

# the Nuclear Resister

“A Chronicle of Hope”

No. 180

March 1, 2016

## HAMMER OF JUSTICE STRIKES NORTHROP GRUMMAN

A peace activist awaits trial in the Sarpy County Jail in Nebraska, charged with two felonies for a deliberate act of property destruction for disarmament. Jessica Reznicek brought a sledge hammer and baseball bat with her to the Bellevue office of Northrop Grumman corporation on December 27, the eve of the Christian Feast of the Holy Innocents. The major war contractor has provided support to the Strategic Air Command and its successor, the U.S. Strategic Command, at nearby Offutt Air Force Base for over 30 years. For nearly 40 years, there has been nonviolent resistance to these nuclear war command centers, including to commemorate the innocent children slaughtered by Herod to safeguard his throne.

Reznicek’s intent to access and damage computer equipment inside was quickly interrupted by security guards after she first smashed two windows and a door at the corporate office building. Two weeks later, from jail, Reznicek wrote “Why I Acted”, her statement printed in full on page 4.

### Opening Windows

I know people have raised questions about the tactics used in this action. Some might see the use of the baseball bat and hammer as tools of destruction by smashing the windows. Maybe another way to look at it is the windows are now open to allow us to see the horror of the plans developed in that building. Jessica’s intention to dismantle and disarm the computer systems might also be viewed as a means to clearing out the communication system of death and opening up a space to communicate love and hope.

~ Michele Naar-Obed

Three friends gave Reznicek a ride to the building on the evening she took action. She had not shared the details of her plan, and out of concern for her safety, Frank Cordaro, Mauro Heck and Michele Naar-Obed stayed on the scene for a few minutes before leaving. Police who were summoned saw their car driving away, and they were pulled over. All four activists were subsequently taken into custody on charges of criminal mischief and burglary.

In a broadcast interview from jail, Reznicek said, “My intention was to be on the property and to do property

destruction... I didn’t want to hurt anybody, didn’t want to scare anybody – to bring public awareness to the fact that we really don’t know what our billions of taxpayers’ dollars are really going towards when we’re handing them over to Northrop Grumman. So I’ll sit in jail for as long as I need to, if it gets people talking.”

Eighty-five percent of Northrop Grumman’s sales are to the U.S. government, including \$55 billion last October for 21 new long-range strategic bombers, the first new nuclear weapons delivery system in decades.

Bail was set two days later at \$100,000 for Reznicek and \$20,000 each for the others. She told the court, “I assure you, I did all the damage. I will not back down from that statement,” and “I don’t intend to pay any bond.” Because Cordaro, Heck and Naar-Obed meant to support Reznicek on the outside and not to risk arrest, they accepted court-appointed counsel and posted \$2,000 cash bond each.

At their next court hearing on January 26, all charges against the three were dismissed.

Reznicek again told the court “... I alone entered the building. I alone swung the hammer. And I alone am responsible for all charges being filed.”

Judge Stefanie Martinez cautioned her, “...although you are not under oath, everything is being recorded.” She replied, “Wonderful. I hope so. Because I’m doing this for others.”

She went on to tell Martinez, “While we each may fight for justice in our own ways, I have no faith left in this criminal justice system. Your courtroom concepts don’t resonate with me. I’m rarely certain as to what you expect me to do or say, or why the prosecutor, a stranger, is paid here to discredit me, my character, my conscience and my faith. In my experience, lawyers rarely place value on the principles I hold close, which is why I stand before you today absent of legal representation. Although I understand it is your job to judge me, I’ve already decided to try not to judge you for doing so.”

At a February 8 arraignment, Reznicek pleaded not guilty and trial was set for May 24. Her motion for bail review and signature bond was referred to a future hearing before her trial judge.

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## Indian Point Blocked as License Expires



photo by Andrew Courtney

### Blockade of the Indian Point nuclear power plant on December 12, 2015

At midnight, December 12, the Indian Point Unit 3 nuclear power reactor became the second reactor in the country operating with an expired license, the other being Unit 2, since its license ran out in 2013. A few dozen people joined a demonstration with the Indian Point Safe Energy Coalition and other groups at the gate that day to protest the situation and demand closure of the aging atomic plant before a catastrophe threatens New York City, just 30 miles away, and the entire northeastern United States. Nuclear Regulatory Commission rules allow the overtime operation if the application for renewal was filed more than five years before its expiration

date, as Indian Point’s owners had done. The contested application has been under review since 2007.

At least a dozen people stretched yellow CAUTION tape across the plant entrance in a blockade, and eleven were arrested. Judy Allen, J.K. Canepa, C.P. Colfield, Jacki Drechsler, Dan Fullerton, Sally Gellert, Merle Mceldowney, Ken Okin, Bruce Rosen, Gary Shaw and Rick Ufford-Chase were charged with disorderly conduct.

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

## Drone Resister Jailed for Violation of Contested Court Order

Mary Anne Grady Flores, surrounded by family and supporters, surrendered in DeWitt, New York Town Court on January 19 to begin serving a six-month sentence for contempt of court.

The sentence is due to her arrest at Hancock Field outside of Syracuse. Hancock is home to the New York Air National Guard’s 174th Attack Wing, piloting the armed MQ-9 Reaper drone on assassination missions around the world.

The grandmother of three was first arrested at Hancock in April, 2011, at the first of many nonviolent resistance actions organized by the Upstate Coalition to Ground the Drones and End the Wars. She joined another group for resistance in October, 2012, when 17 people blocked all three gates at the same time, shutting the base down for over two hours.

The base commander quickly claimed to be a victim. He sought and got an Order of Protection (OoP) from the town court which was served on those arrestees as they got out of jail, and then on dozens of subsequent blockaders. They were all ordered to stay away from the Commander and the base, as his place of employment.

The action was surprising because it is commonly used in cases of domestic violence, not peaceful protest. New York courts say an order of protection is issued “to limit the behavior of someone who harms or threatens to harm another person.”

On Ash Wednesday, 2013, Grady Flores took a support role instead of joining a demonstration. While standing in the public intersection, she photographed eight Catholics who participated in a nonviolent witness at the base gate. She did not join in because she had intended not to violate the OoP. She understood it to mean that she was forbidden to join the protest or be on base property.

It was only after this action that activists learned that the base claims property beyond the fence line and out to the double yellow line in the middle of the road. Grady Flores had briefly crossed the road for a photo closer to a gate being blocked. She was arrested later as she walked down the road, away from the scene. Police accused her of entering the commander’s workplace, and she was charged and later convicted of criminal contempt for violating the OoP.

At her trial, the base commander testified that he did not know her, had never met her, was not afraid of her. He said he just wanted “those protesters away from my base.”

Sentenced in July, 2014 to the maximum one year in jail and a \$1,000 fine, Grady Flores appealed to Onondaga County Court. Last December, Judge Miller heard arguments for an appeal. In January, he issued a decision that the evidence fit the crime and the OoP was valid because defense attorneys had stipulated it was a valid order at trial and failed to sufficiently and properly object to it back at the time it was served on Grady Flores.

With the somber magnanimity reserved for the judiciary, the court nevertheless found that “the imposition of the maximum sentence is unduly harsh and severe, particularly in light of the appellant’s minimal prior involvement with the criminal justice system and the fact that this crime did not involve the use of violence or threats of any kind,” and so it modified her sentence “as a matter of discretion in the interest of justice,” to six months in jail. Grady Flores was informed by her attorney, who learned by mail of the court’s decision.

Carol Baum spoke for supporters after Grady Flores was taken to jail. “While we are outraged by what’s

*continued on page 5*



# WRITINGS FROM JAIL

## ~ from FC1 Coleman

Greetings friends, supporters and all Native Peoples.

...On February 6, I will have been imprisoned for 40 years! I'm 71 years old and still in a maximum security penitentiary. At my age, I'm not sure I have much time left.

I have earned about 4-5 years good time that no one seems to want to recognize. It doesn't count, I guess? And when I was indicted the average time served on a life sentence before being given parole was 7 years. So that means I've served nearly 6 life sentences and I should have been released on parole a very long time ago. Then there's mandatory release after serving 30 years. I'm 10 years past that. The government isn't supposed to change the laws to keep you in prison — EXCEPT if you're Leonard Peltier, it seems.

Now, I'm told I'll be kept at USP Coleman I until 2017 when they'll decide if I can go to a medium security facility — or NOT. But, check this out, I have been classified as a medium security prisoner now for at least 15 years, and BOP regulations say elders shall be kept in a less dangerous facility/environment. But NOT if you're Leonard Peltier, I guess.

