

the Nuclear Resister

“A Chronicle of Hope”

No. 179

December 3, 2015

UNDETERRED, DRONE RESISTERS RETURN

On the World Day of Peace, September 21, five members of the grassroots human rights coalition, Upstate (New York) Drone Action, were arrested as they held aloft three large banners. The one-word banners together read: DRONES KILL CHILDREN, and together spanned the main entrance and exit for Hancock Air Base. Hancock is home to the 174th Attack Wing of the N.Y. National Guard, directing attacks with armed Reaper drones flying over Afghanistan and likely elsewhere.

The latest of more than 165 protest arrests at Hancock since 2010 involved five recidivists: Dan Burgevin, Ed Kinane, Bonny Mahoney, Julianne Oldfield and James Ricks. They were held for a couple of hours, then released with appearance tickets. In court on October 14 the five were charged with trespass and disturbing the peace. Judge Jokl declined to levy bail and refused to impose Orders of Protection on the defendants, the court's dubious past practice now on appeal. A motions hearing is set for December 16.

From their action statement:

**DRONES KILL CHILDREN –
DRONES FLY, CHILDREN DIE**

The United Nations General Assembly has declared today, September 21, 2015, as International World Day of Peace. As we stand here at the main gate of Hancock Air Base, its “hunter/killer” MQ9 Reaper Drone arrogantly patrols Afghan skies 24/7—killing



photo by Ellen Grady

Upstate Drone Action resisters return to blockade an Air National Guard base outside of Syracuse, New York.

innocent children there and likely elsewhere.

We, U.S. citizens and taxpayers, look on with horror at the millions of refugees fleeing airborne terror and are shamed by our unconsented complicity. Too many drone victims are precious and beloved children. We bring their images and their silenced voices to Hancock today...

Unjustified on any level, save “might makes right,” such terrorism prepares fertile ground for perpetual conflict. This criminality benefits few besides war-profiteering corporations.

To the extent that WE, THE PEOPLE ignore our laws and our Constitution—allowing our government to kill whomever it wants, wherever it wants, however it wants—we make the world less safe for children here and everywhere. We demand that the Hancock chain of command and the United States STOP THE KILLING!

For more information, visit upstatedroneaction.org and blog.upstatedroneaction.org.

MUOS Plowshares

Barefoot, pacifist Turi Vaccaro scaled a fence in a Sicilian cork oak reserve and was undetected as he entered the inner security zone of a Pentagon outpost on Armistice Day, November 11. He climbed 40 meters up the girders supporting one of the three large parabolic dish antennas at the base known as MUOS. Soon enough, he was under the watch of police but out of their reach.

Yet within Vaccaro’s reach, just around the edge, were many of the antenna’s special reflective panels. Taking action in the Plowshares tradition, his hammer blows for disarmament echoed across the landscape throughout the day.

After 34 hours, in his peace sign T-shirt reading “No NATO, No MUOS”, Vaccaro descended into the open handcuffs of the police. The activist was held overnight and brought to court the next day, charged with breaking into the base and aggravated damage to the tune of €800,000. He was also charged with violating an order of expulsion from the city of Niscemi, where the MUOS installation is located, due to previous arrests during the long popular campaign opposing it.

The Pentagon is anxious for use of the Sicilian MUOS ground station, a critical link in a new network for coordinating real-time war fighting around the globe. After years of popular opposition, last winter a court shut down the nearly-complete system for alleged environmental, health and safety reasons, seizing the property. On appeal, the environmental objections were overruled in September, with a final decision on the health and safety issues due in mid-December.

Vaccaro made a statement to the court, then turned his back on the bench and hummed “We Shall Overcome” as he was ordered to stay out of the entire province of Caltanissetta (including Niscemi) and return for a pre-trial hearing on February 26. Pending trial, he will reside as a guest at the Nipponzan Myohoji Peace Pagoda in Comiso, in neighboring Ragusa province.

The Regional Coordination Committee NO Muos released a statement of support, concluding, “The hammering of Turi speaks the language of redemption of a people who, despite everything, are not giving up and are ready to fight for the demilitarization of their land.”

Vaccaro’s first Plowshares action, using hand tools to begin the work of disarmament, took place ten years ago, when he hammered on two F-16 nuclear bombers at a base in the Netherlands. For that action, he served six months in prison.

For more information, visit nomuos.info.

the missiles a chance to be humanly decent for at least a single day—the date that their government agreed to uphold peace and nonviolence. Three of our friends were arrested for speaking this with their bodies, and they face criminal charges in Las Vegas courts.

For more information, visit nevadadesertexperience.org.

Shut Down Creech UPDATE

More than a dozen accused trespassers and traffic offenders arrested for drone warfare resistance last spring returned to Las Vegas for trials at the end of October. Thirty-four people were arrested at the three-day Shut Down Creech event in March, and fourteen who pled not guilty were scheduled for a series of trials over three days.

While CodePink demonstrated support with twice daily vigils at the drone base in Indian Springs, defendants and other supporters filled Clark County Justice of the Peace Melissa Saragosa’s courtroom in Las Vegas, 45 miles away. First up on October 25 was Fr. Jerry Zawada, OFM. Saragosa, an Air Force Lt. Colonel and also current military judge, declined to recuse herself, but soon left no doubt about her primary allegiance to the law. She heard the state’s case and said it failed to show that Zawada had actually trespassed, nor that a proper chain of command was followed for the military orders against the demonstrators. Case dismissed.

Admitting defeat, prosecutors moved at each of the

continued on page 3

CAMPAIGN NONVIOLENCE

JUSTICE FOR OUR DESERT

report by Brian Terrell

In late September, people converged in Las Vegas for “Justice For Our Desert,” an event organized by the Nevada Desert Experience (NDE) to mark the International Day of Peace with reflection, music, prayer and nonviolent action.

The International Day of Peace was established in 1981 by a resolution of the United Nations General Assembly and affirmed by unanimous vote in 2001, establishing September 21 as an annual day of nonviolence and ceasefire: “The United Nations invites all nations and people to honor a cessation of hostilities during the Day, and to otherwise commemorate the Day through education and public awareness on issues related to peace.”

While each of the member states of the United Nations agreed to “commemorate the Day,” and some nations have actually followed through in various ways, International Peace Day has been ignored by the most profoundly and aggressively militarized member state, the one that needs peace with justice the most, the USA. For the second year, Campaign Nonviolence saved “the Day” from obscurity in the United States. Although the government pledged to observe it, Campaign Nonviolence, a project of NDE’s sister movement Pace e Bene, has encouraged hundreds of commemorations in the week around Peace Day in communities around the country.

NDE’s commemoration of the Day began on Friday, September 19 with an introduction and nonviolence training session at the Francis and Clare compound in North Las Vegas.

We met the next morning at the historic Peace Camp near the Nevada National Security Site, where in the days leading to the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty over 20 years ago, thousands came together. Our small group prayed a liturgy that was written to commemorate the Day for the Catholic churches of England and Wales. Salt was mixed with water, as a “symbol of the sorrows and tears in this broken world.” At the gates of the place that has seen more atomic detonations than anywhere else on the

globe, we remembered and honored the tears shed in Iraq, Afghanistan, Darfur, Palestine, Congo, Central America, the streets and prisons of the United States and all the places where human suffering should have ceased, if even for one day.

Johnnie Bobb, spiritual leader and Chief of the Western Shoshone National Council, issued us permits to the land and sent nine of us into the site with blessings. The illegitimate authorities who have stolen and poisoned this sacred place recognize neither the permits nor the blessing and so we were summarily arrested and briefly detained.

After a luscious desert lunch provided by King Ron of Food Not Bombs, Johnnie Bobb led us up Highway 95 and into the wild and rough desert to the far side of Yucca Mountain, the place where there is renewed talk of storing high level nuclear waste from nuclear power plants all over the country. Watched over by wild donkeys, we were led in ancient prayers for cleansing and restoration.

The morning of the International Day of Peace, September 21, we held vigil at dawn outside Creech Air Force Base, the center of the military and CIA killer drone programs. Kofi Annan, when he was United Nations Secretary General, described the purpose for the International Day of Peace. “Twenty four hours,” he said, “to give relief workers a safe interlude for the provision of vital services; to offer mediators a building block towards a wider truce; to allow all those engaged in conflict to reconsider the wisdom of further violence.”

We gathered at Creech conscious of the common practice of drone crews there known as “double tapping,” where crews based there will attack a second time the same target they bombed minutes before by remote control. The deliberate purpose of the double tap is to kill the first responders or family members who come to aid the wounded or retrieve the dead from the wreckage of the first missile launched. This is an atrocious violation of international norms and of basic human decency, but one that we are told is a routine policy. On this Day of days meant “to give relief workers a safe interlude” we went to Creech to offer to those who fly the drones and launch

Resistance Reflections

Thoughts on Being Alone in a Cage

by Joan Pleune, Granny Peace Brigade
October 2, 2015

I’ve been lucky. Every time I’ve been in a cage by myself, I’ve known that people are watching out for me, people on the outside and on the inside. I also know that my time in solitary won’t last very long.

Now, I need to convince my AUTONOMIC nervous system of that – you know, the part of the brain over which you have little control, the one responsible for fear, anxiety, and terror. The one where the best you can say to yourself is, “Breathe in, breathe out. Don’t start screaming or rattling the cage.”

