

the Nuclear Resister

“A Chronicle of Hope”

No. 181

June 2, 2016

Drone War Resistance in Nevada

Shut Down Creech!



A mock funeral procession approaches the entrance of Creech Air Force Base, April 1, 2016.

Shut Down Creech photo

A remote air force base at the center of U.S. drone warfare was again the site of multiple protests and arrests this spring. Well over 100 people from 20 states and a few foreign countries joined in demonstrations at Creech Air Force Base in Indian Springs, Nevada.

The 65-mile Sacred Peace Walk from Las Vegas to the Nevada nuclear weapons test site, sponsored annually by the Nevada Desert Experience, stopped at Creech as they passed by on March 23. During an early morning vigil, eight people were arrested in the road leading to the main gate, cited for trespass, and released on-site. (See page 5 for the report of arrests at the test site.)

A ferocious spring wind with bone-chilling gusts over 60 mph met about 20 vigilers on Monday afternoon, March 28, the first day of the annual Shut Down Creech peace camp and actions. The next morning, after that frigid night in the desert, a regular local counter-protester greeted his opponents by delivering a cart-load of wood for the “Camp Justice” fire circle.

More protesters arrived at Camp Justice over the next few days, joining the twice-daily vigils and preparing for resistance actions later that week. On Wednesday night, Veterans for Peace sponsored a symposium at

University of Nevada/Las Vegas School of Law called “Inside Drone Warfare: Perspectives of Whistleblowers, Families of Drone Victims and Their Lawyers.”

By Thursday morning, March 31, more than 100 people were on hand as military veterans and friends led a rush-hour blockade of the east gate. Police diverted traffic to a second gate, and then to the little-used third gate, farther west, when four activists blocked the second gate in silent meditation.

The four were not arrested, but at the east gate police arrested seven members of Veterans for Peace (VFP) and a member of New York’s Granny Peace Brigade, hauling them off to jail in Las Vegas where they were cited and released.

One of the arrestees, VFP Advisory Board member retired Army Col. Ann Wright said, “This is a way to bring to people actually operating drones the consequences of their actions. The presence of an activist force has had an impact on the consciousness of those who have spoken out about this program, the whistleblowers. Having been in government for forty years, I know having citizens

continued next column

JUDGE’S ‘NOT GUILTY’ VINDICATES BLOCKADES OF LONDON ARMS FAIR

Eight people arrested last September while protesting the Defence and Security Equipment International (DSEI) exhibition in London have been acquitted of all charges. The judge found “clear, credible and largely unchallenged evidence” had been presented in their defense that illegal arms were to be sold during the world’s largest arms trade fair.

The defendants - a global crew from Britain, Bahrain, Belgium, Chile and Peru - were charged with blocking access to the ExCeL Center on three separate days. Their actions were justified, they claimed, because years of fruitless legal campaigning had left no alternative but peaceful intervention to stop the crimes in progress.

In a public statement last fall, the defendants asked, “Why is it us - and not the war makers and profiteers - that are on trial?”

They wrote:

We know that the tools of the type promoted for sale at DSEI 2015 will be used to reinforce apartheid, to surveil and brutalize communities from Brixton to Bahrain, and to perpetuate the border regime that kills thousands every year - as European states wage a war against the refugees they helped create. We know that weapons promoted at DSEI are used to incinerate whole families at the touch of a button in places from Palestine to Pakistan. We know that such weapons will continue to devastate landscapes and do permanent

environmental damage across the globe. And that these weapons have been used in systematic forced evictions and ethnic cleansing; such as against the people of Kurdistan. And we know that weapons of the type promoted at DSEI will be used to torture and repress people based on their political views, faith, gender, or sexuality in places like Saudi Arabia. Sometimes the tools of oppression are literal - and they are for sale at DSEI arms fair.

An Amnesty International researcher, one of three experts who took the stand, testified not only about specific illegal weapons that have been sold at every DSEI arms fair for at least a decade, but also how legal arms purchased there have been used in illegal ways.

Other expert testimony about the global arms trade explained Britain’s financial interest in looking the other way while inviting delegations from authoritarian countries and nations at war to attend the event where banned cluster munitions, torture devices and other illicit arms are to be offered for sale.

British firms are a major supplier of weapons used in Saudi Arabia’s war on Yemen, and in the Bahrain monarchy’s war on its own dissenting subjects.

Among the defendants, the testimony of Asa Al-Aali, 21, brought that point home. The young man was granted asylum in Britain after his arrest and torture during uprisings in his native Bahrain in 2011. Al-Aali had

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Three in Prison for Nuclear Missile Protest

Three men are serving federal prison sentences in California for trespass at Vandenberg Air Force Base last August 8. Dennis Apel, Jeff Dietrich and David Omondi, all members of Catholic Worker communities in Santa Maria and Los Angeles, were convicted last winter for the Hiroshima/Nagasaki memorial line-crossing at the nuclear missile test site.

Apel and Dietrich were sentenced March 17 to six months supervised probation and 200 hours community service. Both told the court that they would not pay and would not comply with any part of the sentence, but Judge Louise LaMothe put off the inevitable and set a status review hearing for April 21.

Omondi joined them in court that day for sentencing, and the men all restated their refusal to pay fines or accept probation as punishment for their act of conscience. Omondi told the court he did not want supervised release because he wants to return as soon as possible to his native Kenya.

The probation office recommended 30-day sentences for Apel and Dietrich, and the prosecutor suggested two months, but the last word was with Judge LaMothe, who ordered the men to serve four months in prison as a deterrence. Omondi, with fewer prior convictions, was sentenced to two months in prison. He surrendered to federal custody on May 3, Dietrich turned himself in on May 2, and Apel on May 9.

Letters from Apel and Omondi are on page 4, The Inside Line. For more information, visit lacatholicworker.org.



Letters of support should be send individually addressed to Robert J. Dietrich 81196-012, Michael David Omondi 94638-020, and John D. Apel 26142-112; all at MDC Los Angeles, Metropolitan Detention Center, P.O. Box 1500, Los Angeles, CA 90053.

speaking out has had an impact.”

On Friday, April 1, morning traffic into Creech Air Force Base was disrupted again for a couple of hours. During the first action at 7 a.m., six children and eight adults, dressed as angels, staged a dramatic mock funeral to demonstrate the gruesome “double tap”, a military practice of drone strikes targeting the funeral procession for a previous drone victim. A young ballerina led the procession, laying red roses in the road in front of a line of police. She was followed by other children, who carried a casket into a restricted area at the main gate. The group re-enacted a drone strike, spilling baby doll and adult mannequin body parts onto the road. None of the children were arrested, but seven adults were when they refused to leave the road.

At about the same time, other activists began to block the highway and the other base gates, resulting in arrests at the second gate. Back at the main gate, as soon as it was re-opened by military police, two more waves of activists breached a barricade and again blocked the road, resulting in five more arrests.