As you'll remember, the history of my bid for clemency is long. My first app was with Jimmy Carter. He denied it. Ronald Reagan promised President Mikhail Gorbachev that he would release me if the Soviet Union released a prisoner, but Reagan reneged. George H.W. Bush did nothing. The next app was with Bill Clinton. He left office without taking action even though the Pardon Attorney did an 11-month investigation (it usually takes 9 months) and we were told she had recommended clemency. George W. Bush denied that petition in 2009. And in all of the applications for clemency, the FBI has interfered with an executive order.

# THE INSIDE LINE

That's illegal as hell!

Today, I'm facing another dilemma — an abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA). It's the size of an AAA battery. The doctor told me if it bursts, I can bleed to death. It's also close to my spine and I could end up paralyzed. The good news is that it's treatable and the operation has a 96-98 percent success rate. BUT I'm in a max security prison. We don't get sent for treatment until it is terminal.

As President Obama completes the final year of his term, I hope that he will continue to fight to fulfill his promises, and further the progress his Administration has made towards working in partnership with First Peoples. It gives me hope that this President has worked hard to affirm the trust relationship with the Tribal Nations. With YOUR encouragement, I believe Obama will have the courage and conviction to commute my sentence and send me home to my family.

Looking back on the 40 years of efforts on my behalf, I am overwhelmed and humbled. I would like to say thank you to all the supporters who have believed in me over the years. Some of you have been supporters since the beginning. You made sure I had books to read and commissary funds to buy what I may need to be as comfortable as one can be in this place. You made donations to the defense committee so we could continue fighting for my freedom, too. You all worked hard — are still working hard — to spread the word about what is now being called the most outrageous conviction in U.S. history. There are good-hearted people in this world, and you're among them. I'm sorry I cannot keep up with answering all of your letters. But thanks for the love you have shown me. Without it, I could never have made it this long. I'm sure of it.

I believe that my incarceration, the constitutional violations in my case, and the government misconduct in prosecuting my case are issues far more important than just my life or freedom. I feel that each of you who have fought for my freedom have been a part of the greater struggle of Native Peoples — for Treaty rights, sovereignty, and our very survival. If I should be called home, please don't give up on our struggle.

In the Spirit of Crazy Horse...

Doksha,  
Leonard Peltier

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



Letters of support should be sent to Leonard Peltier 89637-132, USP Coleman I, POB 1033, Coleman, FL 33521.

While Peltier deals with a bureaucracy like no other, the International Leonard Peltier Defense Committee asks that supporters help ensure he gets timely and quality health care. Please *send by mail* letters to the following Bureau of Prison officials expressing “respectful but firm” concern for his life-threatening medical condition, and demand that he receive the best possible care: Warden Tamyra Jarvis, USP Coleman I, 846 NE 54th Terrace, Sumterville, FL 33521; Helen J. Marberry, RO Southeast Regional Office, 3800 Camp Crk. Pk. SW Bldg 2000, Atlanta, GA 30331; Office of the Director, Federal Bureau of Prisons, 320 First Street, NW, Washington, DC 20534.

Please also sign the online petition for Executive Clemency at [www.ipetitions.com/petition/Peltier\\_Clemency2008](http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/Peltier_Clemency2008).

## New Summons Issued for Beale Arrests, cont.

*continued from page 3*

to deliver their letter to the commander. Seven people were arrested, including four – Binks, Oliviera, Shirley Osgood and Rogers – who had been apprehended at the same spot just 15 hours before. Also cited for trespass were Chris Hanson, Catherine Hourcade and Michael Kerr.

In their letter to the commander, the activists wrote:

We oppose the Global Hawk Drones that are housed here, which provide surveillance that help identify targets for attacks by the U.S. military, including killer drone attacks. We oppose the Pentagon plan to increase its drone fleet and double its number of drone pilots. We oppose all offensive U.S. military action, and are especially outraged by the U.S. attack on the Doctors without Borders hospital in Kunduz, Afghanistan. We join with people around the world in calling for an impartial investigation on this matter.

With the recent disclosures by new whistleblowers and former drone operators, we know that drone strikes are 1) not as effective as our government claims they are, 2) killing thousands of innocent civilians, 3) creating more enemies than they are killing, and 4) damaging the health and morale of our military personnel.

Later in December, ten people arrested last September and October at Beale were summoned to appear in federal court in Sacramento on January 12, and answer to trespass charges. Campaigners responded by announcing a die-in demonstration on that day, complete with model attack drones in downtown Sacramento, to be followed by protest at Beale. A few days before the court date, the defendants were told the charges were dismissed, just as

comparable summonses for 27 resisters were delivered and then dismissed last fall.

Emboldened, the community of resistance held die-in demonstrations on December 12 at half a dozen locations in Sacramento, including the federal building and the office of Sen. Diane Feinstein, before caravanning out to the air base. In solidarity with the Real State of the Union action in Washington, D.C. that day, five people were arrested at Beale, again trying to deliver their letter of protest to the commander. Fred Biale, Toby Blome, Dennis Marks, Mauro Oliveira and Shirley Osgood were held for two hours and cited for trespass.

After two balks, the U.S. attorney took to the mound again in February, pitching 20 more summons to the 14 people arrested in December and January, ordering them to appear in federal court on March 8.

Undeterred, a small number of vigilers returned to Beale on February 22-23, for the first time covering all three gates at the same time. On Monday afternoon, military police attempted to arrest two women without warning at the Doolittle gate, as they stood where activists have vigiled before without arrest. One officer tried to wrestle off the mourning puppet head worn by Toby Blome before giving the women a warning and the chance to leave the immediate area.

## Thanks

Thanks to Sonia, John, Charlotte, Gretchen, Aston, Frank, Faith, Sam, Allison, Jim, Sarah, Dwight, Cindy, Rosemary and Bill for helping to mail the last issue!

The next morning, Blome returned to the same gate with a simple sign reading “Let Syria Live”. With only this message for the base commander, she walked along the entry road and was stopped by a lone security guard about a hundred yards before the barricades at the gate. There she again asserted her right to bring grievances to the government, and was nevertheless again arrested, cited for trespass and released. Base personnel assured her that they would deliver her “letter.”

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

## the Nuclear Resister

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### YOU CAN HELP!

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

### 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](http://proquest.com).

### ABOUT THE NUCLEAR RESISTER

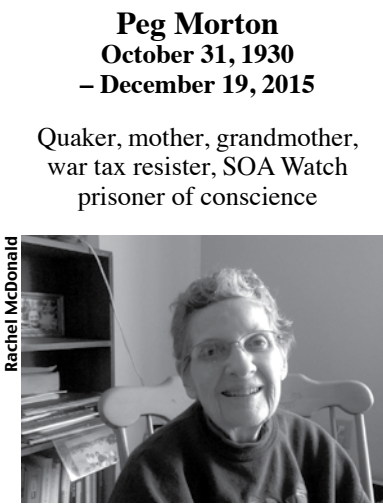
Since 1980, *the Nuclear Resister* has provided comprehensive reporting on arrests for anti-nuclear civil resistance in the United States, with an emphasis on providing support for the women and men jailed for these actions. In 1990, *the Nuclear Resister* also began reporting on anti-war arrests in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

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

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

Jack and Felice Cohen-Joppa, Editors

## iPresente!



Rachel McDonald

**Peg Morton**  
**October 31, 1930**  
**– December 19, 2015**

Quaker, mother, grandmother,  
war tax resister, SOA Watch  
prisoner of conscience



Charles Dharapak/AP

**Agnes Bauerlein**  
**February 12, 1928**  
**– November 26, 2015**

Nazi survivor, mother of 11,  
grandmother, great-grandmother,  
AVCO Plowshares and  
Gulf Peace Team member

**Concepcion Picciotto**  
**January 15, 1936**  
**– January 25, 2016**  
Since August, 1981, Connie endured the elements, public derision, assault, arrest and jail to help sustain the 24/7 anti-nuclear weapons vigil outside the White House.

Chuck Bauerlein



# Jeju Navy Base Resister Picks Jail Over Fine

On January 27, Mr. Kim Guk-Nam, a 50-year-old sea-diving activist living in Gangjeong village on Jeju Island, Korea, turned himself in to jail after refusing to pay fines of 5 million KRW (1000KRW=USD\$1, or USD\$5,000) for alleged insults during protest against the navy base nearing completion there. At the rate of one day per 100,000 KRW, he will serve 50 days in prison. Construction of the base began in 2012 with destruction of the sacred Gureombi rock coast of Gangjeong, and subsequent devastation of rare coral habitat. Kim has participated in underwater monitoring with others since the base construction began, documenting multiple violations of construction rules intended to safeguard the sea.