On July 23 in 2014, Martha, Claire, Erica, Felton and I were arrested at Hancock Air Force Base protesting the manning of drones from that base. We were placed in a general pop cell with other prisoners. It was filthy and uncomfortable, but there were some pretty cool women to socialize with. Much of our time that first day was spent “in the circle,” an area in front of the officers’ desk with a television and a phone. Such luxury! One by one, we went off to see the nurse. One of the routine questions asked by the nurse was whether we would agree to a tine (TB) test. I told her there wasn’t much point in that, I would test positive, the same as I’d been doing for the past 40 years.

That was that. The nurse’s eyes filled with tears and I was escorted to a filthy cell with a one inch mattress and no sheet by a not nice man. I would be there until they could x-ray me. There were no other people within hearing distance. My pulse was racing. My body resisted. I asked for a magazine. Hah! I was gonna have to survive

being incommunicado all by myself. The toilet was in the front of the cell and across the cell block I could see a male trustee standing there staring at me. He was there all night. I later decided his job was to keep an eye on me. Although he probably couldn’t see me peeing, he could see me wiping myself (assuming he wanted to, of course).

My trustee’s voice was the only voice I would hear for the next 18 hours. He brought me my meals and always said a few words. The next day Bill Cutty from Jail Ministries came to see me. He knew I was incommunicado and scared. He asked if I wanted to be bailed out. I told him I would try it for another day, even though I was convinced that if I had a heart attack, I’d be a goner. What a gutsy girl I am! I thought often of Chelsea Manning and Jose Padilla and how they survived years of this.

All this happened on Wednesday/Thursday. I guess Wednesday was the night they chose to pick up young men on old bench warrants. One beautiful young man after another was brought into the holding area way across the cellblock from me. They were dressed in tank tops and shorts, not suitable for an overly air-conditioned jail cell. Some were as panicky as I was. I remember one grinding his feet into the cement outside the cell and begging three aggressive officers not to push him into the cage. They did. Then he screamed and screamed and pounded on the glass. Maybe these officers are so mean because they too are in jail. I don’t think anybody should be in a cage, not even Bush and Cheney.

P.S. This year when I was put in solitary, I was much better at it. Maybe I learned that they don’t forget about you.

Transform Now Plowshares Resentenced

Resentencing for the Transform Now Plowshares disarmament action group took place during a September 15 teleconference hearing with federal judge Amal Thapar presiding. After a federal appeals court threw out the sabotage convictions of Greg Boertje-Obed, Sr. Megan Rice and Michael Walli in May, the three were released from federal prison because they had already served more time than the maximum possible sentence on their remaining conviction. The parties all agreed to the telephone hearing.

Judge Thapar sentenced each to two years of probation with three conditions: they must not commit any local, state or federal crimes, they may not enter any U.S. nuclear facility and they must report any arrests for any

reason to their probation officer.

The judge also declined to reduce or drop the demand for \$52,000 in restitution from the trio, and ordered each to report to their local probation office by September 18.

In July, 2012, the three activists cut through fences to enter the Y-12 nuclear weapons complex in Tennessee, where they found the massive storage vault for weapons-grade uranium. There, in the three-decade tradition of Plowshares disarmament actions, they marked the building with blood, chipped away a bit of its foundation with a hammer, spray-painted messages of peace and hung banners before offering bread to their arresting officers.

For more information, visit transformnowplowshares.wordpress.com

VANUNU ARRESTED YET AGAIN

Early in September, the internally exiled Israeli nuclear whistleblower Mordechai Vanunu granted his first interview with the Hebrew-language Israeli press since his release from 18 years of imprisonment in April, 2004. Government censors approved the Channel 2 interview before it aired. Nevertheless, Vanunu was arrested on September 10 because the Shin Bet security service, responsible for monitoring Vanunu’s parole conditions, claimed that the interview violated the terms of his release from prison.

After several hours of interrogation by police, Vanunu was released to seven days of house arrest while the violation was investigated, and forbidden to use the internet or speak to the press at all for that time. He challenged that order even as he was taken from court, telling reporters on hand that the state prosecutor was abusing him.

A court also ordered Channel 2 to hand over all of their video of the interview, including unaired footage.

In 1986, Vanunu shared surreptitious photos he took inside the Dimona nuclear facility with the London Sunday Times, as proof to the world that Israel has a sizable nuclear arsenal. He was kidnapped from Rome by the Mossad, drugged and taken in chains to Israel, where he was found guilty of treason and espionage at a secret trial and sentenced to 18 years in prison. In spite of serving the full sentence at Ashkelon Prison (including 11 1/2 years in solitary confinement), the Israeli government handed down severe restrictions upon his release in April 2004, including not being allowed to speak to foreigners or leave Israel. The restrictions are renewed every year.

For more information, visit Mordechai Vanunu’s website at vanunu.com.

Jail Likely for Irish Airport Inspectors

Bench warrants for the arrest of Irish parliamentarians Clare Daly and Mick Wallace were issued on November 25, empowering local police to collect £2,000 in fines or bring them to jail for 30 days. Daly and Wallace refused to pay the fine following their conviction of illegal entry into a restricted area at Shannon Airport in July, 2014. The Dáil members object to the routine use of neutral Ireland’s Shannon Airport by the United States military, and on the occasion of their arrest, were trying to inspect a U.S. military cargo plane for contraband weapons. Irish police are not allowed to inspect the flights for contraband, so the lawmakers felt compelled to try.

Wallace told Independent.ie, “The decision of myself and Clare Daly to scale the fence at Shannon Airport was designed to help keep the peace, not break it. We do not

accept the judge’s decision to the contrary, and under no circumstances will we pay the fines. We realise this may mean serving time in prison. It’s not something we’d look forward to, but if it happens, so be it... The fact that Shannon continues to be used by the U.S. military should be a cause of concern for the Irish people, now more than ever. The Irish Government is complicit in the mindless destruction wreaked on the Middle East region and beyond by the U.S. military war machine, causing the deaths of hundreds and thousands of innocent civilians and the displacement of millions.”

The two could be arrested and jailed at any time. For more information, visit shannonwatch.org. News of their arrest (and jail addresses when available) will be posted at nukeresister.org.

Where We’re At

This issue, like the last one, reports on as many or more anti-nuclear and anti-war arrests overseas than in the United States. While we strive to be comprehensive, our international reporting has been subject to limits of language, contact with activists on the scene, and even sometimes available space in the newsletter. Email, the internet, social media and Google Translate have each made the international resistance news more accessible to your monolingual editors, even in the absence of a personal contact.

And on occasion, when we have news that someone overseas is reported to be in jail, despite many attempts, we’ve simply been unable to make personal contact with a supporter or attorney, let alone the prisoner. Such is the case now with Yasuo Yamamoto, the Japanese man who used a small drone to make an anti-nuclear protest. As far as we know, he is still in jail - but we haven’t been able to find out his jail address or learn much more about his case. Legal proceedings in other countries are not always a matter of public record to the degree they are in the United States.

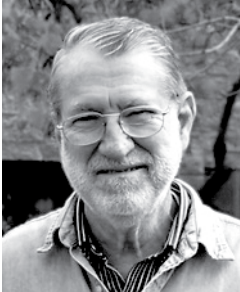
Each of the stories of conscience in action in these pages bring us glimmers of hope in difficult times. We’ve been blessed over these past 35 years of the Nuclear Resister to have met and connected with so many wonderful people throughout the world working for a peaceful, nuclear-free future. We have always felt that we are part of a far-flung community, connected by strands of commitment, hope and resistance.

We send you and your loved ones wishes for a Happy Solstice, Christmas, Hanukkah, and for joy, love and peace in the new year,
Felice & Jack

DAN DELANY, iPRESENTE!

December 12, 1934 -
October 21, 2015

**Catholic Worker,
nuclear and war resister,
storyteller, husband,
father, grandfather.**



Thanks

Thank you to everyone who made a donation to mark the Nuclear Resister’s 35th anniversary - it’s not too late if you haven’t already! And thanks to Allison, Catherine, Lois, Steve, Paige, Sam, John, Faith, Gretchen and Charlotte for helping to mail the last issue!

the Nuclear Resister

POB 43383, Tucson, AZ 85733

520-323-8697 nukeresister@igc.org ISSN #0883-9875

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!

SUBSCRIPTIONS and BULK ORDERS

One-year subscriptions are US\$25 in the United States, US\$30 to Canada, and US\$35 overseas. Payment can only be accepted in US currency or checks drawn on US institutions. All subscriptions are sent via First Class or Airmail.