The eighteen arrestees were all taken to Las Vegas for processing, fifteen on jaywalking charges and three for trespass on federal property. All but Brian Terrell were released later that day.

Terrell was held over the weekend for an unpaid fine from last year’s Shut Down Creech action. In court Monday afternoon, he stood before the same judge from his first drone protest trial in 2010, who said he’d done enough time now to cover the unpaid fine and get the latest charge dismissed, as well. All of the others who were arrested have court dates in Las Vegas in mid-July.

For more information, visit nevadadesertexperience.org and shutdowncreech.blogspot.com.

DANIEL BERRIGAN, PRIEST, PRISONER, ANTI-WAR CRUSADER, DIES

by Patrick O'Neill

(from the *National Catholic Reporter*
- read the entire obituary online at bit.ly/DanBObit)

He was priest, prophet, poet and prisoner. Anti-war crusader Jesuit Fr. Daniel Berrigan died Saturday, April 30, of natural causes at Murray-Weigel Hall, a Jesuit health care facility in the Bronx, nine days shy of his 95th birthday. One of the most controversial figures in the 20th century U.S. Church, Berrigan, along with his late brother, Philip, burned draft files and hammered on nuclear weapons components, in acts of resistance to U.S. militarism. The Berrigan brothers' felonious forms of nonviolent protest led a nation of Catholics, and millions of others, to both loathe and love the brothers, who together made the cover of *Time* magazine in 1971 for their work in opposition to the Vietnam War...

Daniel J. Berrigan was born May 9, 1921, in Virginia, Minnesota, the fifth of six boys to Thomas and Frieda Berrigan. After his family moved to Syracuse, New York, where the sons attended Catholic schools, Berrigan entered the Jesuit novitiate at St. Andrew-on-the-Hudson, New York in August 1939. He graduated in 1946 and entered the Jesuit's Woodstock College in Baltimore, graduating from there in 1952, the same year he was ordained.

After a year of studying and ministering in France, where he met some worker-priests who gave him, he wrote, "a practical vision of the church as she should be," he was assigned to teach theology and French at the Jesuits' Brooklyn Preparatory School.

In 1957, Berrigan was appointed professor of New Testament studies at Le Moyne College in Syracuse, and he won the Lamont Poetry Prize from the Academy of American Poets for his book of poems, *Time Without Number*. He would go on to publish more than 50 books of poetry, essays, journals and scripture commentaries.

However, it was his anti-war work for which Berrigan gained his most notoriety, spending approximately two years of his life in jail and prison.

He joined other prominent religious figures like Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, the Rev. Richard John Neuhaus, then a Lutheran pastor, and the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. to found Clergy and Laity Against the War in Vietnam. In February 1968, he traveled with historian Howard Zinn to North Vietnam and returned with three American prisoners of war who were released as a goodwill gesture...

Berrigan will forever be mentioned in the same breath as his late brother, Philip, who died of cancer December 6, 2002. The brothers were constant companions in crime, arrested together at the Select Services System office in Catonsville, Maryland, May 17, 1968, for using homemade napalm to burn draft files. A dozen years later, September 8, 1980, while spearheading the faith-based opposition to the nuclear arms race, the Berrigan brothers and six others brazenly forced their way into a General Electric armaments factory in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, and pounded on two Mark 12A nuclear missile nose cones with simple carpenters hammers to, as they described it, disarm the weapons. Inspired by a

passage from Isaiah, they symbolically sought to turn swords into plowshares...

The Catonsville caper led to a three-year federal prison sentence, which was preceded with Dan Berrigan going underground, all the while playing a game of cat and mouse with the FBI. With the help of anti-war friends, Berrigan stayed on the lam for four months, giving interviews and even speaking publicly against the Vietnam War.

"I knew I would be apprehended eventually, but I wanted to draw attention for as long as possible to the Vietnam War, and to Nixon's ordering military action in Cambodia," Berrigan told *America* magazine in a 2009 interview.

Berrigan's life of resistance was also influenced by his personal friendships with Catholic Worker founder, Dorothy Day, who Berrigan met in the 1940s while teaching at Jesuit schools in New York City, and with Trappist monk Thomas Merton, who Berrigan met in the 1960s.

As Berrigan's anti-war activities expanded, and his visibility and that of his brother increased, Jesuit superiors ordered Berrigan to be transferred to Latin America. Berrigan left, but his so-called forced exile brought heat on the Jesuits and Berrigan returned to the United States after just four months.

Throughout his activist life, Berrigan addressed issues as they came his way. He supported and visited young IRA prisoners on hunger strikes in the Northern Ireland. He defended the reputation of an American Quaker, Norman Morrison, who shocked the nation when on November 2, 1965, he immolated himself on the grounds of the Pentagon in a protest against the Vietnam War. Berrigan also protested capital punishment and U.S. military intervention.

Berrigan received criticism from the political left for his pro-life views. He was a longtime endorser of the "consistent life ethic," and he served on the advisory board of Consistent Life, an organization that describes itself as "committed to the protection of life, which is threatened in today's world by war, abortion, poverty, racism, capital punishment and euthanasia."

"I have always made it clear," Berrigan said in the *America* interview, "that I am against everything from war to abortion to euthanasia. I have avoided being a single-issue person..."

In the 1980s, he began ministering to patients with AIDS in New York City, work he stayed with through the 1990s...

[Editors' note: Daniel Berrigan was the first U.S. priest to be arrested in an anti-war protest, at the Pentagon during the national mobilization against the Vietnam war in October 1967. His last arrest was at the USS Intrepid Museum in New York City on Good Friday, April 2, 2011.]

Patrick O'Neill, a long-time NCR contributor, is a Catholic Worker and activist who spent 22 months in prison for the 1984 Pershing Plowshares action.

Our apologies, good friends, for the fracture of good order, the burning of paper instead of children, the angering of the orderlies in the front parlor of the chanel house. We could not, so help us God, do otherwise.

We say killing is disorder. Life and gentleness and community and unselfishness is the only order we recognize. For the sake of that order we risk our liberty, our good name.

The time is past when good men can remain silent, when obedience can segregate men from public risk, when the poor can die without defense.

We ask our fellow Christians to consider in their hearts a question which has tortured us, night and day, since the war began. How many must die before our voices are heard, how many must be tortured, dislocated, starved, maddened? How long must the world's resources be raped in the service of legalized murder? When, at what point, will you say no to this war? We have chosen to say, with the gift of our liberty, if necessary our lives: the violence stops here, the death stops here, the suppression of the truth stops here, this war stops here.