The day after he turned himself in, Kim and two co-defendants, Hong Young-Chul and Bae Ki-Chul, lost an appeal to the Korean Supreme Court. Initially acquitted of trespass but convicted of obstruction of business, the government successfully appealed and won a conviction for trespass, too. The three were fined an additional 2.4 million KRW.

Last November 4, a village woman, Kim Miryang, was arrested in the Gimpo Airport, Seoul, and held in a detention center in Seoul. She had participated in the 2013 protests when construction proceeded in violation of the National Assembly’s conditions. After two years’ trial, the court imposed fines of 6 million KRW, mostly for obstruction of business charges. Kim publicly refused to pay the unjust fine, and was on an arrest list. She was visiting Seoul for regular outpatient treatment. Concerned about her health, her friends paid the fines to win her release.

## MLK Day at Lockheed-Martin

by Bob Smith

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, January 18, at Lockheed Martin in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania was cold, terribly cold. It was one for the Brandywine Peace Community record books. Despite the frigid cold and wind, we stood in front of Lockheed Martin because on Martin Luther King Day, the world’s #1 war profiteer will not have the last word. So as we have every year since 1977, about 20 of us dressed warmly and stood holding banners and signs for Dr. King and his message as the loudspeaker boomed the words of Dr. King.

After just 20 minutes of excerpts from Dr. King’s sermons and speeches, we recited our MLK Day Memorial litany, drawn from his 1964 Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech. After half a century, the words, both tragic and inspirational, never get old.

Nine people then proceeded to face arrest for civil resistance/disobedience by walking onto and holding

## JARED CHASE SET FOR TRIAL APRIL 11

Jared Chase is the last protester arrested during the 2012 NATO protests in Chicago to be serving time, an 8-year sentence for helping undercover cops with their own idea to make molotov cocktails that were never used. Still, he may have significant time added to his jail term if he is convicted of assaulting jail guards while awaiting his original trial. Chase has never received adequate medical care or nutrition for his Huntington’s disease, a hereditary, physically and cognitively debilitating condition that could contribute to erratic behavior.

While his physical condition continues to deteriorate, his trial was postponed yet again. A new public defender was appointed at a December hearing, and trial re-set for April 11 in Chicago. Chase appeared in court with numerous visible bruises and a black eye, telling the inquiring judge that he “had a bad week.”

At a February 18 pre-trial hearing, supporters report he looked thin and gaunt; visibly not well. The public defender sought a court order regarding how prison authorities shackle Chase for the ride from prison to court and back. The present practice is dangerous because of Chase’s involuntary shaking and other body movements that are symptomatic of Huntington’s disease. The judge said he could only order how the prisoner is held in his courtroom, and suggested a federal suit against the Illinois Department of Corrections would be the proper channel.

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



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

Also in November, the Jeju local court gave a suspended one-year jail sentence and two years probation to village mayor Cho Kyung-Chul for a special obstruction of justice conviction. Although the original charges had been dismissed, the mayor alone was later indicted as the main leader of two dozen activists roused from a long sit-in to stop construction of military housing in the village in January, 2015.

In early December, protest surged after a woman demonstrating at the gate had her foot run over by a construction truck, requiring surgery. The next day, two people were arrested during the daily blockades and jailed for a couple of days.

With American and Korean warships already visiting the new base, “the village has recently made a resolution that it would not allow soldiers to pass by the village in military uniforms,” reports Gangjeong Village Story, the monthly newsletter produced by the Gangjeong International Team. “The task to stop militarism attacking the village and Island is already an urgent task.”

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



Letters of support should be sent soon to Mr. Kim Guk-Nam, No. 185, Jeju Prison, 51 Jungsildong Gil, Jeju City, Jeju Island 63147, Korea. He is due to be released by March 17.

signs across the corporation’s main driveway entrance. All the signs read “Unarmed Truth” “Unconditional Love” (Martin Luther King, Jr.).

Those arrested were Theresa Camerota, Bernadette Cronin-Geller, Robert Daniels II, Louise Legun, Sylvia Metzler, Tom Mullian, Paul Sheldon, Fr. Patrick Sieber, OSF and Robert M. Smith.

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

## New Summons Issued as Arrests Mount at Beale AFB

For two days right after the COP 21 climate talks in Paris ended, the monthly peace camp and demonstration at Beale Air Force Base near Sacramento joined a global manifestation for the victims of climate change, war and terror. They took a “red-line” action demanding “Peace for the World, Healing for the Climate.”

A statement announcing the December 14 nonviolent action explained:

This demonstration at Beale will be one of the protests taking place AFTER the summit to show that “we the people,” not the negotiators, will have the last word and will continue working toward healing and regeneration of the atmosphere.

...Anti-war demonstrations at Beale continue, because of its participation by surveillance in U.S. drone and other attacks. Beale’s website boasts, “We are the eyes and ears for the COCOMs (Combatant Commands) and our national leaders rely on our capabilities and expertise.” Beale is essential for the U.S. military’s ability to wage war and project its power around the world.

Our wars are largely waged to protect access to oil and other resources. This amounts to a huge and invisible subsidy on fossil fuels and on fossil-fuel intensive development. At the same time, the U.S. military is the largest institutional user of petroleum products and energy. Yet, the Pentagon has a blanket exemption in all international climate agreements.

Eight people were arrested that afternoon as they walked along the entry road carrying a 36-foot-long red banner. They also carried a letter on the subject to deliver to the base commander, but no one would receive it. Instead, Barry Binks, Sharon Delgado, Jane Kesselman, Mauro Oliveira, Pamela Osgood, Shirley Osgood, Susan Pelican and Flora Rogers were arrested, cited for trespass and released.

Early the next morning, the peace campers arose early and blocked the entrance road for 30 minutes, again trying

*continued on page 2*

## 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](http://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)

### ANTI-WAR RELATED ACTIONS

**Rafil Dhafir** 11921-052  
Unit GB, 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)

**Mr. Kim Guk-Nam** No. 185  
Jeju Prison, 51 Jungsildong Gil, Jeju City, Jeju Island 63147, Korea.  
(50 days – out 3/17/16)  
(Jailed in lieu of paying fines for resistance to naval base construction.)

**Jessica Reznicek**  
Sarpy County Jail, 1208 Golden Gate Dr, Papillion, NE 68046.  
(awaiting trial – in 12/27/15)  
(Charged with felony burglary and felony criminal mischief for disarmament action at Northrop Grumman office in Bellevue, Nebraska)

**Mary Anne Grady Flores** #12001966  
Jamesville Correctional Facility, PO Box 143, Jamesville, NY 13078.  
(6 months – out 5/8/16)  
(Violating an Order of Protection for commander of Hancock Field from nonviolent protesters, while photographing a demonstration from the street, 2/13/13)

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

**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)

**Chelsea E. Manning** 89289  
1300 North Warehouse Road, Fort Leavenworth, KS 66027-2304.  
(35 years – in 5/10)  
(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)

**PREVIOUSLY LISTED,  
RECENTLY RELEASED:  
Yasuo Yamamoto**



# WRITINGS FROM JAIL

~ from Sarpy County

## Why I Acted

Hammer of Justice statement, January 11, 2016

Hello, everyone!

Thank you to all who are carrying me with them in heart and mind while I do this time here in Sarpy County Jail. It is felt deeply.

My spirit is strong these days, and I attribute this to the kindness surrounding me. Mostly I am grateful just simply to be alive and well, swinging my hammer of justice at Northrop Grumman/STRATCOM (United States Strategic Command).

I stand today with fierce conviction for the nonviolent direct action I have taken against the Northrop Grumman property in Bellevue, Nebraska on December 27, 2015. I broke two windows and a door window out of the Northrop Grumman building that night in an effort to expose the details of the defense contracts currently held by Northrop Grumman with STRATCOM at Offutt Air Force Base. Over the years, billions of taxpayer dollars are pouring into the hands of these money-hungry, bomb building, computer geek space war criminals.

I want to say now that I truly believe that the American people are done with war – done funding, killing and dying in U.S.-led wars and terrorism – and are ready to pave a path to peace.