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

THE NUCLEAR RESISTER ON MICROFILM

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

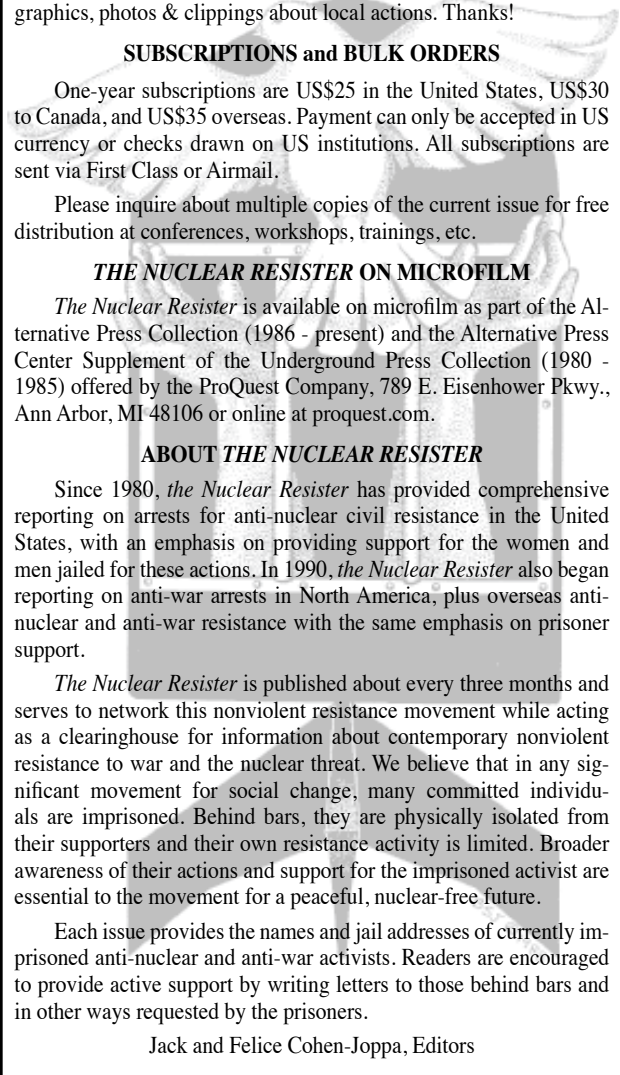
ABOUT THE NUCLEAR RESISTER

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

The Nuclear Resister is published about every 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



JUSTICE FOR OUR DESERT, CONT.

continued from page 1

following trials for the case to be dismissed, and by Wednesday afternoon, all remaining 13 defendants were free to go. Defendant Flora Rogers said afterwards, “I generally consider dismissal of these types of cases to be an invitation to continue the good work.”

That night, many returned to Creech for a moonlit demonstration. No one was there to greet them at the property line, so five people carrying a large STOP KILLER DRONES banner walked slowly down the entry road for 150 yards before surprised military police finally halted their walk. After some conversation, an airman assured the five that the letter of protest they brought with them would be delivered to the base commander. In return, the five agreed to back up slowly towards the line. The question of authority to order their arrest was now in doubt.

The group stopped just inside, facing the MPs and chanting all the while with their supporters, “When drones fly, children die, the government lies!” for another 20 minutes before declaring success and withdrawing back across the line.

For more information, visit shutdowncreech.blogspot.com.

BEALE A.F.B.

Federal court summons were delivered in September to 27 drone war protesters, ordering their appearance in federal court on October 13 for crossing the line at Beale Air Force Base over the last couple of years.

Despite that threat, nine people capped off this year’s week of Campaign Nonviolence events by crossing the line on September 29 with a message tying the growing migrant crisis to the United States’ global wars. Activists read aloud from recent migrant and refugee stories, detailing some of the thousands of lives lost while fleeing these wars. Arrested for trespass were Doug Bennett, Barry Binks, Toby Blome, Catherine Hourcade, Chris Nelson, Mauro Oliveira, Pamela Osgood, Shirley Osgood and Cathy Webster. They were cited and released.

Since 2009, Northern California activists have maintained monthly 2-day protests at the base north of Sacramento from where the Global Hawk surveillance drone fleet is directed. Calling themselves “Occupy Beale Air Force Base”, they seek to change U.S. policy that perpetuates endless global wars and targeted killing by drones. Activists have been arrested several times a year, and for the last couple of years those arrested have been cited and released, but not prosecuted.

And the threat of federal prosecution evaporated almost as soon it came up. Unconfirmed news came on the eve of the undeterred war resisters September 29 action that the U.S. attorney was dropping the charges.

Continuing the resistance (and opportunity for future

42 Days for War Tax Protest

A British anti-war activist was jailed for six weeks because he refused to commit an illegal act by paying his council tax. Chris Cloverdale argued that because the tax supports the government of the United Kingdom as it engages in terrorism, the crime would be to pay it.

On October 7, Cloverdale was sent to prison for 42 days because he has not paid over £1,800 in council tax to the Rother District Council. It was his 13th trip to court over the dispute, and with his appeals dismissed the judge said she found no other option “than to impose an immediate custodial sentence.”

Because the crime was a civil, not criminal, offense Cloverdale was not eligible for any good time credit. He was released from prison on November 18.

Cloverdale told the press he believed it would be a criminal offense under the Terrorism Act 2000 to pay taxes for the government to use in illegal foreign warfare.

“My case is that I refuse to break the law,” he said. “I have never refused to pay tax but I am refusing to commit an illegal act: to hand over money for the purpose of terrorist actions.”

In July, 2014, Cloverdale wrote this background to his case:

The legal action that forms the basis for this case commenced in 2013 when I moved to Rye in Sussex and informed Rother District Council [RDC] that I would withhold payments of council tax until the illegal wars had ended, HM Forces had returned to their bases in the UK and criminal proceedings had begun against UK citizens responsible for war crimes. RDC then commenced proceedings against me and in October 2013, Justices at Hastings

continued on page 4

federal prosecutions), five more people, including two veterans, were arrested at Beale on October 20. The demonstration theme was Remembering The Dead, listing those killed by U.S. military aggressions, including the first victims, indigenous people, in honor of Indigenous People’s Month. Barry Binks, Toby Blome, Catherine Hourcade, Michael Kerr and Shirley Osgood were cited for trespass and released.

For more information, including the monthly schedule of vigils and overnight camping near the gate, visit www.facebook.com/OccupyBealeAirForceBase

WHITE HOUSE

Just two hours before Pope Francis was due at the White House on September 22, fifteen activists were arrested outside the gate. The action by the National Campaign for Nonviolent Resistance (NCNR) began weeks earlier, when members of NCNR sent letters to Rep. Paul Ryan and President Obama. They asked for a meeting to urge that the political leaders heed the call of Pope Francis by promoting real change to end war, poverty, the climate crisis and systemic violence.

There was no response to either letter, so they decided

Remembering 9/11

The Cumberland County, Maine district attorney’s office said in November it would not pursue disorderly conduct and resisting arrest charges against James “Jamie” Roux, Jr. On September 11, 2001, when Jamie Roux was 15, his father James Sr., a Portland attorney and Vietnam veteran, boarded United Airlines Flight 175 and was killed when it crashed into the South Tower of the World Trade Center.

In a September 22 guest commentary for the *Portland Press Herald*, Jamie Roux wrote:

I was arrested for speaking up during a public 9/11 remembrance in Freeport. I was charged with disorderly conduct and resisting arrest and thrown in jail. I have since been painted in the news and on social media in a way that is not who I am.

I am a pacifist and a patriot. I most love about America the very things that the terrorists hate: our diversity; our freedoms of religion, speech and association; our protections and tolerance for ethnic and religious minorities and of different lifestyles. [...]

Using September 11 as a justification for an unnecessary war, torture, drone strikes and civilian casualties that followed compounds my grief and is wrong-minded and counterproductive.

to deliver their message directly. On the morning of the 22nd, twenty people went first to Rep. Ryan’s office. When they arrived, the door was locked and a sign upon it said “Entry restricted to those with an appointment.” Since a request for an appointment had been sent, the group knocked. A woman peeked out and told them they couldn’t enter as they did not have an appointment. After some discussion, the group departed for the White House, where they joined more than 100 others Campaign Nonviolence demonstrators in Lafayette Park.

During this rally, about two dozen activists went to the White House visitor’s entrance and asked the Secret Service to facilitate the meeting requested in the NCNR letter. They were told they needed an appointment there, too.

Many of them then sat down in solidarity with the world’s suffering. As they sat-in at the entrance, they spoke with members of a French climate delegation who had an appointment, and took copies of the NCNR letter in with them. Some of the activists again got in line, and again they were rebuffed. Eventually fifteen of them were arrested by the Secret Service.

Those taken into custody were: Joe Byrne, Don Cunning, Joy First, Carol Gay, Kathy Kelly, Malachy Kilbride, Art Laffin, Mary Ellen Marino, Joan Nicholson, Max Obuszewski, Phil Runkel, Manijeh Saba, Ellen Taylor, Brian Terrell and Eve Tetaz. They were charged with disorderly conduct and released by 9 p.m. Days before their October arraignment date they learned that no charges had been filed.

For more information, contact joyfirst5@gmail.com.

On September 11, 2015, I went to the Freeport fire station for the end of a 9/11 remembrance ceremony, which I had seen advertised on Facebook. I expected to see a “display of interesting Freeport Flag Ladies memorabilia and refreshments.” I saw instead a program of military force.

The guest speaker I saw, dressed in his military uniform, spoke about the policies of Ronald Reagan. I saw no representation of peaceful views. To me, the ceremony was a painful example of my father’s murder being exploited to advance partisan, political and disturbing policies.

I reacted to what I saw as the conduct of some to exploit 9/11 victims, promoting an aggressive foreign policy that is contrary to my most core values and that I believe can only lead to more murder and mayhem, as well as to a deeply troubling cultural ideology that celebrates and rewards such aggression...

I am disturbed, however, that this public event, on public property, with forced student attendance, presented only one side and promoted certain political views, rather than simply remembering the lives and mourning the loss of so many innocents.

Roux was released from jail later on the day of his arrest.