From Dan Berrigan's statement at the 1968 trial of the Catonsville Nine: Dan, his brother Phil and seven others who burned files used to draft young men for the war in Vietnam

Rev. John Dear wrote:

Dan and Phil inspired millions of people around the world to speak out against war and work for peace, and helped turn the Catholic church back to its Gospel roots of peace and nonviolence. I consider him not just a legendary peace activist but one of the greatest saints and prophets of modern times... Thank you, Dan. May we all take heart from your astonishing peacemaking life, and carry on the work to abolish war, poverty and nuclear weapons.

Elizabeth McAlister shared these words at her brother-in-law's funeral:

Sisters and brothers, it is of no service to Dan or to his memory for us to simply hold him up as an icon, especially in ways that exempt us from responsibility. How much better would it be if we asked for a double portion of Dan's spirit, and better yet, if we acted on it?

iPresente!

Rev. Daniel Berrigan, S.J.

May 9, 1921 - April 30, 2016

Poet, nuclear and war resister, prophet,
Jesuit priest. Daniel, the last of the
Berrigan brothers, died at age 94.

Thank you, Dan, for your support of
the Nuclear Resister over the past 35+ years,
for your encouragement, for your example.

May your memory be a blessing,
and shine a light on the way forward.



April 2, 2011

photo by Ananda Strazzini

More about Daniel Berrigan can be found at bit.ly/DanBstories

Thanks

Thanks to Sonia, Xiomara, Allison, Sam, Faith, David, Kathleen, Frank, Linda and Charlotte for helping to mail the last issue – and to all the people who helped with and attended the 35th anniversary celebration and fundraiser in Tucson!

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!

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

THE NUCLEAR RESISTER ON MICROFILM

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

ABOUT THE NUCLEAR RESISTER

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

The Nuclear Resister is published about every 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

Medical Neglect Harming NATO Protest Prisoner

The last man in prison for protest at the 2012 NATO Summit in Chicago has had another year added to his sentence. Along with a recent loss of good time on his original eight-year term, Jared Chase may not be paroled until November, 2017.

Following his 2012 arrest and imprisonment, Chase was repeatedly denied treatment for his symptoms of Huntington's disease, an hereditary neurodegenerative genetic disorder for which experts say he deserves treatment, not punishment. His loss of good time is based on incident reports Chase received while vigorously and persistently demanding treatment for the terminal illness and Hepatitis-C. It is a cruel irony that the Illinois Department

of Corrections, which in May agreed to spend \$80 million on facilities and staff to settle a major mental health care lawsuit, not only medically neglects its own prisoners but then punishes one who speaks out and demands treatment.

On April 11, Chase pled guilty and was sentenced to the additional year for assaulting a prison guard with excrement while awaiting trial, a behavior consistent with untreated Huntington's disease.

Since last December, when he reported being assaulted by guards during a cell transfer, doctors at the state prison in Pontiac have refused to see Chase and treat facial injuries even the judge noticed in court a week later. Consequently, Chase has not received needed medical care nor prescriptions to treat symptoms of Huntington's disease, psychiatric conditions such as depression resulting from the disease, and Hepatitis-C, commonly contracted inside prisons. In an April letter to the Nuclear Resister regarding the December assault, Chase wrote, "The object is to expose what is going on here at the IDOC (Illinois Department of Corrections), not just to me but also to everyone." Nevertheless, letters urging the prison to provide medical care for Jared Chase are needed now.

Chase was among three NATO protesters framed by undercover Chicago police instigators. All were acquitted of state terrorism charges but convicted of mob action and intent to commit arson. The other two have already completed their prison sentences. For more information, visit freethenato3.wordpress.com or Free the NATO 3 on Facebook.com.



Letters politely requesting medical treatment for broken nose, Huntington's disease and Hepatitis-C should reference Jared Chase, ID M44710, and be addressed to Acting Warden Michael Melvin, Pontiac Correctional Center, POB 99, Pontiac, IL 61764.

Please also call, email or write the Illinois Department of Corrections and ask that they reinstate Chase's good time so he can get out as soon as possible and seek treatment. Illinois Department of Corrections, 1301 Concordia Court, P.O. Box 19277, Springfield, IL 62794-9277, 217-558-2200x2008, or via www.illinois.gov/idoc/contactus.

Jared's birthday is June 12. Birthday cards and letters of support should be sent to Jared Chase M44710, P.O. Box 99, Pontiac, IL 61764.

Peltier Petitions for Clemency

In May, attorneys for Leonard Peltier released the text of their 44-page Petition for Executive Clemency and/or Commutation of Sentence, delivered to President Obama in February. In a cover letter urging clemency, they wrote, "The time has come for the interests of the law enforcement community to be balanced against principles of fundamental fairness, reconciliation, and healing."

After more than half his life behind bars, the deteriorating health of the 71-year-old political prisoner, including diabetes, hypertension, loss of some vision and motor function due to a stroke, and an abdominal aortic aneurysm, have left him ill-equipped for living in a maximum-security prison. "Mr. Peltier has exhausted all appeals and is next eligible to apply for parole in 2024, in the unlikely event that he lives that long," they wrote. The Parole Commission has yielded to the objections of the FBI and Department of Justice in denying Mr. Peltier's applications for parole at every turn. Effectively, the Petition represents the last chance in Mr. Peltier's lifetime for the government to take curative and/or reconciliatory action.

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. For more information, visit whoisleonardpeltier.info.



Supporters are asked to contact their representatives in Congress to back Peltier's clemency petition, and Amnesty International has posted a petition to President Obama in support of clemency, along with other support actions. Search for "Peltier" at amnesty.org.

Peltier's declining health remains a critical concern, particularly the risk of his aneurysm rupturing before it will again be examined in August. For maximum impact, support letters are best sent by regular mail to the following Bureau of Prison officials expressing "respectful but firm" concern for Peltier's life-threatening medical condition, and the 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; Thomas R. Kane, Acting Director, Federal Bureau of Prisons, 320 First Street, NW, Washington, DC 20534.

Time Served, Fine & Restitution For "Hammer of Justice" Activist

A jury deliberated for half an hour before convicting Jessica Reznicek of misdemeanor trespass and criminal mischief for breaking two windows and a door at the Omaha, Nebraska corporate office of war contractor Northrup Grumman.

Reznicek initially faced felony charges for the December 27 "Hammer of Justice" action, and was jailed on a \$100,000 bond. Her bond was reduced to \$1,000 at a March 7 hearing, which she posted so she could prepare to defend herself at trial. At pre-trial hearings in May, the felony charges were reduced to misdemeanors and Judge Patricia Lamberty said prosecution motions *in limine* to restrict testimony about Northrup Grumman's abetting war crimes were premature.

At her May 24 trial in Sarpy County District Court, Reznicek took the stand and told the six-person jury "my story, my truth" about why she broke the windows, literally opening up the company for further scrutiny of its deep commitment to profit from war. But the judge did not allow the jury to consider that her action was justified to prevent the greater crime of Northrup Grumman's war business.