Some folks, even personal friends of mine, are questioning my property destruction tactics at Northrop Grumman as one of a nonviolent nature. I refuse to delve too deeply into this conversation, for I believe the focus should rest primarily on Northrop Grumman and STRATCOM's countless crimes against humanity. However, I will address a few small details of the events which occurred on the evening of December 27.

Yes, glass did shatter. It shattered like the illusion that Northrop Grumman holds human life in any way in its best interest. It shattered like the illusion Iraq ever possessed weapons of mass destruction. It shattered like the illusion Iraqis were involved in 9/11. It shattered like the lie that perpetual war will ever bring peace. Glass shattered in the name of the hundreds of thousands of Iraqi lives taken when Northrop Grumman/STRATCOM's direct bombs from space rained down upon them. I destroyed two windows and a door, yes! STRATCOM with its corporate partner Northrop Grumman destroys life in the tens of thousands.

I did not swing my hammer blindly. Actually, quite the opposite. I swung only at windows whose blinds were pulled up, to ensure I would injure no one. Nor did I break either of the windows or door threatening a human being.

When the police arrived, my arresting officer (who I ended up adoring and would love to grab a beer with when this is all said and done) found me kneeling in the main entrance of the Northrop Grumman building, with my empty hands raised above my head. He first asked me to lift my coat slowly to make sure I had no

# THE INSIDE LINE



bombs strapped to me. I was eager to cooperate. I was not feeling threatened by him and I wanted to return the favor. I wanted to convey to him that I had love and respect for him as a fellow human being.

Admittedly, however, I did shrug a little, considering the irony that Northrop Grumman has just recently been awarded a \$55 billion contract to build a new long range U.S. bomber ... and I am the one being checked for bombs.

That all being said, I suppose that what I am trying to say is I acted in accordance with my conscience and my spirit, and that my property destruction was a useful form of nonviolent direct action. I do not stand in judgment of folks who feel uncomfortable using such methods. Nonetheless, I want to stand beside them, asking them to develop and apply their own means to expose the lies of Northrop Grumman and STRATCOM, be it through education, research, writing letters, public discussions, public vigils, rallies and marches and yes, even civil disobedience.

Blood is pouring through the streets of many nations in the Middle East. People are dying all over the globe, masses of human beings are being dislocated, and the environment is under attack; all this through our U.S.-led global warmaking ways. There isn't a continent on the planet free of a U.S military presence; there are U.S military bases in over a hundred countries. People all over the planet are resisting the U.S. global military presence in hundreds of places. I just returned from Jeju Island, where Catholics and South Korean peace activists are resisting a South Korean/U.S. Navy base being built there.

We all have our part to play. Here in the heartland of America we who seek peace must make efforts to dismantle the U.S. military dominance of space from the top down, by publicly and nonviolently resisting the joint Northrop Grumman and STRATCOM missions.

This is why I acted. You do not have to act as radically or dramatically as I did, but please make a statement in your own way against government funded companies which focus on war and destruction.

Peace,

Jessica Reznicek

*[Jessica Reznicek awaits trial on felony charges of criminal mischief and burglary for her action at Northrop Grumman.]*

# Many Trials, Same Verdict

For reasons perhaps known only to blind Justice, a cash-strapped Wisconsin county opted to prosecute seven drone warfare resisters in separate trials for trespass. Despite the defendants' desire to face prosecution together, Juneau County judge Paul Curran took to the bench seven times in January and February, while complaining about the cost.

The defendants were all arrested last August at the conclusion of an eight-day peace walk when they crossed the line and approached the gatehouse at Volk Field, near the village of Camp Douglas. There, the Wisconsin Air National Guard trains operators for the Shadow surveillance and reconnaissance drone crucial to waging war from on high.

Fr. Jim Murphy defended himself on January 4, declining to question the testimony of three witnesses against him. When he began his own testimony with a statement condemning drone warfare, Judge Curran questioned its relevance to the charge of trespass. The prosecutor also objected, and Curran agreed that Murphy could not finish his statement. And, he added, President Obama doesn't care what his court has to say about drone warfare.

The persistent defendant eventually won the court's indulgence, however, and concluded his prepared statement to say, "You view this as a trespass charge. I view it as a long tradition of opposition to war."

Judge Curran declared Fr. Murphy guilty and initially fined him \$232. Murphy said he was not able to pay and would do the equivalent time in jail. Curran appeared uncomfortable, but he said he knew Murphy really couldn't pay the fine, and so would spare him the lecture given to earlier Volk defendants about the county's financial difficulties. He sent Murphy to jail for five days instead.

On January 8, Bonnie Block was in court. She had served five days in jail last year for protest at Volk Field, after Judge Curran told her the county could not afford a supervisor for court-ordered community service she offered instead of paying a fine.

This time, reading a prepared statement against drone warfare, Block also seconded the testimony of Fr. Murphy four days earlier, when he said "we cannot remain silent without becoming complicit." Curran again convicted the grandmother and fined her \$232.

Block was prepared this time. She introduced Rev. McGinley, a local pastor who offered to supervise her community service at no cost to the county. The judge said he could not consider it with so little notice, and told Block the county would simply seize the funds from any state income tax refund.

When Joyce Ellwanger faced trial on January 22, she cross-examined both the sheriff and his deputy. She asked why the group was not permitted to approach the gatehouse as the general public does for ID checks. She was allowed to finish her statement condemning drone warfare, but when she had finished, the district attorney moved that the testimony be stricken from the record, and without listening to any objection, Curran granted the motion.

He told Ellwanger she had trespassed, and fined her \$232. He again rejected Rev. McGinley's offer to supervise community service, telling Ellwanger it wasn't even worth McGinley's time to supervise her. Pay up in 60 days, he ordered, or he'd have it taken from her tax return.

The conviction process was so streamlined by now that Don Timmerman's February 1 trial was over and done in about eleven minutes. He tried to ask the sheriff if he knew why he'd been there, at Volk Field, and if he knew that taxpayers had paid for the property. Objections to both questions were sustained without discussion. When Timmerman took the stand to tell why he had been there, the judge stopped him to say that he'd heard it all before, and intent was not an element of a trespass charge. Timmerman said that if he could not speak to why he was there, he had nothing else to say. He was also fined \$232, to be taken from any tax refund if he didn't pay up.

*continued on page 7*

## HAMMER OF JUSTICE, CONT.

*continued from page 1*

For more information and updates contact Frank Cordaro, frank.cordaro@gmail.com, 515-282-4781.



Contributions to the Hammer of Justice Defense and Prison Support Fund can be made out to the Berrigan Catholic Worker House with Defense and Prison Support Fund on the memo line, and mailed to the House at 713 Indiana Ave., Des Moines, IA 50314. Letters of support should be sent to Jessica Reznicek, Sarpy County Jail, 1208 Golden Gate Dr, Papillion, NE 68046.

# Real State of the Union

On the afternoon of January 12, with President Obama's final State of the Union address scheduled that evening, members and associates of the National Campaign for Nonviolent Resistance (NCNR) gathered on the steps of the U.S. Capitol to express their vision for a just society.

A delegation asked Capitol Police if their petition and a list of alleged U.S. war crimes could be delivered to the office of the Vice-President. Their request was denied, but an officer said they could get a permit to demonstrate in an area away from the Capitol steps.

He was informed that their demonstration had already concluded, and now the group wanted the petition to be delivered. Because the activists were denied this opportunity to "petition the government", they gathered

instead on the lower steps holding a banner which read "Stop the War Machine – Export Peace" and sang "We shall not be moved." Thirteen people were then arrested and charged with obstruction.



photo by Bill Offenloch

Gardner of the D.C. Superior Court granted a temporary stay-away order prohibiting the nine defendants from entering the Capitol grounds.

For more information, contact Max Obuszewski at mobuszewski@verizon.net or Joy First at joyfirst5@gmail.com

They include Carol Gay, Joy First, Malachy Kilbride, Linda LeTendre, Joan Nicholson, Max Obuszewski, Alice Sutter, Brian Terrell and Eve Tetaz. Four others – Martin Gugino, Phil Runkel, Janice Sevre-Duszynska and Trudy Silver – had the charge inexplicably dismissed before a February 3 hearing. At that hearing, a second charge of failure to obey was added, and Judge Wendell

# Drone Resister Jailed, cont.

*continued from page 1*

happening to Mary Anne, as well as other people who have been to jail for protests, the worst outrage is the drone attacks outside this country.”

An appeal is being filed with the New York State Court of Appeals, but a motion for Grady Flores’ release on an appeal bond may not be decided before she has served the sentence. Speaking to Patrick O’Neill for the National Catholic Reporter, Grady Flores said, “Our attorneys are arguing that you cannot take out an order of protection on behalf of property.”