Inside & Out



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

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

NUCLEAR RESISTERS

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

Yasuo Yamamoto
Jail address not known - see update, page 4.
(On trial for forcible obstruction of business for landing a drone on Japanese Prime Minister’s roof in anti-nuclear power protest, 4/15)

ANTI-WAR RELATED ACTIONS

Norman Edgar Lowry Jr. KN 9758
SCI Dallas, 1000 Folliess 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 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 89289
1300 North Warehouse Road, Fort Leavenworth, KS 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. Must be addressed exactly as noted)

Jared Chase M44710
P.O. Box 99, Pontiac, IL 61764.
(8 years – out 5/6/16)
(NATO 3, convicted of possession of incendiary devices with intent to commit arson during protests at NATO summit in Chicago, May, 2012)

WRITINGS FROM JAIL

~ from SC1 Dallas

A PRAYER FOR TENDERNESS

by Norm Lowry
November 16, 2015

It is those who have never accepted life's realities who always think there is an escape. That's why, for example, many people believe in building bomb shelters. It does not occur to them that life might not be worth living if conditions for a life worthy of human beings no longer exist.
— Arno Gruen

Ours is a culture of purposeful violence; whose powerful demand compliance, which societally equates with responsibility. All who choose to be unsubmitive are deemed to be irresponsible and thus subject to sanction, ostracization, and imprisonment. The problem with this is that our culture of violence is based in lies. So to be in bed with the powerful in any way, shape, or form entails cosigning the lies, whether one is aware of them or not.

For those of us who choose prison over gross submission to the lies, living with death, which comes in many forms, is our daily lot. Two days ago, a close peer died from a severe cancer, exacerbated by poor health care and nutrition. A couple of days before this, a peer died of a heroin overdose, enigmatic due to the poor grade and dosage generally sold. A few days prior, a peer confessed to contemplating suicide rather than to face being stabbed by those extorting him, who had already raped him as a preemptive strike.

So along comes a letter from a friend who says, “I’m praying that you will maintain your tenderness...” You’ve got to love a perceptive friend like this! Here is one who gets it, who understands what it takes to make life work in our hardest moments. Tenderness; being kind and gentle, is the only solvent which can penetrate the admixture of the submissiveness to violence all around us, whether in your prison or mine.

In 1957, I saw Black people burned in fires and hung from lamp posts. While adults salivated, we children knew this was not supposed to be.

In 1960, after observing numerous atomic bomb tests, we would hunker beneath our school desks, to practice being “safe” from imminent nuclear attack. Again, while the adults salivated at the thoughts of besting some contrived enemy in a death match, we children nervously shook our heads at the utter absurdity of those whose place it was to teach us of dignity and integrity.

In 1965, my first friend died in Vietnam. Danny was 18. I was 12. The adults told us it was for the greater

THE INSIDE LINE



good. We children heard it as a question.

In 1971, I won my first lottery. The adults said I was one of them now and that going to war was an honor. With tears in his eyes, my dad laid his hand on my shoulder, looked me in the eyes, then went off to get drunk. I sat, confused. I couldn’t get drunk. I’d never had sex. But I could go to war. I gave up desiring to be the typical adult that day.

I did enter the military but I did not go to war. I resigned after being told we could rape Vietnamese women if we thought they were beautiful, as long as we killed them when we were through with them. My supposed superiors were baffled that I could not see the normalcy of such behavior. To them, since war was necessary, they had to offer young men something to make war worth their while – all the sex, drugs, alcohol, and murder their hearts so desired. The trouble was, I wanted none of those things, not even the sex if it was outside of loving, affirming relationship.

The whole scope of violence is predicated on one individual or group inflicting suffering on another or others, in hopes of avoiding suffering themselves. This is insanity, of course, yet we continue to make of it a sanity, or so we believe.

So here I am 45 years down the line, fast-forwarded from 18 to nearly 63. It’s actually been quite an adventure. While our culture has severely degraded, as far as its destructiveness and inhumanity is concerned, many of us have escaped by reassuming our birthright to actual, as opposed to blindly obedient, humanity. For this, some of us sit in prison and many in graveyards, both far better options than our old, chosen alternatives of merely going along.

Today, overwhelmingly due to the United States, we sit on the edge of a monstrous precipice. The U.S. Constitution still says that Blacks are only 60% human. The U.S. nuclear threat is greater than ever, as the U.S. arsenal contains more nukes than most, if not all, other nations combined. The U.S. war threat is the greatest

the Jeju Peace and Human Rights Center. In eight years of organized resistance, 700 people were arrested, 600 have been sentenced, and others still await trial. To date, more than 55 have been jailed, many in lieu of paying their part of over \$400,000 in total fines for villagers and activists. Alliances are being forged with other peace and anti-nuclear movements from Taiwan to Okinawa. Recent court actions include the acquittal of six people, including Mayor Cho Kyung-Chul, charged with special obstruction of justice in February, 2012. Police had acted without authority to block the port and prevent their kayaks from bringing food and supplies to activists occupying sacred Gureombi Rock before it was seized and dynamited for construction of the naval base...

JAPAN: Public information remains elusive about the ongoing trial of Yasuo Yamamoto, accused after turning himself in for an anti-nuclear drone protest last spring. Two more court sessions were reportedly held on October 28 and 30, but no information is available

War Tax Protest, cont.

continued from page 3

Magistrates Court granted a liability order ordering me to pay council tax.

I appealed the ruling on the grounds that it was illegal and that it breached my rights to a fair hearing under Article 6 of the Human Rights Act, and applied for the case to be stated for the opinion of the High Court so that the jurisdiction and meaning of the Terrorism Act 2000, the International Criminal Court Act 2001 and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court could be determined. Hastings Magistrates’ then refused to apply for the case to be stated for the opinion of the High Court on the grounds that the application was “frivolous.”

I applied for a judicial review of this decision and in March, Mr. Justice Foskett refused permission for a judicial review stating: “Whatever the rights and wrongs of the position the Claimant wishes to take about the actions of central government in relation to engagement in wars, it has nothing to do with the payment of council tax.”

(Adapted with thanks from the report by Peace News)

threat of war on earth, buoyed by the 100+ wars and interventions waged in my lifetime. Our fragile earth is telling us it cannot much longer sustain our abuses. The U.S. and its allies (partners in crime?) are publicly hinting at the need for a one world government. Even the Pope, on his recent visit, stated that we need one world, United Nations governance... eek!

So what of tenderness? The answer lies in the nature of tenderness itself. There can be no genuine or expansive tenderness in violence, for the violent seek to crush tenderness, seeing it to be a weakness. How else can the rich and powerful hold exclusive reign over “the initiation of wars, the destruction of livelihood, and the poisoning of nature and of other human beings”, while excluding themselves, largely, from imprisonment? “Official statistics on criminality include more poor people than rich because those statistics reflect the ideology of the rich and powerful and do not include all forms of destructiveness.” (Arno Gruen) Tenderness thrives in nonviolence. The more one commits to a life of nonviolence, the more tender one can become. True nonviolence must be embraced and espoused. It cannot be imitated for long. To me, nonviolence is the essence of our Creator, as it stems only from love. And from love flows tenderness, as gentleness and kindness.

Through the years, I’ve caught a lot of flak for believing our Creator to be absolutely nonviolent. Yet since the so-called “Ten Commandments” are said to be first a reflection of our Creator’s essence, each statement would necessarily read more like “I don’t murder so you don’t murder”. Thus, our Creator could not have been the God who told “the faithful” to murder those who did not believe as they. Sure, some God told the people this. In fact, the dominant empires of the day had 800-900+ violent Gods who would have perpetuated such a ruse.

Also through the years, I’ve caught no small amount of flak for my stances of opposition to the American traditions of colonialism, violence, racism, bigotry, poverty-production... injustice. That I absolutely hated these driving traditions enough to renounce my association with government-registered religion and my U.S. citizenship disturbs most people, who consider these moves to be un-American. If it is un-American to hate tyranny and love truth, then I’m un-American. But I ask you, “Is it un-American to love all people boundlessly and indiscriminately, enough so to be willing to model another way of running the world: absolute nonviolence, even if it cost my life and my all?”

So the most glaring and applicable question remains - Do conditions for a life worthy of human beings still exist in the cultures in which we live; for me, the United States of America?

What does tenderness say?

[Norm Lowry is serving a maximum seven year sentence in Pennsylvania for repeated criminal trespass at a military recruiting office.]

about the outcome or the present status of the defendant. The incident involved a drone carrying a small payload of radioactive soil reportedly from the contaminated area near Fukushima. It was not found until two weeks after it had landed on the roof of the Prime Minister’s official residence, embarrassing security forces and, some suggest, resulting in the lack of public information now...

Trial Re-set, Again

Trial for Jared Chase’s outstanding battery charge has been postponed once again, and is now set for December 7 in Cook County court, Chicago. Chase is serving an 8-year sentence for helping undercover cops with their own idea to make molotov cocktails that were never used to protest the 2012 NATO summit in Chicago. In September, Chase wrote to the Nuclear Resister, “Also let me apologize for rushing so much in my last letter [that] I didn’t get to explain the sudden change of names. After a lot of thinking I’ve decided even though I am Bi/TS/GQ, I don’t think I want to spend the rest of my life as a woman 24/7. So you can refer to me in mascul[ine] terms.”

While in prison, Chase has never received adequate medical care or nutrition for his Huntington’s disease, a condition that could contribute to erratic behavior.

For updates, visit the Free the NATO 3 page on Facebook.com.



Letters of support should be sent to Jared Chase M44710, P.O. Box 99, Pontiac, IL 61764.

ANNOUNCEMENT

...**The Illustrated Guide to Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War** by the New York City Anarchist Black Cross has just been updated for viewing and download at nycabc.wordpress.com/guide. The Guide includes a practical section on writing letters and staying safe while corresponding with prisoners, at nycabc.wordpress.com/write-a-letter.

Update Files, cont.

continued from page 8

the court about the illegality of the four nuclear missile-launching subs, and why it obliged them to act. But the court sidestepped that issue and absolved the two because the particular act of blocking a road as they had done, by locking down to a stopped car, cannot be considered “aggravated” under the law...