The next day, Judge Lamberty sentenced Reznicek to the 72 days she served in jail, and despite her repeated refusal to pay the court, she was ordered to pay \$4,126.60 in fines and restitution. Her bond was seized in lieu of part of the payment.

For more information, contact jessicareznicek@gmail.com, and visit dmccatholicworker.org.

NEW YORK DRONE RESISTER OUT ON APPEAL

Mary Anne Grady Flores was released from jail on March 7 after posting \$5,000 cash bail while her six month sentence is on appeal. She had served 49 days, and now awaits word whether the New York State Court of Appeals will consider her challenge to the validity of an order of protection granted to Colonel Evans of the Hancock Air National Guard Base 174th Attack Wing (Syracuse) by a judge. Orders of protection are generally issued to protect vulnerable people from domestic violence. Grady Flores was arrested for ostensibly violating this order while standing in the road outside the base and simply photographing peaceful drone protesters. The 174th Attack Wing pilots armed Reaper drones in combat around the globe from the base, and has been the focus of a campaign of anti-war civil resistance for more than five years.

Three days after Grady Flores got out of jail, Nazareth College Professor of Sociology Harry Murray was in DeWitt Town Court to finally be sentenced for his conviction for trespass at Hancock in 2013. Murray had filed a 3,300 word sentencing memorandum with the court, "to continue the conversation we have had over the past five years on the nature of civil disobedience, particularly in the context of the Reaper drone control center at Hancock Air National Guard Base."

Addressing Judge David Gideon in court, Murray said he initially had doubts that opposing drone warfare justified his participation in civil disobedience like the existential threat of nuclear weapons does. But while

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Inside @ Out



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

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)

Robert J. Dietrich 81196-012
(4 months - in 5/2/16)

Michael David Omondi 94638-020
(2 months - in 5/3/16)

John D. Apel 26142-112
(4 months - in 5/9/16)
MDC Los Angeles, Metropolitan Detention Center, P.O. Box 1500, Los Angeles, CA 90053.

(Conviction on trespass charge from August, 2015 action at Vandenberg Air Force Base, California to commemorate the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki)

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

ANTI-WAR RELATED ACTIONS

Chelsea E. Manning 89289
1300 North Warehouse Road, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas 66027-2304.
(35 years - in 5/2010)

(Whistleblower convicted on charges related to release of military video and documents showing evidence of U.S. war crimes)

Rafil Dhafir 11921-052
FMC Devens Unit GB, Federal Medical Center, P.O. Box 879, Ayer, MA 01432.
(22 years - out 4/26/22)
(Convictions resulting from providing humanitarian and financial aid to Iraqis in violation of U.S. sanctions, 2/05)

Norman Edgar Lowry Jr. KN 9758
SCI Dallas, 1000 Follies Rd., Dallas, PA 18612.
(1 to 7 years - max out 8/31/18)
(Sentenced 5/21/12 for third trespass at military recruiting office in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, 8/1/11)

Jared Chase M44710
P.O. Box 99, Pontiac, IL 61764.
(8 years - out 11/6/17)
(Convicted of possession of incendiary devices with intent to commit arson during protests at NATO summit in Chicago, May, 2012)

**PREVIOUSLY LISTED,
RECENTLY RELEASED: Jessica Reznicek,
Mary Anne Grady Flores, Kim Guk-Nam**

Fr. Berrigan's Words Inspire Mother's Day Blockade

It was the Ground Zero Center's annual Mother's Day peace demonstration, and the late Fr. Daniel Berrigan's words, read aloud, guided this year's action:

We have assumed the name of peacemakers, but we have been, by and large, unwilling to pay any significant price. And because we want the peace with half a heart and half a life and will, the war, of course, continues, because the waging of war, by its nature, is total – but the waging of peace, by our own cowardice, is partial... We are instructed that deprivation and discipline, private grief and public obedience are to be our lot. And we obey. And we bear with it – because bear we must – because war is war, and good war or bad, we are stuck with it and its cost.

No Bars to Manhood, 1969

Thirty-five people took part in the May 7 protest against nuclear weapons at the Kitsap-Bangor nuclear submarine base in Washington state.

When five people stood and blocked the main highway entrance into the base, three who had crossed the base boundary line were arrested, while two others were escorted from the state side of the road by the State Patrol.

The three carried an illustration of Fr. Berrigan inscribed with his counsel: "Know where you stand, and stand there." They also carried a colorful banner with symbols linking nuclear weapons and climate change.

Larry Kerschner, Bernie Meyer and Br. Gilberto Perez were cited for trespass and released on site.

TRIAL UPDATE

On April 1, eight people who crossed the line at the nuclear weapons base last August 10 had their trespass trial in federal court in Tacoma. Judge David Christel granted the government's motion to exclude any evidence for a necessity defense, such as treaties and international law. The defendants each took the stand and told their stories of varied lives that led them to cross the line, but they were not allowed to argue their action was a legitimate response to illegitimate weapons. The eight were convicted and sentenced to one year probation and 100 hours of community service with an "organization unrelated to nuclear disarmament."

For more information, visit gzcenter.org, where most of the defendants' full testimony can be found.

PACIFIC LIFE COMMUNITY RETURNS TO VANDENBERG

For its annual gathering and resistance action, the Pacific Life Community (PLC) alternates among several U.S. nuclear-weapons-related sites in the western United States. This year they met for two nights in Santa Barbara, California with their guests – filmmaker Adam Jonas Horowitz, who showed his 2011 documentary, *Nuclear Savage*, about the devastating impact of nuclear weapons testing on the Marshall Islands, and Marshall Islanders Julian and Sholla Riklon and their daughter Ellenora, who shared their family's story as nuclear exiles.

The Riklons and Horowitz joined dozens of PLC members for a demonstration at Vandenberg Air Force Base on Sunday, March 6. In front of the base main gate, a street theater re-enactment of the 67 nuclear weapons launched into the atolls of the Marshall Islands from Vandenberg set the stage for seven people who then walked into the base to deliver a letter of protest to the commander. Karan Benton, Ed Ehmke, Jorge Manly-Gil, Elizabeth Murray, Mary Jane Parrine, Charley Smith and Tom Webb were arrested when they refused to leave, cited for trespass and released. For more information, visit pacificlifecommunity.wordpress.com.

MEMORIAL DAY FOR NUCLEAR WORKERS

On May 30, more than 50 people took part in a Memorial Day peace walk from the old Kansas City nuclear weapons parts plant to the new one, about ten miles away. Surviving former employees of the old factory addressed the walkers about the legacy of their work.

"We are memorializing those who died and got sick because of the toxic chemicals used at the old plant to make parts for nuclear weapons" from 1949 to 2014, said Lu Mounenay, a minister from Independence, Missouri. "If it happened then, it will happen again at the new plant."