In a public statement of support, Ann Wright wrote:

As a retired U.S. Army Colonel with 29 years in the U.S. military, I find it quite embarrassing and ludicrous that a U.S. military commander decided that his personal security was so threatened by peaceful, nonviolent protesters of the drone policies of the United States that he applied for an “Order of Protection” from the courts – and that the courts issued the “Order” without any evidence that any protester had ever even seen the Commander, much less constituted a threat to him.

I would have expected a U.S. military commander to have had the courage to meet with the group of concerned citizens rather than obtaining a cowardly “Order of Protection.” Had I been the commander, I certainly would have met with the citizens and would never have contemplated getting an “Order of Protection”.

I have just returned from South Korea and Okinawa where citizen protesters daily block gates to military bases where highly contentious runways and ports are being built. Each day police remove nonviolent protesters from the gates, but they have never been prohibited from exercising their rights to protest, a right that is under siege by the military and the courts in Syracuse, New York...

The next week, on January 27, Judge David Gideon of DeWitt Town Court found Harry Murray guilty of trespass during an April, 2013 demonstration at Hancock. Murray will be sentenced on March 9.

In another update, the prosecutor did not even come to court on December 16 for a motions hearing in the case of five people arrested blocking the Hancock gate last September. Their attorney handily convinced Judge Jokl to drop the trespass and disturbing the peace charges over



photo by Ellen Grady

**A section of the 30-strong Jerry Berrigan cut-outs at his memorial blockade at Hancock Air Field, New York**

woefully inadequate paperwork.

## JERRY BERRIGAN MEMORIAL BLOCKADE

Two days after Murray’s trial, the resistance community re-affirmed their commitment with another blockade of the Hancock base. The Jerry Berrigan Memorial Blockade honored the life of the Syracuse activist who died on July 26, 2015 at the age of 95. Jerry Berrigan dedicated his entire life – like his brothers Daniel and Philip – to Jesus’ command to love one another. He came to Hancock on a bi-weekly basis whenever he was able, in his words, “to remind the base commander of our government’s pledge under the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, a treaty to safeguard non-combatant’s well-being in any warzone in which U.S. forces are engaged in combat.”

In 2008, Berrigan was asked by a local newspaper if there was anything he would change in his life. He replied, “I would have resisted more often and been arrested more often.”

Twelve activists fulfilled his wish, facilitating their closure of the gate with a row of thirty life-sized cut-outs

of the dapper Syracuse peacemaker, each neck wrapped in a blue scarf, emblem of the Afghan Peace Volunteers in Kabul.

Arrested and charged with one misdemeanor and two violations were Beth Adams, Steve Baggarly, Charley Bowman, Brian Hynes, Ed Kinane, Ray McGovern, Bill Ofenloch, Pete Perry, Joan Pleune, Bev Rice, James Ricks and Joan Wages. Rice and Pleune were both also charged with violating the OoP.

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



Donations for commissary and phone can be made to Ithaca Catholic Worker (Mary Anne Grady Flores in memo), 514 North Plain, Ithaca, NY 14850. Letters of support should be sent to Mary Anne Grady Flores #12001966, Jamesville Correctional Facility, P.O. Box 143, Jamesville, NY 13078.

Her first open letter from jail is found below.

## WRITINGS FROM JAIL

*~ from Onondaga County*

February 11, 2016

Greetings, Dear Friends —

Joy swept through our cell block, Jamesville County Jail, Pod 4, Thursday, January 28.

That evening some of the fifty-nine women in our Pod rushed up and knocked on my cell door. They reported the six o’clock news had shown twelve drone resisters handcuffed, sitting on a roadside curb, waiting to be taken into custody.

I just started my six-month sentence on January 19, for photographing protesters of the drone warfare directed out of Hancock Air Base in nearby Syracuse, New York. These eight protesters, many of whom are Catholic Workers, were later acquitted. (See my January 19 press conference statement.)

The resisters had fastened together thirty larger-than-life cut-out photos of the late Jerry Berrigan, standing bold in a blue scarf. This line of cut-outs of Jerry was held by the twelve resisters, blockading the main gate at Hancock Air Base, where Jerry had protested for years on a bi-weekly basis.

Shortly before he died at 95 last year, Jerry was asked during a Syracuse Post-Standard news interview what he would have done differently. He said: “I would have resisted more and gotten arrested more.”

“The Jerry Berrigan Memorial Drone Blockade” was done to honor Jerry’s wishes. It was to protest the ongoing 24-7 drone assassinations initiated by drone operators at Hancock as part of the Obama administration’s “kill chain.”

Hancock is presently only one of twenty U.S. drone-warfare bases across the U.S., Germany and the U.K. The “Drone Papers” – leaked by an internal military whistleblower – confirm what whistleblower drone pilots as well as drone victims have reported: The outrageous fact that 90% of all drone victims are bystanders, among them, many children.

That day my friend Carissa from Pod 4 returned excited from the downtown Syracuse “Justice” Center (Jail) because there she’d met the four drone protester women – Beth Adams, Joan Pleune, Bev Rice, Joan Wages – who were among the twelve at the “Jerry” action.

Carissa learned that Joan and Bev had knowingly

## THE INSIDE LINE

violated the same order of protection that fifty other drone protesters have. I had unintentionally violated it, landing me in jail for six months.

The “order of protection” has been issued on behalf of the commander of Hancock Air Base against drone

protesters. Usually such orders are issued to protect people from physical violence and even death from their abusive domestic partners.

Currently “protected” by the order is the commander in charge of Hancock Air Base and its 2,000 personnel and armed soldiers – making him the “victim” instead of the real victims, the many people killed by the base’s MQ9 Reaper drones, firing “Hellfire” missiles.

The base commander, testifying at my trial, said, “No, I don’t know Mary Anne Grady. No, I’ve never had a conversation with her. I’m not afraid of her. That’s just a piece of paper. I just want these protesters away from my base.”

Carissa told me, “You folks should be protesting in the courts for the misuse of the order of protection. I’d go with you to protest.” That sentiment has been echoed by others here in the pod.

In fact, a team of attorneys is finalizing the points of appeal of my case to the New York State Court of Appeals, to challenge the use of the order of protection. This is the highest court in New York State. The appeal decision will set a precedent for upcoming cases of anyone else charged with violating the order of protection.

Joan and Bev are willing to risk long jail sentences to fight the drones and expose the absurdity of this use of orders of protection. Joan has been part of resistance movements since the Freedom Rides challenged racist segregation during the Civil Rights era.

In a previous drone protest, Catholic Worker Mark Colville and two Yale Divinity students brought a bouquet of roses and the People’s Order of Protection on behalf of drone victims to Hancock’s main entrance. The People’s Order reads in part: “Stop the terrorizing, menacing, maiming and killing of the children, women, and men of Afghanistan, Iraq, Pakistan, Somalia and Yemen.”

Raz Mohammad of Madian Shahr, Afghanistan, and a friend of drone resisters locally, requested an order of protection on behalf of his village after his brother-in-law

was killed by a drone. Raz wrote, “When my nephew was 5-years-old, he asked his mother, ‘Where is father?’ My sister replied, ‘He was killed by a computer.’ [Drones are piloted by people sitting at computers]. These negative effects persist on all of us to this day.”

This is a critical moment in the six years of Hancock Resistance. Stopping killer drones is our #1 continued focus, no matter what tool is used to try to chill the movement. We must keep our focus on the voices of the drone victims.

I don’t ask for pardon, nor do my fellow drone resisters, because as people of conscience we must speak out, as Jerry did, to stop the death-dealing by our government and military. It is our first amendment right to stand at the gate of Hancock Air Base, asking our government for redress of our grievances, specifically, to end this killer-drone policy, which in 2015 alone killed over six thousand people.

Immediately after the Paris attacks, the four whistle-blower drone pilots sent a letter of criticism to President Obama, Defense Secretary Ashton Carter and CIA Chief John Brennan. In part, their letter said: “We came to the realization that the innocent civilians we were killing only fueled the feelings of hatred that ignited terrorism and groups like Isis, while also serving as a fundamental recruitment tool, similar to Guantánamo Bay. This administration and its predecessors have built a drone program that is one of the most devastating driving forces for terrorism and destabilization around the world.”

