordpress.com.

Trial Over Nuclear Protest Drone Begins in Japan

Advances in drone technology have not only led to widespread protest of remotely piloted vehicles armed for war and police use, but also to the use of drones for political protest. The first prosecution of someone using a drone for an anti-nuclear protest is now underway in Japan, with the beginning of the trial of Yasuo Yamamoto. Yamamoto was arrested in April after the discovery of his protest quadcopter on the roof of the Japanese prime minister’s official residence.

The drone was found two weeks after it landed there. After police announced its discovery and its cargo—a vial of contaminated soil from Fukushima prefecture—Mr. Yamamoto turned himself in to police and was taken into custody. Police reported his statements about the protest.

Trial began on August 13. His attorney argued that Yamamoto is innocent of the charge of forcible disruption of business. His drone might have fallen by accident onto the roof, and its discovery there says nothing about Yamamoto’s intent to force a disruption of official business. While a rare case in media, there was no mention of when the next phase of his trial will take place.

Yamamoto remains in pre-trial detention, but the editors of the paper find a jail address. Privacy is respected in criminal justice matters in Japan, and no public support has been organized there. As some have observed in comparison to western societies, the Japanese are much more oriented towards groups and collectives rather than the individual. Standing out in a crowd is rated negatively and widely considered a cause for shame.
Finally, what drove us to “such extremes”? [...]
MORDECHAI VANUNU: The Israeli nuclear whistleblower has petitioned the High Court for permission to travel to Norway to visit his new wife’s family. The petition argues that now, more than eleven years after he was released, the recent renewed prohibition on leaving Israel is a violation of his human rights. The petition does not deny he may discuss his previous work as a nuclear technician while abroad. “Preventing me from meeting with members of the media to discuss information that is publicly known is not defense of the state, but the persecution of an individual,” he declares.

SWAN ISLAND, AUSTRALIA: Jim Dowling was the last defendant to face trespass charges on June 18, after eight peace activists entered the Special Forces training base last October, and four were assaulted while being arrested. In the Geelong court room, Dowling defended himself. He testified about witnessing some of the abuse, and tried to expose a conspiracy among police to cover up the real crime they had witnessed when they arrived to find four people who had been tackled, cable-tied, hooded, stripped, threatened with rape and dragged around by the four people who had been tackled, cable-tied, hooded, stripped, threatened with rape and dragged around by the Special Forces soldiers who first apprehended them. None of five police reports in evidence mentioned the condition of the abused defendants when they arrived, and only under questioning did the two officers who testified finally admit that some of those arrested had hoods over their heads. Dowling also compared the abuse of the protesters to the abuse of captives by Australian special forces on the battlefield, and found a common code of silence to protect the abusers. But it was all irrelevant to the charge of trespass, the judge declared. Dowling was found guilty and fined $150. Organizers of the 2015 Swan Island Peace Convergence (September 21-24) have decided not to plan any civil disobedience actions, and instead focus on creating space for community building and deeper discussions without the focus on direct action.

SHANNON AIRPORT: Irish parliamentarians Clare Daly and Mick Wallace have been notified of an imminent term in jail for their nonpayment of fines for protesting U.S. military supply flights through the neutral nation’s international airport.

TAIWAN: Two men have been found not guilty of violating the Parade and Assembly Act by using participants in an April 27, 2014 anti-nuclear protest to deviate from the route designated in their permit. The Taipei District Court heard no proof that university student leader Hung Chung-yen and Alliance of Referendum for Taiwan convenor Tsay Ting-kuai were the ones who had led the 50,000 person march to take over both sides of the road in front of the railway station for a sit-in that brought local traffic to a halt. In its August 17 verdict, the court further found that a police order to disband the march as it grew beyond their control was not legally delivered to the organizers.

LINGEN, GERMANY: After years of delay, charges against nine people who blockaded the gate of a nuclear fuel fabrication plant in November, 2012 have been dropped. Most misdemeanor proceedings against defendants from a 2013 blockade had also since been dismissed (except one for resisting police), and in 2014, 20 people were cleared from the driveway but no charges were filed. Another blockade is planned for September 28. For more information, visit junepa.blogspot.eu.

HAMBURG, GERMANY: Indictments for disturbing public enterprise and coercion (compelling another in a reprehensible manner) were issued this summer against four people who locked onto the rails to stop a uranium ore shipment from leaving the port in August, 2014. A trespass trial for some of the people who discovered the shipment a few days earlier among containers at the shipyard is set for September 30...

FULDA, GERMANY: Criminal damage charges against two people who blocked a nuclear waste shipment by suspending themselves between trees over the tracks in November, 2011, were finally dropped for lack of evidence after nine straight hours in court on June 23...

MAGDEBURG, GERMANY: More than 40 people who took part in the occupation of the European Battle Simulation Center in August, 2014, were informed by mail months later of misdemeanor charges and fines of €400–€500. Defendants are organizing to encourage all to refuse payment and go to court, and should they lose, consider the option to “vigil behind bars” in lieu of paying the fine.

PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER PLANT: For her Mother’s Day trespass at the Massachusetts reactor, Elaine Dickinson pleaded guilty to a prosecution deal offering one year probation with a $50/month fee if she also promises not to cross the line at Pilgrim for one year. Paul Rikitin rejected the offer and seeks a jury trial. He’ll be in Plymouth District Court on September 9 for a pre-trial hearing. The prosecutor told Rikitin that since it was his third arrest at the aging nuke, he could be facing a year in jail.

WITNESS AGAINST TORTURE: Two trials for activists arrested last January in the U.S. Capitol while protesting torture at the Guantanamo prison camp took place in Washington, D.C., coincidently during annual Torture Awareness Week activities. That meant plenty of supporters were in court on June 22 and 25, when charges were dismissed. One group of 13 was arrested in the Senate gallery during the debate over release of a damning report on CIA torture, and nine more were arrested that same day in the Capitol visitor’s center. The judge dismissing the cases allowed several defendants to speak about why they took action...

NEW YORK CITY: Nuclear abolitionists who sat-in to block the doors of the U.S. Mission to the United Nations last April, demanding disarmament, were arraigned on June 24. Disorderly conduct charges for the 22 were adjourned contemplating dismissal in just 30 days, not the typical six months. Lawyers attributed the magistrate’s munificent gesture to his tacit support for the cause... 

PENTAGON: Following a recent pattern, charges for peaceful protest at the Pentagon were again dismissed, most recently for seven people arrested on Good Friday, 2015...