TURKEY: The first trial session for six university students charged over a 2014 Greenpeace-Turkey banner-drop at an Istanbul nuclear energy conference took place October 22. Each is charged with violating rules governing public demonstrations, and each pleaded not guilty. “I believe it is my right and my responsibility to attend such demonstrations, and I helped the opening of the banner... I did not resist the police,” testified one. Due to the absence of two defendants, both not citizens of Turkey, the trial has been adjourned until February...

TALISMAN-SABER WAR GAMES: Jim Dowling was convicted on November 25 of trespassing on Australian Commonwealth land in Queensland last winter, one of more than a dozen Peace Pilgrims who disrupted the U.S./Australian war games in July. “War making is the real crime here,” he said. “The horror of suicide bombing and terrorist shootings in the west would not be happening today if it were not for our own terrorist activities in waging war in Iraq and Afghanistan. We must face up to our own war crimes and cease fighting the terrorist wars of the U.S. Empire.” Dowling was fined AU\$500 plus AU\$1000 costs. He won’t be paying, “on principle”...

JEJU ISLAND: The first U.S. Navy destroyer sailed into the new naval base on Jeju Island, South Korea on September 16, and the base is expected to formally open in December. But for residents of the Peace Island and particularly those of frontline Gangjeong village, “The completion of the Jeju Naval Base doesn’t mean our struggle ends but rather it means the beginning of new conflict and opposition... The movement to oppose the naval base will evolve into a movement to close the base, and the resistance will continue,” wrote the chair of

Actions at Stewart Detention Center and Ft. Benning

Peace seekers in Georgia for the School of the Americas Watch (SOAW) 26th annual vigil outside the U.S. Army’s Fort Benning returned also this November to the nearby Stewart Detention Center, demonstrating their understanding that decades of militarized U.S. foreign policy has greatly contributed to the immigrant crisis, a crisis exemplified by the private prison housing up to 1,725 immigrant detainees.

On Saturday, November 21, more than 1,000 people rallied in Lumpkin, Georgia, then marched just under two miles to the prison outside of town.

While continuing to call for the closure of the now-renamed Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation at Fort Benning, SOAW founder Fr. Roy Bourgeois explained, “We have to address the root causes of migration, which to a major part lie in the deplorable economic and military policies which the United States has imposed on Latin America,” Bourgeois said.

Eleven people, ages 29–81 from across the United States, were arrested on misdemeanor charges of obstruction of justice after walking onto the detention center property in protest of the daily injustices that take place there.

After SOAW posted \$100 each for their release, all charges were dismissed within an hour of negotiations with the sheriff and magistrate judge.

The annual funeral procession to the gate of Fort Benning, remembering the victims of SOA graduates, took place on Sunday. There were no arrests. At the rally, SOAW field organizer Maria Luisa Rosal and Fr. Bourgeois made a major announcement.

For the past couple years, the SOA Watch movement has been engaging in an intentional consensus process that has included the voices of local groups, allies, staff, council, as well as our partners on the front lines of struggles in Latin America. Last week, we came to a crucial decision: next fall, we will move to the U.S. – Mexico border.

The School of the Americas Watch movement began as a response to what was happening in El Salvador

in the 1980’s...

Today it is not just military training, it is economic and foreign policy that shape the plight of refugees. Today, 1 in 15 military and police are trained at the SOA.

Ironically on the anniversary of the SOA murder of Archbishop Romero, March 24th, the official army website stated that the 1st U.S. Border Patrol agent had completed a six week Intelligence Analysis of Transnational Operations. The course includes counterinsurgency and intelligence preparation of the battlefield, promoting inter-agency development between the SOA and the Border Patrol. Proud of the success of the intelligence course, the U.S. army will continue to train border patrol agents.

As a movement, we must ask ourselves, what does it mean to stand in solidarity? How do we respond to this reality the same way that we responded to the violence in the 1980s? Many of us here came to this country as refugees or joined the Latin American solidarity movement during the dirty wars of the 1980s.

What does it mean to resist and call for the closure of the SOA in the face of current realities?

The militarization that exists at the U.S.–Mexico border is palpable...

The multiplicative effect of the SOA is what we see being played out throughout the Americas, and along our southern border. We cannot stress this enough – the U.S.–SOA militarization continues to force people out of their homes, out of their countries. We need to move to the border.

A video of the full statement can be viewed at soaw.org.

In January 2016, SOAW will make a formal, detailed announcement regarding the fall of 2016. El Paso, Texas, and Nogales, Arizona are under consideration as locations.

For more information, contact the School of the Americas Watch, 5525 Illinois Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20011, 202-234-3440, info@soaw.org, or visit soaw.org.

Dr. Flowers Arrested in Senate

Maryland peace activist, U.S. Senate candidate and pediatrician Dr. Margaret Flowers was arrested just before the October 6 Senate hearing on the U.S. bombing of a Doctors Without Borders hospital in Kunduz, Afghanistan. Flowers sat with several CodePink activists in “bloodied” medical scrubs, holding signs calling the bombing a war crime. She stood and began speaking out for an independent investigation, only to be taken away by Capitol police.

“There needs to be an independent investigation into the hospital bombing in Kunduz because targeting hospitals is against international law. I am appalled first that the U.S. did this and second that instead of taking responsibility, the military is trying to avoid it,” Dr. Flowers said from the Capitol Hill jail. “People should be held accountable for violating the law.”

Flowers was given an October 28 court date, but was later informed that no charges were filed.

Manning Update

U.S. Army whistleblower Chelsea Manning began a disciplinary 21-day restriction of privileges on September 17, and the next day was informed that the military would deny her right to follow female grooming standards and grow her hair longer.

Manning did not take the news well, and wrote candidly about it in “My first post about what it’s like to live, and grow as a human being: transitioning in a military prison” – as her debut entry on the writers website medium.com.

The government has also moved to dismiss her lawsuit seeking health care for gender dysphoria, prompting Manning to write:

I believe that defining ourselves in our own terms and in our own languages is one of the most powerful and important rights that we have as human beings. Presenting myself in the gender that I am is about my right to exist. What the government is basically telling me is “you cannot exist,” that “you are wrong,” and that “you do not exist.” What they are doing is taking away our right to exist. I think this is the kind of situation that justifies all kinds of terrible things like ignorance, maltreatment, torture, murder, and genocide.

Nobody knows your gender more than you do. No—one. You do not know my gender better than I do. A doctor doesn’t know it better than me. My parents don’t know it better than me. No one experiences my gender in the way that I experience it. Gender presentation should reflect the person that you are. When you lose control of your gender presentation you lose an important aspect of your identity and existence.

For more information visit chelseamanning.org.



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

INTERNATIONAL ARMS TRADE RESISTANCE

Around the globe this fall, the international arms trade was the focus of nonviolent direct actions at industry gatherings, some resulting in arrests.

LONDON

In September, the Campaign Against the Arms Trade (CAAT) and their allies took action daily in the week leading up to the world’s largest event, the bi-annual DSEI (Defence and Security Equipment International) arms showcase at London’s ExCeL center.

CAAT aimed “to make it as difficult as possible for it to go ahead.” Occupy activists established a tent camp for the week, across from the center, as the activity hub. Each day community and advocacy groups organized themed actions highlighting the different impacts of the arms trade and repression.

On Monday, September 7, “Stop Arming Israel” protesters called for a two way arms embargo between the United Kingdom and Israel. They set up a mock “Israeli Pavilion of Shame”, to counter an Israeli pavilion at the arms fair which showcased weapons “battle tested” on Palestinians in Gaza.

During the demonstration, a large number of people took over the road leading to the ExCeL center and prevented an armored vehicle from entering there for over two hours. Other vehicles destined for the arms fair were delayed or redirected, and one woman was arrested for criminal damage.

Tuesday’s theme, No Faith in War, brought together religious activists for services that blocked both entrances for hours. A Quaker meeting for worship and a mock funeral for victims of the arms trade both disrupted delivery of large armaments to the exhibition hall during an hour-long memorial. Police let them stay, and made no arrests. One large rig delivering an assault vehicle was forced to back up for several hundred yards to a roundabout as banner-wielding Christians advanced in song.

That afternoon, demonstrators converged on the unmarked Regent Street offices of the U.K. headquarters of Lockheed Martin. A banner was hung – “Lockheed



photo by stopthearmsfair.org.uk

No Faith in War’s mock funeral action blocks the road into the international arms exhibition in London. Their banner reads, “This is a dead end – Turn around and go the way of peace”.

Martin, Merchants of Mega Death” – and the pavement was decorated with outlines of bodies and graffiti. While others leafletted and spoke to many interested passers-by, Zelda Jeffers stood squirting blood-colored dye from her large water pistol onto the building until the police took her away. She was charged with criminal damage and bailed from Charring Cross police station at about 10 p.m. The rest of the protesters were able to continue. Jeffers is now set for trial on March 16 in Hammersmith Magistrates Court.

Wednesday was for Wind not Weapons, an environmental day of actions highlighting the link between military spending and climate change. Deliveries were stopped in the road by a line of makeshift wind turbines, and a group of activists got inside the exhibition hall for some “Stop the Arms Fair” banner waving and photo ops with the big guns. Two people were arrested for willful obstruction of the highway.