I am filled with gratitude that the local resistance continues, joining drone resistance around the world. We here in Central New York have had 172 arrests since 2010 and over 1000 people have protested and vigiled at Hancock Air Base. I affirm the statement of “The Jerry Berrigan Memorial Drone Blockade.” From my jail cell, I invite us all to take a step beyond our comfort zones into deeper solidarity with all those struggling for justice, including the Black Lives Matter movement, ending climate change, ending immigrant deportations and the Free Palestine movement. Keep in mind the drone killing is only one tool to keep the people here at home and around the world under U.S. control. We must reject the death dealings of empire, and are called to celebrate love, life and creativity, seeking to live nonviolently. As Cornel West says, “Justice is what love looks like in public.”

Many thanks to all of you who have written to me in jail, sending poems, articles, artwork and jokes, bringing light and laughter to me and the women here. Thanks for your photos and reports of your anti-drone witnesses! Thanks to all the vets old and young sending me letters

*continued on page 8*

# INTERNATIONAL NOTES

## Paris

System Change, Not Climate Change: As the COP 21 climate talks got underway in Paris, four anti-nuclear activists defied the state of emergency ban on public protest by climbing up steel cables and hanging banners within the modern La Grande Arche de la Défense monument. French environmentalists joined German climbers from the action group Robin Wood in the December 2 ascent. They deployed small banners reading “Don’t Nuke the Climate – Stop EPR” (referring to the latest French reactor design). Police were quickly on the scene, including 20 from a specially equipped mountain brigade in town for the event. They pursued the climbers up the cables and prevented them from unrolling a larger banner that would have proclaimed “System Change, Not Climate Change!”

The four were taken into custody and charged with disrupting public order and violating the state of emergency, and released some hours later. No court date has been set. The action was part of international “Climate Games”, a call to direct action against institutions responsible for climate change.

In a statement, the international crew said:

States gathered at the COP 21 are powerless to prevent climate catastrophe. Their interests are too intertwined with those of multinationals. For the political change needed to happen, it is for the people to put pressure on governments and companies responsible for climate change.

Given the climate problem, a capitalist economic system based on growth can only give us false solutions: geo-engineering, carbon markets and of course nuclear. It does not get us out of the impasse. It feeds unbridled energy consumption... “System change” is to refuse the colonial wars of appropriation of resources and ecosystem changes that cause desperate migration, exacerbate ethnic and religious tensions, and contribute to the nihilistic radicalization of a minority. Faced with the threat of terrorism and the draconian response of the State, it is all the more urgent to carry this message to the heart of French economic power.

For more information, visit [blog.eichhoernchen.fr](http://blog.eichhoernchen.fr).

## Finland

In another response to the climate talks and political repression in Paris, on December 4 two activists from the Pyhäjoki anti-nuclear action camp in northern Finland climbed on the roof of the police station in the city of Raahe and dropped a banner proclaiming “Solidarity to Paris” and the word “NO” flanked by radiation symbols. The campers are already familiar with the police station as their destination after arrests on the Hanhikivi peninsula, where they’ve been disrupting forest clearing operations and massive landfill preparation for a Russian-built nuclear power plant since spring of 2015. At the station, the two climbers were arrested and held for seven hours on charges of vandalism. The police chief said his station had been disgraced, and the activists were fined.

Only one road suitable for the heavy hauling equipment leads out to the remote reactor site, so it’s the place for nonviolent blockades that have slowed progress. One such blockade began at 9 a.m. on January 22. Activists climbed on top of a massive crane and a haul truck that were stopped, halting all traffic until afternoon. An activist photographer, posting live images of the action to social media, was the first to be arrested and charged with obstructing police. Later, more police showed up with a bucket lifter to pluck the truck-sitters from their perch and arrest them. Fines were levied for disobeying police orders, and charges for disturbing possession/management of property and obstruction are pending.

The main contractor on the site has been called out in the press for a series of forgotten rents, unpaid salaries, sacked workers and procurement moved to Russia that had been promised to local suppliers. Sympathetic to the workers’ plight, campers visited the construction site on February 6 to look for the lost roubles. Finding no cash nor even security guards, one of them eventually occupied a large digger. The private security detail finally took notice, called police, and eventually equipment was brought in to remove the occupier, who was detained and charged with disturbing possession. The others left the site without incident.

Over ten months of actions, only one case of disturbing possession has been to trial, and the two people convicted were ordered to pay compensation. When contractors have not wanted to pursue charges, police have changed the crime to disobeying a police order, resulting in fines.

For more information, see Future Actions, page 7.



photo via RobinWood  
**Climber Cécile “The Squirrel” Lecomte in a suspended protest at La Grande Arche de la Défense, December 2**

## Sweden

Last June, ten women challenged the air war Arctic Challenge Exercise, digging a passage under the fence to enter the military airfield at Luleå, Sweden. The annual war games involve nine countries and bring the air power of the United States and other NATO members into neutral Sweden and other countries. The women, representing Women for Peace, the People’s Campaign Against Nuclear Power – Nuclear Weapons and the nonviolent action group Ofog (Mischief), quickly made their way out onto the runway where they displayed banners and held a brief die-in before their arrest. “Since we live in Sweden we directed our protest first to the Swedish military, but also to the general militarization of the world,” said a spokesperson for Ofog.

The action helped bring nationwide attention to the event, and months later the government quietly declined to prosecute a case that would only bring the military ties with NATO back into the spotlight.

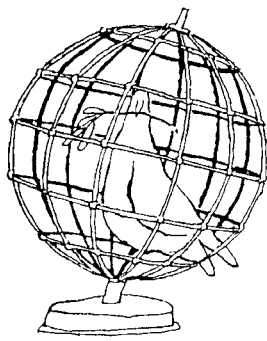
## Japan

Ten months after he landed a small drone bearing radiation-contaminated soil as an anti-nuclear protest on the roof of the Prime Minister’s official residence, a Japanese man has been convicted and given a suspended prison sentence and had his drone confiscated. Very little news was available to the public during a series of court dates for Yasuo Yamamoto.

He turned himself in when the drone was finally discovered, two weeks after he said he lost control of it last April. When he surrendered last April, he reportedly told police that he had no criminal intent, but just wanted to make a distinctive nonviolent protest of plans to re-start nuclear reactors in the wake of the Fukushima meltdowns.

When Yamamoto appeared in court for sentencing on February 16, he was in a gray sweat suit, suggesting he had been held in jail since he surrendered. He was convicted of forcible obstruction of business and the prosecution asked for a prison sentence of three years. (At one point, an additional charge of illegally altering a flare mounted on the drone was threatened, but not pursued.)

In his defense, his attorney said he did not intend to disrupt business, and in fact the drone went unnoticed with no consequence for two weeks. Furthermore, the defendant had turned himself in and fully cooperated with police. The court responded that common sense would conclude that once discovered, the radioactive drone would disrupt business at the office. However, his cooperation was taken into account, and in court Yamamoto’s head remained bowed as he admitted the means of protest were wrong. A sentence of two years in prison was imposed, suspended for four years.



## India

A prominent activist in the mass movement opposing the Koodankulam nuclear power project (KKNPP) in Tamil Nadu, India, turned himself in to prison on December 23. R.F. Mugilan (or Muhilan) surrendered on ten out of scores of separate charges in a bid to press the government to drop charges against more than 100 others.

Years of legal pruning since the height of protests in 2011–2012 have thinned pending cases from thousands to just over 100 people. They are alleged to have committed “serious crimes” and were finally summoned to attend court last August, most on multiple charges from separate investigations. While the convenor of the grassroots People’s Movement Against Nuclear Energy (PMANE), S.P. Udayakumar, has ventured into electoral politics and agreed to let attorneys continue these cases in court, Mugilan advocated for the leadership to court arrest as a means to bring pressure on authorities. He alone took that course, and left his post as one of the group’s coordinators.

Arraigned on December 29, Mugilan had two cases dismissed and was granted bail on seven others. But the tenth was judged non-bailable: he is accused in a case where the Russian flag and an effigy of Russian President Putin were burned in protest of the Russian-built reactors.

His imprisonment came during a time of increased agitation over the latest nuclear deal with Russia that would bring two more reactors to the KKNPP site near the southern tip of the subcontinent. Then in late January, KKNPP Unit 1 (so far the only operating unit), came back online after a seven-month outage. Muhilan, a diabetic, began an indefinite fast and was soon taken to a hospital in Tirunelveli for treatment. On February 2, he was finally granted bail, but remained in the hospital. Unit 1 was shut down again on February 6 for undisclosed reasons.