At the conclusion of the walk, half of the walkers memorialized more than 150 known workers to have died from contaminants at the factory with a die-in, while a bugler played Taps. Mounenay then crossed the line, and was cited for trespass before being released at the scene. She has a court appearance scheduled on August 1.

For more information, visit peaceworkskc.org.

Feds Dismiss Drone Protesters Yet Again

For the third time since last summer, federal summons for people who have crossed the line at Beale Air Force Base in California to protest drone warfare were withdrawn soon after being issued. Fourteen people arrested in December and January had been called to court in Sacramento on March 8, but in late February, all 20 total charges against the activists had been withdrawn.

True to their tradition, Occupy Beale activists who camp out once a month to vigil at the base returned on March 7, eleven strong. The next morning, International Women's Day, seven of them blocked a long line of incoming traffic for 20 minutes before crossing the boundary line. They were handcuffed, taken inside the base for processing and released about 90 minutes later. For more information, visit occupybealeafb.org and the Occupy Beale Air Force Base Community on Facebook.com.

WRITINGS FROM JAIL

~ from Los Angeles

May 14, 2016

Dear Friends,

Love and Gratitude to all of you who continue to hold us in your hearts as we once again experience the unique blessing of incarceration. It is an honor to follow in the footsteps of Daniel Berrigan (Present!) and so many others who have helped light the path of active love and resistance to empire. Knowing that two of my most cherished mentors are both imprisoned in this facility, it is impossible not to feel a rightness of place and encouraged by a spirit of solidarity as our witness against the evils of the nuclear age provide yet another opportunity to practice presence to the marginalized, to be a voice for the oppressed, and to declare liberation and the promise of justice.

Much like a human body that experiences heightened sensitivity to sound or touch when deprived of sight, so too the human spirit can find new heights of freedom when forcibly restricted from unfettered physical movement. The clarity, peace, and transcendence that is available in a prison cell in the late night and early morning hours continues to astound, humble, and challenge me. It affirms this path, this journey towards the light, and casts fear in its own appropriate light as a trick, an illusion of empire.

Alignment is the only word that fully describes my experience in prison thus far. From the opportunity to commune with victims of the prison industrial complex, to hear testimony of other inmates who know the inner workings of Vandenberg Air Force Base and the evils practiced therein, to laugh and cry from the pains and joys of transcendence through separation – there are countless ways in which the universe continues to manifest grace in spite of the oppressions of empire.

In these moments we know that the moral arc does indeed bend towards justice. We pray for the people of the Marshall Islands. We pray for the architects of exploitation and material gain, those who seek to consolidate wealth and power through nefarious applications of knowledge and technology. We pray for a Mother Earth which seeks balance and harmony amidst our myriad violations. We ask that we might be

THE INSIDE LINE



instruments of peace, channels of the Divine Source of Infinite Creative Love that undergirds the entire universe. We know that we are joined in these prayers by those who have gone before, and by hundreds, thousands around the country and around the world. Together we are chanting Babylon down. Together we will see the promise of peace fully realized. Shalom, Salaam, Amani. So let it be.

With Gratitude once again,
Peace and Grace, Blessings and Balance,
and Love, Love, Love...

David Omondi

[David Omondi is serving a two-month prison sentence for trespass at Vandenberg Air Force Base, from where nuclear missile tests are launched into the Marshall Islands.]

May 16, 2016

Dear Friends,

Today marks one week (is that all?!) since I arrived at MDC. It's been quite a transition. Every time someone asks how long I'm in for and I respond "four months", I get a reply something like, "Oh man! That's nothing. That's a breeze!" But THIS breeze is movin' real slow.

It's a difficult environment (I'm not complaining, that's just the reality). There is a common area with seven tables of eight (steel seats bolted to the floor), four TVs going simultaneously (no sound...you have to get a radio receiver with headphone to hear them), a microwave, and ice maker and a hot water dispenser. Most guys make meals from food they buy from the commissary (paid for with money on their books). Off

the common room are four halls with cells lining both sides of them. Each cell has two bunks, a sink, a toilet and a locker. Everyone has a cell mate and there are 130 guys on the floor. All inmates are locked in their cells from 8:30 p.m. till 5:00 a.m. when we are awakened and have about 60 seconds to get to breakfast. The cells are open most of the rest of the day and time can be spent in the common area or in the cell. Since there are 130 of us and only 56 seats, we are called to meals by "ranges", four ranges matching the four halls. By unwritten agreement, the seven tables are assigned by race, one table for whites (the race with the fewest #s), one table for the "ChoMos" (the child molesters) and the other five divided between Blacks and Latinos. There are eight common showers. There is a small outside deck for exercise or getting some fresh air.

The hardest parts are the constant din of 130 men yelling, guards yelling, the explosion of testosterone (I am by a long shot the scrawniest one here), the racial divides and sometimes tensions, and more than anything, the separation from family and friends.

So... why am I here???? I'm here because of a combination of conviction and stubbornness. Before I got here I would have told myself it's mostly conviction, but the transition is so stark (scary even) that the whole environment conspires to convince me that conviction had less to do with this than stubbornness that my ego has betrayed me.

So... here is where you come in. You hold me. You support me. You hold my family and we all hold each other. Once I was able to communicate with them, my family brought me back to myself. Because, there IS a conviction, one that comes from faith and a desire for discipleship. Nuclear weapons are an atrocity beyond measure, and we cannot look the other way. I am not here for myself but for all of us. You are not there for me, but for all of us. We all have a role to play in the struggle to rid the world of nuclear weapons. I cannot tell you how grateful I am for your prayers, your love and your support for me, Tensie, the kids, Jorge and Beatitude House. We are the Body of Christ, we all have our part, and we all have each other, and I am grateful.

I am praying for you daily. Thank you, thank you. Love is the answer...

Dennis Apel

[Dennis Apel is serving a four-month prison sentence for trespass at Vandenberg Air Force Base, from where nuclear missile tests are launched into the Marshall Islands.]

“Put Away the Sword”

Good Friday Peace Actions

Pentagon

Students from Loras College in Iowa joined the Atlantic Life community for an overnight Faith and Resistance retreat in Washington, D.C. on March 24-25. The theme of the retreat was: “Put Away the Sword – Stop Crucifixion Today.” Holy Thursday was a day of reflection, sharing, action planning and liturgy for the 25 people present.