Thursday’s themes of Welfare Not Warfare and Study War No More featured a “conference at the gates”, bringing together a range of academics, students and activists to present their research in the shadow of the

INTERNATIONAL NOTES

Spain

Pacifists from the Spanish Antimilitaristes-moc network took on NATO’s largest war games in 25 years in October. They also put out the call to the informal European Antimilitarist Network for allies to join them, and six Trident Ploughshares activists from the United Kingdom joined other activists from Sweden and Portugal in demonstrations against the Trident Juncture 2015 exercise, which they explained “supposes the take over and use of ports, airports, rail lines, and natural areas in Sagunto, Valencia, Zaragoza, Albacete and various areas in Andalucía in order to perform war training...”

On October 16, a group of Spanish activists impeded and disrupted the departure of a German military convoy from the port of Sagunto, near Valencia. Dressed in white overalls and pink reflective vests, the activists assembled at the dockside, where a cargo vessel with vehicles and arms was being unloaded in preparation for the live fire stage of the NATO maneuvers in San Gregorio (Zaragoza). While two activists stood in front of two tanks, two others rapidly chained themselves with lock-on tubes to the vehicles and cut off the road leading from the port area. Another two activists unveiled banners that read “War Stops Here” and “Sorry for the Inconvenience: Obstructing War Preparations”.

The group was arrested and later released with charges.

In a statement, the group also denounced Spanish spending on war, and Spain’s rank as number seven among global arms exporters, just behind the permanent members of the U.N. Security Council plus Germany.

The consequences of these military policies of NATO, of Russia and its allies, are much more visible to public opinion: The systematic violation of human rights, the destruction and persecution of the civil population, extreme violence against women, the exploitation of resources, and the mass exodus of millions of people from countries such as Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya, Syria, Ukraine, etc.



photo by Antimilitaristes-moc

Spanish pacifists block tanks destined for NATO war games, Segunto, Spain.

We wanted to stop the flow of material and personnel to these war games and at the same time make visible the contrast between the terrible situation of war refugees who seek protection and meet walls, razor wired fences and death, and the absolute freedom of movement for those who execute wars and their arms, especially during these military exercises.

Antimilitaristes-moc was also acting in defiance of anti-liberty laws recently enacted in Spain which criminalize social protest, declaring that they will carry on using civil disobedience tactics, “because we consider them a legitimate and radically democratic tool for political participation and social change.”

The Trident Ploughshares delegation arrived at the end of the month, and they and others were asked to join the local protests in Barbate, on the Atlantic coast. Over the following two days the group

decided to stage a symbolic incursion into the military area in the nearby Sierra del Retin, a new tactic that could lead to prosecution by military tribunal. Over the following two days the group decided to stage a symbolic incursion into the military area, a new tactic in Barbate that could lead to prosecution by military tribunal.

They drove to an unguarded gate fifteen minutes away from the police and military presence at the main entrance, and were able to roll on through. They reclaimed a nearby hilltop with anti-war banners and carried out a thorough redecoration of the gate area, and also blocked and painted a military vehicle full of surprised Spanish marines. Unimpeded for an hour, a brutal rainstorm finally drove them back to their cars. On reaching the main entrance, they found the gates open and the nearest military presence hundreds of yards away. Seizing the opportunity, they occupied the road, blocking several vehicles to the frustration of the commanding officer on-site.

National police were summoned to clear the road. On their arrival, some of the group doused themselves in red paint to confound their removal. Police threatened force

in return for non-compliance, using pepper-spray on those who did not walk away before dragging them bodily out of the road. Cameras and telephones were confiscated and had to be retrieved hours later, but no fines were levied nor charges filed.

For more information, visit mocvalencia.org/es and tridentploughshares.org.

Finland

Police in Finland began their final push to clear the anti-nuclear camp on the Hanhikivi cape on September 15. For weeks, the roads out to this northern Gulf of Bothnia coastal retreat had been closed to all but construction vehicles. Activists and their supplies arrived only by boat. Owners of the nuclear power project, Fennovoima, claimed the nonviolent activists endangered themselves and workers by their presence amidst the massive land clearing and earth moving now underway, and called police in for the eviction. Five people were arrested as police brought them down from two tripods and a treehouse. The vacation cottages they were using were bulldozed. One activist remained out of reach in a treehouse 40’ up.

For a couple of days, supporters ran supplies up to the activist by rope, until a private security post was established to seal the immediate area. By September 19, the tree-sitter had run out of food and could no longer communicate directly with supporters. Three of them began a solidarity hunger strike at the Fennovoima project office in the nearby town of Pyhäjoki and another in Helsinki. News came from Warsaw, Poland that two climbers were occupying trees in front of Finland’s embassy, supporting the anti-nuclear action.

The next evening, Fennovoima sent paramedics to check on the tree-sitter but offered no more aid than an unneeded ride to the hospital.

By September 23, adjacent trees had been felled and a new road graded so that heavy equipment could get near the treehouse. The activist was surrounded, plucked from the tree and taken to the hospital for evaluation. He was released that same evening in good health, and the support fasts were ended.

A new base camp for actions against the nuclear power plant construction was established on private land nearby, and direct actions continue to delay site preparation. Protesters decry a pointless devastation of nature and expenditure of money because the project still does not have all the required permits, and Finland’s other nuclear power construction project, the Olkiluoto 3 reactor, is deeply troubled: a decade behind schedule and already several billion dollars over budget.

Among actions resulting in arrest since the new camp was established, three people were taken into custody on October 23 after they stopped three earth-hauling trucks for 90 minutes. Two people had climbed aboard trucks, compelling the drivers to stop, while the third person chained himself to the vehicle. Up to 100 trucks per hour are bringing in enough earth to elevate the entire site by 4 meters above the flat landscape.

On November 5, several activists succeeded in blocking three trucks at the intersection of the new road to the construction site, stopping all traffic for a few hours before their arrest.

Climbers brought their dramatic protests from the remote Hanhikivi cape into Helsinki and the financial pockets of the project on November 13. Some scaled two giant construction cranes owned by SRV, a major contractor and last-minute bail-out investor in the reactor project. They hung protest banners and stopped work at the site for the morning, until they agreed to come down and were arrested.

Back on the Hanhiviki cape, eight activists entered the fenced construction site in the still-dark start of the work day on November 17 and climbed up on two excavators. One operator continued his work, even as the activist climbed out on the large moving arm of the machine. After about 40 minutes, supporters on the ground persuaded the operator to stop endangering the activist. Police eventually arrived on the scene, and recruited another crane to help remove the activists. Two were arrested.

For more information, see Future Actions, page 7.

Belgium

“Belgians Do Not Want New Fighters,” read the banner that Belgian peace activists unfurled from a balcony in the nation’s Parliament on October 14. A plenary session was underway to discuss defense policy. The inscribed message communicated the surveyed opinion of three out of every four Belgians. Nevertheless, the government claims that for Belgium to remain a “credible NATO partner” it must replace the U.S.-made F-16 nuclear-capable fighter jets with a €6 billion contract for some of the troubled and expensive F-35s.

continued next column, on page 7

ARMS TRADE, cont.

continued from page 5

their initial court appearances in October. Four entered guilty pleas while nine have pleaded not guilty and are set for trial next April.

For more information, visit stopthearmsfair.org.uk.

BELGIUM

On Monday afternoon, November 16, European policymakers and arms merchants were meeting in private at the annual conference of the European Defence Agency (EDA) in Brussels. Emboldened by a post-Paris attacks zeal, the war suppliers were primed to profit from the Agency’s mission that includes strengthening the European defense industry.

On the sidewalk just outside the barricaded, red carpet entrance to the meeting venue, about three dozen peace activists rolled out a red puddle of paint, disrupting the scene as they staged a “bloody” sit-in. Each of the campaigners held a small placard with a simple statement in Dutch or English, such as: “Arms lobby dictates EU policy”, “Arms lobby kills” and “EU exports insecurity”.

“Strengthening of the arms industry does not lead to a secure Europe in a safer world. On the contrary. European weapons show up in conflicts worldwide and are just a catalyst for violence and conflict,” said Bram Vranken, spokesman for Vredesactie (Peace Action).

Police quickly moved in and arrested 27 people, who were all released later that day.

NEW ZEALAND

According to experts, the annual conference of the New Zealand Defence Industry Association, sponsored by Lockheed Martin, was nothing about war or weapons.

“They supply everything from paper cups to socks,” exclaimed Defence Minister Gerry Brownlee, pooh-

poohing the 150 people who protested outside the event on Tuesday morning, November 17.

Wellington anti-war activists say that their blockade of the conference was more than justified in light of the 3.5% rise of Lockheed Martin’s share price the day before.

“The fact that the shares of major weapons manufacturers soared following the deadly attacks in Paris shows how much these companies profit from death and destruction. This is why a hundred and fifty people disrupted the weapons conference in Wellington,” said Peace Action Wellington member Valerie Morse.

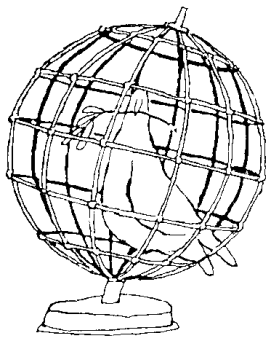
About 30 people linked arms directly in front of the two entrances, some locking onto the doors as they faced rows of police. Demonstrators offered information about the arms trade to conferees who loitered about because they could not get in. Police tried with limited success to shepherd small groups through the blockade, but by 11 a.m., as the conference began, they started arresting the blockaders, one by one, 27 in all.

Demonstrators then moved to the side of the building, beating on the walls, singing, chanting and whooping it up in a noisy demonstration that reportedly disturbed the opening speeches inside.