On February 8, PMANE threatened to resume the large-scale fasting that characterized earlier mass protests if the major Dravidian political parties in the state did not disclose their position on new reactors before April elections. New India Express reports Mugilan said, “that he had no faith in elections for resolving the issues of people; rather, only through protests could these issues be solved.”

## France

The future of the EPR, France’s new reactor design for the gasping nuclear renaissance, was called into doubt last April when that country’s nuclear safety authority found impurity in the steel used to forge the massive, two-part reactor pressure vessel. A battery of tests determined it was more brittle than design standards require, creating unknown risks and without cheap or easy remedy.

Undaunted by such critical failure, the state-owned EDF company loaded the defective lid of the pressure vessel onto a special truck in February for shipment across the country, to be installed at the Flamanville reactor site in far western Normandy.

The truck left the Areva plant in Chalon-sur-Saône on February 8, tracked by Greenpeace. It parked overnight February 11 in a lot in the town of Evrecy, near Caen. The next morning, before dawn, more than a dozen activists managed to reach the vehicle despite police surveillance. Two chained themselves on top of the massive lid and held banners reading “Nuclear – Dead End” in English and French. Others locked on underneath the vehicle. Police moved in quickly, and although it took some time to cut the chain, 12 people were arrested for obstructing traffic and held for a few hours.

## Great Britain

Chinese President Xi Jinping visited England in late October to ink a memorandum of understanding that makes China a partner in the future of British nuclear energy. At the end of his visit, in the industrial north, thousands of protesters were among the crowd to greet him. From that crowd, two men peacefully protesting the nuclear deal were quickly taken away by police and cited for breach of the peace.



# WITNESS FOR THE INNOCENTS AT THE PENTAGON

On December 28, 50 people from the Atlantic and Southern Life Communities went to the Pentagon to commemorate the Feast of the Holy Innocents. They formed a procession, carrying banners and signs from Army-Navy Drive to the Pentagon south metro entrance.

A sizeable police presence directed everyone into the nearby fenced-off free speech zone. Seven did not comply and remained along the building side of the sidewalk, directly across from the designated protest area, and held a large banner that said “Wage Peace – Practice Nonviolence.” A smaller sign read “The U.S. Bombing of a Doctors Without Borders Hospital in Afghanistan is a War Crime – U.S. Out of Afghanistan Now!”

Police took only a few minutes to place all seven in custody. Joe Byrne, Art Laffin, Elizabeth Naro, Patrick O’Neill, Janice Sevre-Duszynska, Chris Spicer and Joan Wages were taken to the Pentagon Police Center, which once upon a time served as a day care center, and charged with violation of a lawful order. The charges were dismissed before their first court date.

The community in the protest zone continued with a program which included this statement:

THE MASSACRE OF THE INNOCENTS IS MAGNIFIED

Today, Christian churches commemorate the Massacre of the Holy Innocents, recalling how Herod, as he sought to destroy the child Jesus, ordered the slaughter of boys under two years old in and around Bethlehem. Today, the lives of countless innocents, like those in Bethlehem, are endangered. Every hour of every day, the United States military magnifies destruction across the globe. From overt wars to covert “dirty wars,” lives are destroyed, millions of families are torn apart, people are disappeared. On October 3, 2015, the U.S. bombed a Doctors Without Borders Hospital in Kunduz, Afghanistan, killing 42 people and injuring 30. A survivor of the attack described how patients in the hospital were literally burning to death in their intensive care unit beds.

Every second of every minute, the world’s addiction to oil, natural gas and nuclear power is the cause of environmental contamination that is threatening global devastation. The unrelenting violence of the U.S. power structure continues to crush the poor and target people of color. Fear and violence are pervasive everywhere. And always, the existence of nuclear weapons puts all life in utter peril. We respond to these and other horrors with a resounding “No!” This is a time when we call for transformation and resolve to magnify God’s creation with joy.

For more information, visit dccatholicworker.wordpress.com or call 202-882-9649.

Thanks to Art Laffin for his report.

# Many Trials, cont.

continued from page 4

Before leaving the court, Timmerman was given a last word. “I cannot allow killing of innocent people in my name. This needs to be stated over and over. We are always going to be protesting killings.”

Joy First got a bit farther during an 18-minute trial on February 9. Her cross-examination of the deputy sheriff centered on why, of all people, their group was arrested even before they could declare their intention at the gatehouse. All the deputy knew was that the sheriff had said to arrest them if they stepped onto the base. And conveniently, the sheriff was not there to testify. In her own defense, First gave brief testimony, stating that she was there not to be arrested, but to petition her government, fulfill a Nuremberg obligation, and request a meeting with the base commander, who has never answered their letters asking to meet. She offered a Supreme Court opinion that intent, in their case, should be weighed in the verdict.

The district attorney again moved to strike it all from the record, but this time Curran overruled, noting the legal arguments First made. Nevertheless, she was also declared guilty and fined \$232. Reminded of his promise that she could make a closing statement, he agreed to listen and maybe be convinced to vacate her sentence.

She ended with a plea to “please find me not guilty as charged and join me in saying that we need to stop arresting, detaining, and prosecuting nonviolent people of good will and conscience who take action for peace and justice.” Curran responded that he was convinced only that what she was asking him to do was very dangerous. He affirmed her conviction and sentence and quickly left the courtroom.

Phil Runkel, archivist of Dorothy Day’s papers and the Catholic Worker collection at Marquette University since 1977, stretched his February 19 trial out to 22 minutes, but to no better ending. He began his testimony by citing his personal conviction that actions against the

# FUTURE ACTIONS

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

## nevada

**The 2016 Sacred Peace Walk**, hosted by the Nevada Desert Experience, leaves Las Vegas on Saturday, March 19, concluding at the Nevada Test Site on Saturday, March 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 drone warfare 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](http://nevadadesertexperience.org) or call 702-646-4814.

**The Spring 2016 Mass Mobilization to Stop Drone Wars and Shut Down Creech Air Force Base** is from March 27 – April 2, 2015. Join CodePink, Veterans for Peace, Voices for Creative Nonviolence, Nevada Desert Experience and others for a major nonviolent civil resistance action on April 1. Primitive camping and potable water available at Camp Justice, across the highway from Creech AFB, with outdoor showers nearby at the Sekhmet Temple of Goddess Spirituality in Cactus Springs. Group meals prepared from March 30 – April 1. For more information and registration, visit [shutdowncreech.blogspot.com](http://shutdowncreech.blogspot.com) or call Toby at 510-215-5974.

## livermore

The annual Good Friday witness at Livermore Nuclear Lab begins at Vasco and Patterson Pass Roads in Livermore, California at 6:45 a.m. on March 25. Rev. Deborah Lee will preach on the theme Empire and the Cross: Sowing the Seeds of Hope. The service includes liturgical dance led by Carla DeSola, procession to the gate, Stations of the Cross and nonviolent acts of witness. Community gathering afterwards about 10 a.m. at nearby Asbury United Methodist Church. See [www.epicalc.org](http://www.epicalc.org) for more details or call 510-990-0374 or 510-654-4983.

## 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](http://fennovoima.no.com); or RSVP to [hanhikivi@tutanota.com](mailto:hanhikivi@tutanota.com).

extra-judicial, targeted killings that define U.S. drone war policy are “international duties which transcend the national obligations of obedience imposed by the individual State,” citing the judgement at Nuremberg.

But when he began to address the casualties of drone warfare, the district attorney objected and Curran sustained the motion. The judge asked Runkel what that had to do with trespassing. But when Runkel tried to explain his motives, the prosecutor objected and the judge grew agitated. Curran angrily exclaimed that he did not need to be lectured by Runkel about Nuremberg.

Runkel continued, but his testimony was cut off when the judge declared him guilty and fined him \$232. When Runkel reminded the judge that he still had a closing statement to give, Curran declared it was too late, it was all over, and then got up and briskly left the courtroom.

## MORE ARRESTS AT VOLK FIELD

Two days before the seventh trial, that of Mary Beth Schlagheck on February 25, peripatetic drone resisters Kathy Kelly and Brian Terrell walked towards the Volk Field gatehouse with a letter for the commander and a gift of bread to break together. Through their work with Voices for Creative Nonviolence and Afghan Peace Volunteers, both have broken bread with survivors of drone warfare in Afghanistan. They hoped to share the same hospitality with a few of those who make such attacks possible, but were instead arrested and jailed overnight.

In court the next afternoon, they were granted bail on a trespass charge and released, while their offer to plead no contest and waive a pre-sentencing investigation was rejected. A pre-trial hearing is set for March 23.