Good Friday was a day of public witness, starting at the Pentagon. Early in the morning, the community processed from Army-Navy Drive to the police designated protest zone with signs and small crosses with the names of different victims in our society and world written on them. As hundreds of Pentagon employees streamed into work and with numerous police on hand, four people remained on the Pentagon sidewalk (where one is subject to arrest) and processed toward the building carrying a cross with the inscription: “Suffering Humanity – 2016,” and a sign that said “Put Away the Sword.” As they processed, they were able to kneel and pray three times the traditional prayer of Good Friday “We Adore You O Christ and We Bless You, Because By Your Holy Cross You Have Redeemed the World,” followed by a plea “Put Away the Sword!” Surprisingly, they were not immediately stopped by police and they were able to go halfway down the sidewalk before they were arrested. Felton Davis, Sr. Carol Gilbert, Libby Johnson and Sr. Ardeh Platte were released several hours later, charged with failure to comply with a lawful order and ordered to appear in federal court on May 19. Their charges were dropped a few days before court.

Later, the group demonstrated in front of the White House, creating a tableau of “contemporary crucifixion.” As hundreds of tourists looked on, each of eleven crucified victims wearing black robes took turns standing on a crate, with arms outstretched on the cross. For each a reflection was read aloud, describing their fate as victims of war, nuclearism, racial violence, poverty, torture or prison, with the desecrated earth herself among the crucified in our times. There were no arrests. For more information, visit dccatholicworker.wordpress.com. (Thanks to Art Laffin for this report.)

Livermore

About 150 people attended the annual Good Friday worship just outside the Livermore nuclear weapons lab in California. Organized by the Ecumenical Peace Institute and Livermore Conversion Project, the annual liturgy is a reminder that death by torture on the cross was used by the Roman empire to discourage slave uprisings and revolts, while the nuclear threat serves a similar purpose for the American empire.

The Stations of the Cross were marked along the way of a procession to the gate, remembering some of the many struggles for justice in a world of empire and weap-

Peace Drone Flies at Air Show

Sam Yergler writes about attending Thunder and Lightning Over Arizona at Davis Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson on March 13:

...I lifted the veil on the military industrial complex if only for a short while. During the air show I snuck in a drone of my own and flew it above the Predator drone they had on display. It was affixed with a banner reading “Peace Drone.” As it took off, I addressed the crowd:

“Ladies and gentlemen, this is a peace drone. Do not be afraid, unlike the Reaper Drone it will not kill innocent civilians. Unlike the Reaper Drone, it is not involved in three illegal wars in Somalia, in Pakistan, or in Yemen. Unlike the Reaper Drone, it is not used in extrajudicial killings of American citizens in other countries. Unlike the Reaper Drone, it will not be used to attack your wedding party.”

After I repeated this a couple times my banner got caught in the blades of my quad copter and it fell to the ground. Soon after I was detained [for several hours on the tarmac]. The FBI told me that they would be contacting me and I was escorted off the base.

He was issued a 90-day ban and bar letter, as were two observers who accompanied him into the air show. Yergler holds an Airman Certificate for his work in aircraft maintenance, and three weeks later he was informed by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) of its investigation into his unauthorized operation of the registered hobby quadricopter. He has yet to be contacted again by the FBI or the FAA.

ons of mass destruction. Twenty-three people crossed the line and were arrested by waiting police, cited and soon released pending arraignment May 25. Ten showed up in court that day, only to be told no charges were being filed.

For more information, visit epicalc.org.

Nevada nuclear test site

About 50 people taking part in the Sacred Peace Walk arrived at the Nevada National Security Site on Thursday, March 24, where they camped overnight then rose for a sunrise ceremony with their Western Shoshone hosts on Good Friday. After breakfast, a Christian liturgy and communion, the Stations of the Cross were observed as



Good Friday at the Nevada nuclear test site, March 25, 2016.

photo by Tami Yaron

the group walked through the pedestrian tunnels under the state highway, past the historic Peace Camp graffiti there, towards the gate of the nuclear weapons test site. Eleven women and ten men were blessed by Western Shoshone Chief Johnnie Bobb before they crossed the line, were detained for a short time, then cited and released.

RESISTING THE GLOBAL ARMS TRADE LONDON, CONT.

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blocked the delivery of military equipment going into the exhibition hall. He testified to his own arrests and torture as a teenager by a regime invited to shop at DSEI as a reason to take action.

“The defendants’ belief that weapons were being sold unlawfully at DSEI was supported by the detailed expert evidence on this point,” concluded Judge Angus Hamilton.

“I was impressed by the evidence of each defendant ... as to how they came to the conclusion that the form of direct action which they chose to adopt was the only effective method left to them in seeking to prevent the unlawful sale of arms which they believed was occurring at the 2015 DSEI ... I believe that the defendants were perfectly sincere in their conclusions first that the unlawful sale of arms would almost certainly be occurring at DSEI and, secondly, that their intervention was necessary to seek to prevent this.”

Judge Hamilton said that evidence offered to the government by the Campaign Against the Arms Trade was overlooked by agencies charged with monitoring weapons sales. “It was not appropriately investigated by the authorities. This could be inferred from the responses of the police officers, that they did not take the defendants’ allegations seriously,” he said after the week-long trial.

The judge later rejected the government’s bid to appeal the verdict.

In another case from the DSEI protests, Zelda Jeffers had her day in Hammersmith Magistrates Court on March 16, defending herself on a charge of criminal damage. Last September 8, the day before the blockade at the ExCeL Centre began, she used blood-colored hair dye to mark peace graffiti on the London office of international arms manufacturer Lockheed-Martin. Summing up her defense, Jeffers quoted a Lockheed-Martin vice president telling international financiers that the escalating war in Syria had lifted sales of their F-22 warplane, itself a cause for celebration. For herself:

The annual Walk is at the core of the Nevada Desert Experience’s work that seeks to “actively reconnect personal responsibility to care for the environment, planet and people through public demonstrations for peace.” For more information, visit nevadadesertexperience.org

Lockheed-Martin

The Brandywine Peace Community returned to Lockheed-Martin’s corporate campus in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania on Good Friday, March 25. From their statement:

We stand before Lockheed Martin and see the cross of empire, war, terror, and human neglect, greed, an environmental time bomb, destruction, drone strikes and a new era of robotic war.

We see the corporate cross of war that is Lockheed Martin, the world’s #1 weapons manufacturer, the U.S.’s #1 war profiteer. the Top-Gun of America’s 1% Super Rich. We mourn the absence of economic justice and peace and what that means in real human terms for the vast majority in this country and around the world.

There is an uncompromising difference between the privileged wealth secured through every weapon built by Lockheed Martin and the faithful demands for justice and peace. It is nothing less than the difference between war and peace, crucifixion and resurrection, cooperation and resistance, joy and fear, love and hate.

Today, racism, xenophobia, Islamophobia, and the hatred of immigrants and the undocumented fuels war profiteers no less than presidential candidates that speak of bigger and bigger walls, unrelenting drone strikes, more bombing, and banning refugees fleeing U.S. wars from Syria to Afghanistan.

Today we listen for other voices.