Those arrested were held for several hours at a nearby police station. Supporters marched there from the conference and rallied outside until their release. They face various charges of disorderly conduct, obstruction and resisting arrest. In court November 23, all entered pleas of not guilty. Their next court date is February 18.

The following evening, demonstrators held a Block Party to Block the Party, countering the annual awards banquet of the military industrialists. Two people were arrested for violating the terms of release after the previous day’s protest.

For more information, visit peacewellington.org or Peace Action Wellington on Facebook.com.



continued from page 6

Seven people affiliated with Vredesactie (Peace Action) were arrested and held at the building by police for four hours before being released. So far, no charges have been filed.

Also in Belgium, a three-year-old case against seven activists arrested at SHAPE (Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe – the NATO military headquarters) was heard in criminal court this fall. In February, 2012 they wandered around inside, undetected for hours, posting photos and videos of the base online as part of Peace Action’s NATO Game Over campaign. It’s the first time a Belgian criminal court has heard the case against peace occupiers, among hundreds of similar mass arrests over many years at nuclear bomber base Kleine Brogel and NATO sites. They were found guilty on November 23 but received no punishment, just a suspended sentence. They might appeal, asserting their trespass is a political offense, not a criminal matter, and besides, NATO’s nuclear war plans are the greater crime they tried to stop.

For more information, visit www.vredesactie.be.

Okinawa

A 17-year effort to relocate the U.S. Marine air base in Okinawa to a new spot on the strategic Japanese province has been a focus for mass nonviolent protest to each successive proposal. It’s reaching a crescendo now, evident in a major legal battle between Tokyo and the anti-base Okinawa governor over construction now underway, and the fact of several arrests this year during protests in a dynamic context where both sides try to avoid them.

Since July, 2014, a protest tent pitched outside the gate of Camp Schwab in Henoko has been the focus for daily demonstrations, often by hundreds of people. Their intention is to block all traffic related to massive landfill for new offshore runway construction, but not interfere with existing base operations. The construction is an on-again, off-again effort as legal wrangling has intensified with the election sweep by anti-base candidates last year, including the new Governor.

Police rarely make arrests even when large numbers block the gate, often at night. The government brings the equipment in then to minimize protest exposure and traffic tie-ups. The police tactic is to rely on massive numbers to physically isolate, surround and sweep away protesters engaged in the nonviolent blockades, and sometimes people are seriously injured in the struggle.

The first arrest occurred in January, when a man was accused of hitting a policeman with his plastic water bottle. The accused told one newspaper, “I believe that I did not hit the face of the security guard, but if he was hit, I would like to apologize to him.”

At sea, boring surveys and other early work have been consistently confronted by dozens of protesters in kayaks, who are turned back by as many Coast Guard ships and speedboats. Kayakers have had their boats capsized and been thrown overboard as they are apprehended and detained on Coast Guard boats until the day’s work is done. Others are chased farther out to sea, then left to return to shore on their own.

On the morning of February 22, private Japanese security guards were dispatched to the gate for the first time. Hiroji Yamashiro, chairman of the Okinawa Peace Movement Center and stalwart of the Camp Schwab sit-in, was arrested as he tried to keep other protesters from crossing the boundary line at the gate. When he allegedly stepped over the line himself, he was grabbed by the legs and dragged away by the hired guards, and along with another arrested man, Daigaku Tanimoto, was held in custody until the next evening.

Upon his release, Yamashiro said, “We need to take more care in the movement not to give them any opportunity to make such arrests. We would like to act legitimately and raise strong voices against the new U.S. base construction.”

In March, the Governor ordered the Japanese government to stop the work at sea by March 30 but it continued nevertheless. Another arrest was made at the Camp Schwab gate on March 31.

After a further halt and more legal moves, construction resumed again on short notice this fall. Three hundred people, including community elders and members of the

FUTURE ACTIONS

More future actions and event details can be found at nukeresister.org/future-actions

holy innocents pentagon

Join members of the Dorothy Day Catholic Worker and other peacemaking friends in a nonviolent witness at the Pentagon to commemorate the Massacre of the Holy Innocents – past and present – on December 28. Meet on corner of Army-Navy Drive and S. Eads St. @11:30 a.m. Witness at Noon. They will also proclaim, in the form of New Year’s Resolutions, their hope for a world of nonviolence, peace and justice. Please bring a resolution to offer during this witness. RSVP to Dorothy Day Catholic Worker, 202-882-9649 (ask for Kathy Boylan regarding hospitality) or email artlaffin@hotmail.com.

offutt afb

In the midwest, the 36th Annual Feast of the Holy Innocents’ Retreat and Witness at STRATCOM Headquarters and the U.S. Military Space Command begins 6 p.m. Sunday, December 27 in the basement of St. John’s Church on the Creighton University campus, Omaha, NE. The retreat will conclude at the main gate of Offut Air Force Base at noon on Monday, December 28 with a reading of Matthew’s Christmas story, prayer circle and line crossing if anyone feels called to do so. For more information, contact Frank Cordaro (frank.cordaro@gmail.com / 515 292-4781) or Jerry Ebner (jerryebner07@gmail.com / 402 670-3745).

witness against torture

Join Witness Against Torture in Washington, D.C., January 3–13, 2016, for the annual gathering to fast, reflect and lift the voices of the men unjustly detained at Guantanamo Bay Prison in the streets of Washington, D.C. If you only come for one day, join the rally on January 11, 2016. That day marks 14 years of torture and indefinite detention at the prison, as well as President Obama’s 8th year of broken promises. This is a final chance to hold his administration accountable to their promise to release those unjustly detained and close the prison. Right now, 114 men remain detained, 52 of whom have been cleared for release and are held without charge or trial. Come together to use creative energy and direct action to encourage the people and government officials to see the humanity of the men and call for the closure of the prison. Join the event from afar by fasting and/or organizing actions in your community. For more information, visit witnessstorture.org or email info@witnessstorture.org.

prefectural assembly, linked arms and lay down in the road on the night of October 28 to block a construction convoy. One man was charged with property damage, and riot police were accused of abusing many as they carried them away.

A few days later, Tokyo riot police were flown in to join security forces as the protests intensified. On November 4, a man was arrested for kicking a police officer in the chaotic clash, and another for interfering with police as he was using a loudspeaker to implore both police and protesters to calm down.

On November 17, the Lands ministry in Tokyo sued the Governor, and the next day, more than 1,000 people turned out to celebrate the 500th day of the Camp Schwab sit-in. The struggle continues.

Germany

German anti-nuclear activists returned to blockade the Advanced Nuclear Fuels factory in Lingen on September 28 and 29, part of a Europe-wide campaign against uranium transport and processing. Police were waiting on the first day, as activists had set up camp in a nearby meadow to prepare. Both groups, about 20 each, were on the scene before dawn, and arriving workers asked whether it was the police or the protesters were blocking the road. Protesters held the blockade for six hours, with police carrying a few away from the gate, but not into custody.

The next morning, five activists returned at the same early hour and quickly set up a tripod in the road. One person perched at the apex, a dozen feet above the ground. The others surrounded the tripod, and by the time police arrived at the scene, workers were already backed up behind the blockade.

Police carried the four activists to the side of the road. One was taken into custody after sneaking back through their lines to protect the tripod-sitter, who police threatened to topple. Half an hour later, a fire crew arrived with a ladder to pluck the sitter from the tripod and he was arrested, as were two of the three remaining supporters when they refused to leave the scene. All four were later released and await charges.

For more information, visit junepa.blogspot.eu.

washington, d.c.

The National Campaign for Nonviolent Resistance is calling for a civil resistance action at the time of Obama’s State of the Union speech in Washington, D.C., to protest the continuing illegal and immoral armed drone campaign, militarism, and the continuing imperialist wars. The date will be set after the White House sets a date for the speech. For more information, contact joyfirst5@gmail.com.

nevada

The Nevada Desert Experience (NDE) will host the 2016 Sacred Peace Walk from Saturday through Friday, March 19–25. Walk in the footsteps of a long legacy of peace walkers and spiritual leaders to draw attention to the nuclear dangers that continue to threaten our planet, and the violent robots (RPAs or drones) continuing to kill people. The Walk will also focus on the threats of nuclear waste to the sacred Yucca Mountain. For more information and registration materials, visit nevadadesertexperience.org or call 702-646-4814.

Following the walk, NDE will join CodePink, Veterans for Peace, the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, Voices for Creative Nonviolence and others for the Spring 2016 Mass Mobilization to Stop Drone Wars and Shut Down Creech Air Force Base, March 27–April 2, 2015, with a major nonviolent civil resistance action on April 1. For more information, visit shutdown-creech.blogspot.com or call Toby at 510-215-5974.

finland

Reclaim the Cape and celebrate the first anniversary of the encampment opposing the nuclear power plant planned for Finland’s Hanhikivi Cape. Join campers for nine days of action, April 22 – May 1. Major actions on April 26, the 30th anniversary of the Chernobyl catastrophe, and May Day. The aim is to paralyze the whole construction site, for a long time. With a big enough group, resisters can reoccupy the area and stay there. Actions will also be taken in the surrounding areas against primary owner Fennovoima, nuclear power, the destruction of nature and capitalism. For more information, visit fennovoima.no.com; or RSVP to hanhikivi@tutanota.com.

catholic worker gathering

The 2016 National Catholic Worker Gathering will be hosted in Las Vegas, Nevada, October 7-9, 2016, by the Las Vegas Catholic Worker community at Christ the King Catholic Community church. Sunday liturgy at the National Nuclear Security Site (aka Nevada Nuclear Test Site) and nonviolent action at Creech Air Force Base. For more information, please contact the Las Vegas Catholic Worker, 500 W. Van Buren Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89106, 702-647-0728, mail@lvcw.org, www.lvcw.org.