Mary Beth Schlagheck’s trial will be reported in the next issue. Of the two other August defendants, Cassandra Dixon took a plea agreement and paid about \$100 in fine and fees, while Tyler Shiffer is out of state. For more information, contact Joy First, [joyfirst5@gmail.com](mailto:joyfirst5@gmail.com).

Thanks to Joy First for her reports.

## burghfield

In June, join a month of daily direct action against Trident renewal at the United Kingdom’s nuclear weapons factory, AWE Burghfield. The U.K. government is intent on replacing and modernizing its nuclear weapon system and will do so unless the public shows enough resistance to stop it. Find a group to work with, plan an action, book a date in the June diary. If you would like to be put in touch with a group who will be at AWE Burghfield during June 2016, please email Angie at [reforest@gn.apc.org](mailto:reforest@gn.apc.org). More information is available at [tridentploughshares.org](http://tridentploughshares.org).

## 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](http://www.lvcw.org).



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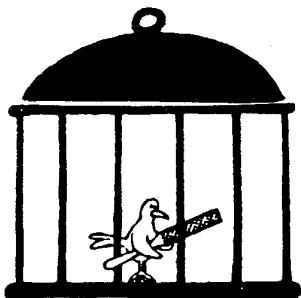
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# Update Files



**CHELSEA MANNING:** An appeal of the conviction and sentencing of the U.S. army whistleblower is expected to be filed this spring with the U.S. Army Court of Criminal Appeals, lead appeal attorney Nancy Hollander told the Guardian in December. The court has the power to dismiss the case entirely, return it to the trial court for a new hearing or sentence, or set its own new sentence...

**SHANNON AIRPORT:** Instead of the expected 30 days, Irish legislators Clare Daly and Mick Wallace were only briefly jailed in December after refusing to pay fines for their attempted inspection of U.S. airplanes suspected of using the international airport in violation of Irish sovereignty. Wallace was taken into custody when he reported to police on December 9, and Daly also responded to a warrant later that day. Both were taken to Limerick Prison, but released within a few hours on condition of good behavior. Both still refuse to pay the €2,000 fine. Upon his release, Wallace told assembled reporters, “Don’t worry, we will get in there again. It’s an absolute disgrace that the planes are not being searched and we will keep at this until the government cops on to itself and stops allowing Shannon to be used as a military airbase to kill innocent people.” Edward Horgan, another Shannonwatch activist, has had four court dates but still no trial set for his impromptu attempt to inspect U.S. warplanes last April...

**SICILY:** While he awaits trial (date not yet set) for damaging a U.S. military satellite dish last November, Turi Vaccaro was sentenced February 15 to seven months in prison for resisting arrest and injuring an officer, despite video evidence showing only passive resistance. The incident in question occurred in July, 2013 during an anti-war protest at the 70th anniversary celebration of the Allied landing in Sicily. If the sentence is upheld at a final hearing, Vaccaro will be jailed...

**R.A.F. FAIRFORD:** The crown prosecutor has decided to take “no further action” in the case of Lindis Percy, who walked onto the runway of the southern England air force base last summer to protest the recent arrival of three U.S. B-52 bombers at the only European airfield built to accommodate them...

**PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER PLANT:** A Massachusetts jury convicted Paul Rifkin on February 1 of trespass during a Mother’s Day, 2015 demonstration at the creaky old reactor. Despite a prosecutor’s threat of jail for Rifkin’s third arrest seeking a permanent shut down of the nascent threat to Cape Cod and the greater Boston area, the activist was sentenced to probation and community service. “I realize there was a ‘no trespassing’ sign that I was going beyond, but I was looking to a higher authority than the sign,” Rifkin told a reporter. “I was going towards my conscience.” For the third winter in a row, the reactor was shut down a week later as a precautionary measure before a major snowstorm moved through New England...

**FASLANE TRIDENT BASE:** In December, the second of three residents of the nearby peace camp charged with infiltrating the nuclear submarine base last summer had the case dismissed because, like the first, the accused was not shown on videotape of the incident. Those who do appear on the video have come forward, but the third arrestee is still facing a trespass charge. In January, Scottish Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) activists documenting a truck convoy delivering nuclear bombs to the nearby Coulport nuclear weapons store were pulled over near Glasgow and subjected to detailed questioning and a car search, but no arrests were made...

**VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE:** Los Angeles Catholic Worker Mike Wisniewski was sentenced February 18 in Santa Barbara for his August, 2015 protest at the nuclear missile test base. During a discussion with the parties, Federal Magistrate LaMonte was reported to be sympathetic to the cause of the protesters, yet believed some punishment for breaking the law to be in order. Jail was too harsh, a fine would go unpaid in principle, and probation would not deter future arrests, but in the end Wisniewski was sentenced to one year probation and \$35 in court fees. Three more men arrested the same day will be sentenced in March and April...

## THE INSIDE LINE, cont.

*continued from page 5*  
of their peace witnesses. Thanks for the MLK quotes and others and your own as well. I’m a slow writer, so forgive me if I don’t get back to you. Each of your letters (except the ones held back) are read and treasured.

Thanks to folks bringing meals to Mom. I know many of you have written to me at my home and I look forward to reading your cards when I return. Also thanks to folks who have generously donated towards my home and jail expenses and Mom’s care. Thank you for those gifts. I’m feeling so much gratitude for all that you have showered upon me.

I am warm. I am fed. I have good people around me. I’m so grateful for all your prayers and thoughts. I feel so lifted by you and God’s grace. I hold you in my thoughts and prayers.

I’ll be sending more letters, please keep an eye out for them.

In gratitude,  
Mary Anne Grady Flores  
*[Mary Anne Grady Flores is serving six months in jail for violating a court order protecting the commander of Hancock Air Base, New York, from where armed drones are operated.]*

## ANNOUNCEMENT

...**Nuclear Heartland: Revised Editon – a guide to the 450 land-based missiles of the United States** (Nuke-watch, 2015), edited by John LaForge and Arianne Peterson, includes all of the original 1988 definitive atlas of 1,000 buried launch silos and commentary by Samuel H. Day, Jr., plus updated maps and photos of the remaining 450 silos and a new forward by Matthew Rothschild, introduction by John LaForge and afterword by Bonnie Urfer. As Plowshares activist Martin Holladay wrote in 1985, the truth remains that “they are scattered through the countryside like razor blades in a loaf of bread.” \$25 + \$5 s/h from Nukewatch, 740A Round Lake Road, Luck, WI 54853, or by Paypal at [www.nukewatch.info](http://www.nukewatch.info).

the Nuclear

# Resister

“A Chronicle of Hope”

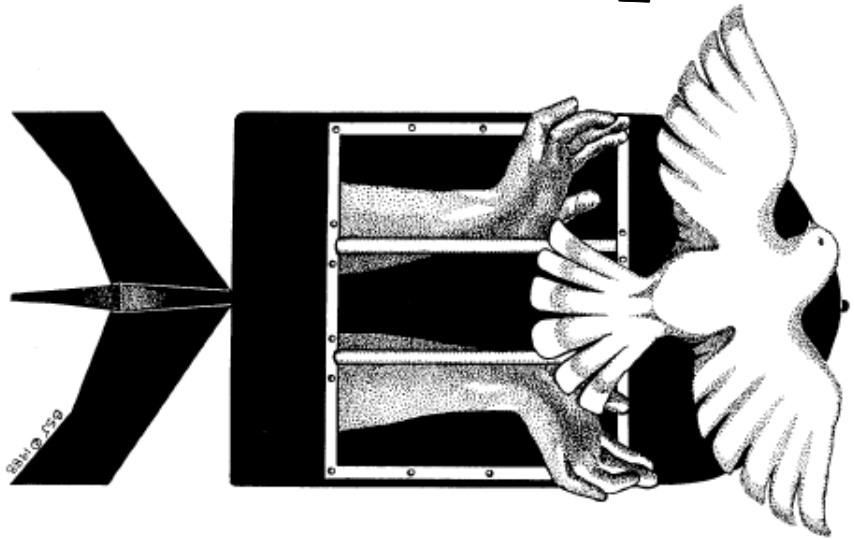
Indian Point Blockade

Hammer of Justice Strikes  
Northrop Grumman

Drone Resister Jailed for  
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Peltier Reflects on  
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Jeju Navy Base Resister  
Picks Jail Over Fine



#180 March 1, 2016  
INFORMATION  
ABOUT AND  
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Writings from Jail,  
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...and more

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