Fr. Pat Sieber writes, “After about an hour, Lockheed Martin interrupted the prayer service and hauled away nine of us in the empire’s “bling” known as metal handcuffs – which were tight and broke the skin – a little blood on Good Friday – seems right and prayerful.”

For more information, visit brandywinepeace.com.

...In view of subsequent events including but not only the continued war in Syria, I would like very sincerely to apologize. I apologize from the bottom of my heart to the dead babies, dead and disabled adults, orphans, widows and widowers, homeless, traumatized and distressed. I apologize that my action was so pathetic and ineffective.

Jeffers was found guilty and ordered to pay £620 in costs and £450 compensation.

For more information, visit stopthearmsfair.org.uk.

WALES

Welsh activists held a protest festival with live music and free Food Not Bombs buffet outside the Defense Procurement, Research, Technology and Exportability (DPRTE) exhibition in downtown Cardiff on March 16. Two years ago, Cardiff politicians welcomed the DPRTE expo after arms trade opponents in Bristol drove it out of their town. Since then, the Stop the Cardiff Arms Fair coalition has been building momentum to withdraw the welcome mat.

This year, several professional broadsheet “subvertisements” appeared in local bus stop advertising spaces, sporting the DPRTE logo. One promised “GUNS! GUNS! GUNS! War Comes to Cardiff”, and another promoted kids’ games such as “Where’s My Missing Limb?” and “Pin the Warhead on the Hospital.” A third read “MURDER CIVILIANS – DESTROY FAMILIES – CREATE REFUGEES ... all this and more at the Cardiff Arms Fair ... creating the ENEMIES of the FUTURE today!”

Before the expo doors opened that morning, two people climbed on the roof of the Motorpoint Arena venue and hung a banner reading “Stop Cardiff Arms Fair.” Interactive street protests and costumed demonstrators engaged the arms dealers as they arrived. Four people were arrested on various charges that morning, as were the two banner-hangers at the end of the day.

For more information, visit stopcardiffarmsfair.info.

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INTERNATIONAL NOTES

Finland

Nuclear resisters in Finland were met with police violence, sending some to the hospital when they gathered for a week of nonviolent actions in late April to Reclaim the Cape. The Cape they aim to reclaim is the remote Hanhiviki Cape on the northern Gulf of Bothnia, where Finland's Fennovoima consortium and their Russian nuclear partner Rosatom have seized property, closed access and are clearing forest, building roads and filling wetlands for construction of a nuclear power plant that has yet to be licensed.

A protest camp on the Cape was evicted last September, and relocated about three miles from the construction site on forested land of a local supporter.

Through the winter, construction has regularly been disrupted by small blockades of the lone access road and occupation of heavy equipment on the site.

Tension between police and activists rose through April. On April 12 and again on April 18, vehicles were abandoned and set ablaze, blocking the construction road. Between those days, three international activists locked on to construction equipment, and one was tasered as police tried to cut the locks. A classic nonviolent blockade by ten people on April 22, the opening day of Reclaim the Cape, was met with pepperspray.

Hoping to lighten the mood for the mass blockade planned for Chernobyl Day, April 26, a coterie of clowns led nearly 100 activists out of the woods and onto the road. But within minutes, lines of riot police were pushing through the demonstration, dragging people from the road and making liberal use of pepperspray. A blockade was established and held for several hours as police searched, handcuffed and arrested at least 37 people who were all held for about 24 hours in jail.

Two days later, while most activists were away for another blockade of construction equipment, police in riot gear with dogs and armored vehicles raided the camp, firing rubber bullets at campers who threw rocks in self-defense. One police car went up in flames. Again about three dozen people were jailed overnight, with nine held for a few days longer on criminal charges.

When the first to be released returned to the camp on April 29, it was being evicted by riot police who seized personal belongings and camping gear, only some of which was later recovered from a local landfill.

Over the week, many activists suffered injuries, including a broken arm or two and a few broken noses. Some departed emotionally traumatized by the police actions, while others have reestablished the camp at a new, private location after intimidation by local thugs.

Eleven people are now facing charges, and one person who does not live in Finland remains in jail, awaiting trial on June 8 for violent rioting and resisting arrest.

From a cell in the police station in Raahe, the jailed activist wrote an open letter in May:

The atomic industry, or let's say mafia, is after all a topic that concerns us all. With 300,000 to 500,000 tons of life-hazardous nuclear-waste staying radioactive for a time span of hundreds of thousands of years we are more than ever obliged to take a stand and to shut down this global-polluting, corrupt, capitalistic and life-threatening industry once and for all!

I hope sincerely that our arrests did not effect the anti-nuclear movement and that people don't take a step backwards caused by state and police violence that we had to endure these last weeks. Solidarity is our strength! Even if opinions and means can differ from time to time. During the protest camp the repressive means that were used upon our movement were mind blowing, going from pepperspray and electrotaser, to searches in the woods, helicopters and airplanes, to one police officer that out of panic literally tried to reach for his firearm.

I truly hope that this protest week opened the eyes and minds of not only Finnish citizens and inhabitants of Pyhäjoki, but reached a global scale of awareness towards the dangers and effects of nuclear power. And that our actions and protest may be an inspiration for others and even for future generations.

For more information, visit fennovoima.no.com.

Australia

On the occasion of a Royal Commission formally delivering a major report on the nuclear fuel cycle to the governor of South Australia, one 65-year-old woman was arrested as she tried to enter Government House in Adelaide with a "Sham Royal Commission – SAY NO" protest sign, just before the ceremony. The Commission recommended that South Australia host a global nuclear waste dump. The woman was cited for trespass and released.

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Scotland

On the sunny afternoon of March 10, retiree Brian Quail, 77, was riding with his friend John Ainslie, coordinator of the Scottish Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. They were tracking a multi-truck nuclear weapons shipment as it wove a narrow two-lane route through the village of Balloch, not far from its destination at the Trident submarine base in western Scotland. Ahead of the convoy, they parked and hopped out. Ainslie took video as Quail activated a pedestrian crosswalk, just as the convoy approached. When the lead truck stopped for the red light, Quail lay down in front of it, bringing the entire line of lorries to a halt. Police caught on quickly, rushed out of their escort patrols and hauled Quail onto the sidewalk. He was arrested and charged with breach of the peace, while the convoy resumed its delivery.

For more information and to see the video, visit banthebomb.org.



photo by John Ainslie

A convoy of British nuclear weapons backs up whilst Scottish police clear Brian Quail from a crosswalk.

Shannon Airport

Two more people have been arrested as they approached a U.S. military aircraft at Shannon International Airport in Ireland, intending to inspect it for violations of Irish neutrality laws.