SUBSCRIBE!

____ Please enter/renew (circle one)
my subscription for one year.

____ \$25 Regular ____ \$15 Low Income
____ \$50 Contributing ____ US\$30 Canada
____ \$100 Sustaining ____ US\$35 Foreign

____ I can keep *the Nuclear Resister* informed of local actions.

\$_____ **DONATION ENCLOSED**

Make checks payable to: **the Nuclear Resister** and send to P.O. Box 43383, Tucson, AZ 85733

We are unable to accept checks drawn on Canadian or other foreign banks. Payment must be made in US\$ by cash, money order, or check drawn on a U.S. bank, OR secure online payment via Paypal at www.nukeresister.org. Contributions of \$50 or more are always welcome and may be tax-deductible by check or money order made payable to: The Progressive Foundation.

**ALL SUBSCRIPTIONS MAILED FIRST CLASS.
FREE TO PRISONERS, OF COURSE!**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP/POSTAL CODE _____

PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

Your information will not be shared.

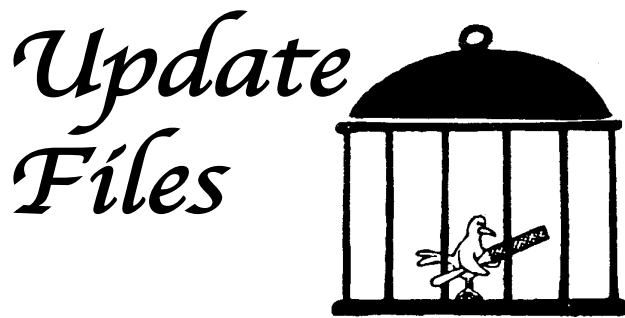
#179

VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE: Five people appeared in federal court in Santa Barbara, California on November 19 to answer charges of trespass at the nuclear missile test site last August. Erica Brock and Chris Knudson pleaded guilty and were fined \$100 plus \$35 court costs. Jeff Dietrich, David Omondi and Mike Wisniewski pleaded no contest. Sentencing for Dietrich and Wisniewski will be February 18, and for Omondi on April 29. All three Catholic Workers face jail time “because of our refusal to cooperate with this filthy rotten system and pay fines from previous actions.” Defendant Dennis Apel will be arraigned in December and expects to face jail time for the same reason...

PENTAGON: On October 1, Steve Baggerly, Kathy Boylan, Andrea Eiland, Bill Frankel-Streit and Nancy Gowen appeared in U.S. District Court in Alexandria, Virginia for their August 6 peace witness. All pled guilty to disobeying a lawful order. The extra soliciting charge given to Baggarly for leafleting was dropped by the prosecutor. Magistrate Davis fined each \$200...

NAVAL BASE KITSAP/BANGOR: People arrested last August at the nuclear submarine base in Washington were in court recently. Those arrested blocking the entry road outside the base boundary had been fined \$68, and appeared in Kitsap County court on October 27 for a mitigation hearing. Mack Johnson, Brenda McMillan, Doug Milholland and Michael Siptroth each presented evidence about nuclear weapons, and gave statements to Judge Steven Olsen regarding their actions at the base. McMillan, 81, can’t recall how many times she’s been arrested at Bangor, but she told the court, “I can’t remain silent. Protest is my only recourse. Bangor Submarine Base is an accident waiting to happen. Hopefully, there will come a day when we protesters will not be punished, but thanked.” Without comment, Olsen reduced the fines for all four resisters to the minimum amount possible, \$25. Eight more resisters who crossed over a line into the base were arraigned on federal trespass charges on November 4. Mary Gleysteen, Anne Hall, Ann Kittredge, Betsy Lamb, Peggy Love, Emilie Marlinghaus, Elizabeth Murray and Michael Siptroth all pleaded not guilty, and are scheduled for trial beginning April 1, 2016...

WASHINGTON, D.C.: In October, a jury hearing the case of CodePink national coordinator Alli McCracken,



charged with disrupting the congressional testimony of War Secretary Ashton Carter last June, told the judge they were hung. Sent back to deliberate further, they returned to declare her not guilty...

PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER PLANT: At the October 14 arraignment for his third protest arrest at the old Massachusetts reactor on Mother’s Day, Paul Rifkin pleaded not guilty. “You know, Mr. Rifkin, you can commit civil disobedience without breaking the law,” the judge knowingly intoned. Nevertheless, Rifkin will represent himself at trial on February 1 at the Plymouth District Courthouse, punctuating the local demand that the costly dinosaur be retired immediately. The day before Rifkin’s arraignment, plant owner Entergy announced it would close the increasingly costly-to-run reactor by June, 2019 at the latest...

OSKARSHAMN, SWEDEN: Nineteen Greenpeace activists who hung a giant retirement notice banner on two aging nuclear reactors in March, 2014 went to trial in early October. The prosecutor argued for convictions of aggravated trespass due to the planning involved in the action and the great cost incurred by plant owner OKG, allegedly more than €2 million. But because the activists were engaged in advocacy, and did not try to enter the reactor building, the court convicted them of misdemeanor trespass in early November. Fines were imposed ranging from €500 – €2500, depending on the defendant’s income and record, plus €45,000 total for public defenders the activists did not need or want, a payment which is being appealed. The Europe-wide Greenpeace campaign to close aging reactors was nevertheless vindicated between the trial and verdict. At its general meeting October 14-

15, OKG voted not to restart the Oskarshamn-2 reactor, shut down since 2013, and to retire Oskarshamn-1 and Ringhals reactors 1 and 2 by 2020...

SWITZERLAND: Sixty-six Greenpeace activists have been fined up to €1,000 for trespass and property damage when they occupied the Beznau reactor, the world’s oldest commercial nuclear power plant, during Europe-wide actions to shut down old reactors on March 5, 2014. Two other activists charged with property damage and violating the nuclear laws by climbing on top of the containment dome await trial...

R.A.F. WADDINGTON: Four people were convicted of criminal damage on October 20 for cutting through the perimeter fence last January. Chris Cole, Gary Eagling, Katharina Karcher and Penny Walker were already on the runway, holding banners and headed towards the Reaper Ground Control Station, when security forces discovered their protest against Britain’s armed Reaper drones. BBC reported that Walker testified that her plan was not to cause damage, but to close down the base and protect innocents on the ground by preventing future drone attacks. Karcher agreed, and told the court that “morals and ethics” played into her “unconventional form of protest.” The judge acknowledged the sincerity of their actions, then ordered conditional discharge for two years, with £337 fines and court fees due only if further offense is committed during that time...

WALES: Four women have been given six months conditional discharge of a £500 fine for the criminal damage of painting “No Death Drones” in English and Welsh on a civilian airstrip contracted to test military reconnaissance drones. Defendant Angharad Tomos told a reporter after the trial that, “With refugees in the news, everyone knows the terrible cost of war. All that drone killing will achieve is making the world a more uncertain place, resulting in further retaliation and, in the end, it is refugees who pay the price”...

DEVONPORT: In September, two Trident Plowshares blockaders were acquitted of aggravated trespass for their July, 2014 protest against the refitting of Britain’s Trident submarine fleet at the Devonport Dockyard. Nikki Clarke and Theo Simon presented a detailed argument to

continued on page 4

the Nuclear Resister

“A Chronicle of Hope”

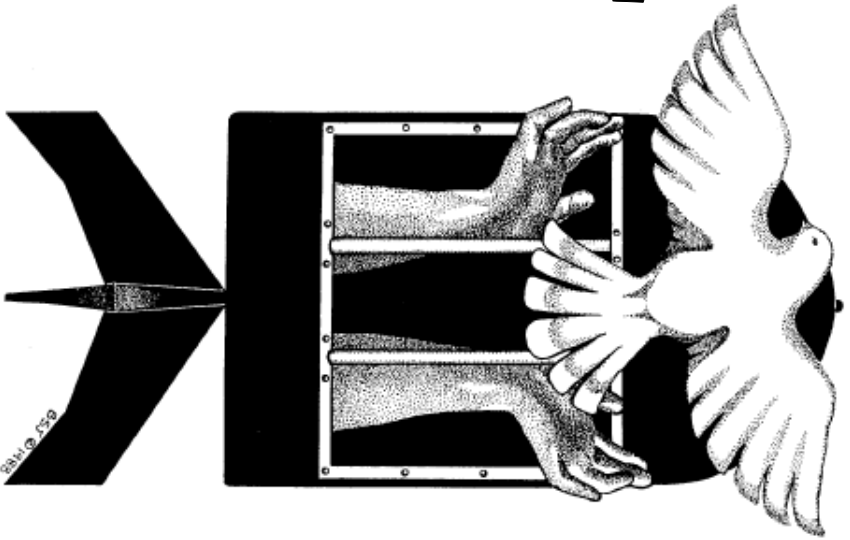
MUOS Plowshares

Undeterred, Drone Resisters Return

Jail Likely for Irish Airport Inspectors

Campaign Nonviolence

42 Days for War Tax Protest



#179 December 3, 2015

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

inside this issue...

Prisoner Addresses, p.3
Writings from Jail,
Future Actions
...and more

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

the Nuclear Resister
P.O. Box 43383
Tucson, AZ 85733
520-323-8697
nukeresister@igc.org