Early on the morning of May 25, Dave Donnellan and Colm Roddy said some prayers for peace, for victims of violence in the Middle East and for the refugees from wars abetted by the Irish government, police and airport authorities. Then they breached a fence and began to walk across the field. They carried a sign which read, "U.S. Military and CIA Out of Shannon Airport," and waved a large Irish flag. As they approached the main runway, a U.S. military plane was just taking off, later identified as associated with the State Department's Foreign Emergency Support Team and an Air Force special operations squadron with the motto "*Non semper ea sunt quae videntur*" or "Not always what they seem."

The men then sprayed the main runway with red crosses to represent all the innocent blood spilt by these wars. Police finally took notice and arrested the men as they were headed off to inspect a U.S. military plane on another runway.

Donnellan and Roddy were held overnight and released the next day after being charged with criminal damage to the fence. Their case is adjourned until July 20.

SHANNON UPDATE

One year after his chance encounter with four U.S. military planes at Shannon and his impromptu attempt to inspect them for weapons, Edward Horgan convinced the court to dismiss the charges brought against him. Under questioning, a police sergeant could not identify a single instance when he or his colleagues had inspected a U.S. military plane, despite being aware of the volumes of information and evidence provided by Shannonwatch that U.S. planes carrying arms and engaged in military operations contrary to Irish neutrality regularly land and are serviced at Shannon. Shannonwatch coordinator John Lannon and two members of the Irish parliament also testified, with details about Irish neutrality, weapons on troop carriers, visible 30mm cannon on Hercules planes, and known rendition planes using Shannon. None of their evidence was contested.

For more information, visit shannonwatch.org.

Jeju Island

With construction of the new navy base now complete, the peace movement in Gangjeong Village is in transition. Gangjeong is at the center of more than seven years of nonviolent resistance to the first navy base on Jeju, the Peace Island of South Korea. Repression continues, lately in the form of the South Korean Navy filing suit against five local groups and 116 named residents and activists for "taxpayer losses" incurred due to the 14-month delay in base construction. The total compensation sought is 3.4 billion KW, or about \$2.9 million. Daily protest of the suit continues in a tent set up across from the base entrance.

Another visible change came on May 7, when the last daily Catholic mass in front of the base construction gate was celebrated. It marked the end of a five-year spiritual practice that each day saw police dutifully carrying the noncooperating faithful seated in their chairs from the road so construction traffic could resume.

A Jeju Higher Court decision in February overturned a peace activist's conviction for blockading during Catholic mass in February, 2014. The court said the mass was a form of political expression, and the charge of obstruction of business is not appropriate in the circumstance.

Other recent court decisions include new suspended prison sentences and fines, and others affirmed on appeal. Mr. Kim Guk-Nam, who chose to serve 49 days in jail this winter rather than pay fines for his protest against the navy base, was released from jail on March 15. On that day Ms. Lee Jae-in, who also chose prison over paying fines, went to jail and served two weeks before her release. To date, 58 people have chosen jail over payment of fines for protesting the navy base.

For more information, visit savejejunow.org and download their monthly newsletter, *Gangeong Village Story*.

New Zealand

The USS Apocalypse "sailed" into the New Zealand Ministry of Defence building on April 18, the Global Day of Action on Military Spending. A handful of activists dressed as nuclear workers carried the large cardboard frigate into the lobby for a speakout demonstration against the government's invitation to the U.S. Navy to send a ship for the big flotilla that will celebrate the New Zealand Navy's 75th anniversary this fall.

If the U.S. Navy accepts, it would be the first visit of a U.S. warship, potentially nuclear-armed, since New Zealand became a Nuclear Free Zone in the late 1980s.

Police were called and told the group they could not deliver the Apocalypse to the minister and must leave the building. As they did an altercation occurred and one protester was roughly arrested.

The navy's anniversary event will coincide with the annual New Zealand Defence Industry Association weapons conference. Demonstrators from Peace Action Wellington were arrested at last year's conference. Some took a diversion from prosecution, while most will be in court again in July.

For more information, visit peaceactionwellington.wordpress.com.

Germany

The transport of uranium ore into and through Europe for manufacture into reactor fuel is the focus of an international anti-nuclear direct action campaign. The latest Days of Action Against Uranium Transports began on March 11, the anniversary of Fukushima.

A month later, despite police surveillance and leaving two hours early to avoid announced protests, an overnight transport of uranium ore from Hamburg, Germany to southern France was brought to a halt just before midnight, April 7, in Buchholz, Germany. As the train approached, two climbing activists suspended themselves from a pedestrian bridge over the tracks to unfurl banners with the words "Stop Uranium Transports! Now!" and "Don't Nuke the Climate!" Supporters were on hand to ensure their safety and speak about the action.

Some similar climbing actions are recognized as legitimate political statements and not subject to arrest, but in this case, police claimed the experienced climbers had created a dangerous situation that obstructed the movement of trains for four hours. The fire brigade was called in to remove the climbers, who were arrested and held until morning. Their climbing equipment was held as evidence.

Another climbing action on April 20 also led to arrests. Early on the morning of the RWE group's annual meeting, four people scaled the landmark RWE Tower headquarters in Essen. The banner they hung condemned both RWE's uranium enrichment business and its massive open pit coal mine operations. When they climbed down after three hours, police took them into custody for the rest of the day. For more information, visit www.urantransport.de.

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



New Charges for Vanunu

On May 8, Israeli authorities filed a new three-count indictment against Mordechai Vanunu, the Dimona nuclear complex technician who gave the world proof of Israel's nuclear arsenal in 1986.

For that singular act of conscience, Vanunu was kidnapped in Rome by Israeli secret agents, drugged, bound and gagged, then spirited back to Israel where he was convicted in camera of treason and espionage, and imprisoned for 18 years, almost 12 of them in solitary confinement. Since his release from prison in 2004, Vanunu has been subjected to a set of significant restrictions on his freedom of movement, speech and association, restrictions that are periodically renewed and refined.

The indictment came in advance of court action on Vanunu's legal challenge to the ban on leaving Israel. He told a supporter that it is now clear that the restrictions exist so that the authorities can always find a reason to arrest and charge him, whenever they wish.

Of the latest charges, his attorney Avigdor Feldman said: "Filing an indictment for a single meeting with two foreigners that occurred three years ago, for moving [apartment] at the same address, and in the end for an interview he gave to ... Channel 2, which passed the censor, is a record low for the state in its persecution and abuse of Mordechai Vanunu. I'm ashamed, and whoever filed this indictment should be even more ashamed."

In the twelve years since his release from prison, Vanunu has often been arrested for violations of one restriction or another. He served 11 weeks in prison after a 2007 conviction on 14 counts.

For more information, visit vanunu.com.

France

In mid-May, while the French Senate was debating a bill to move forward plans for a nuclear waste dump at Bure, the organization Sortir du Nucléaire encouraged opponents to fill plastic trash bags with paper, label them with radiation symbols, and leave them at the office of their local deputy with a 'Vote No' message. Paris police didn't get it, and late at night on May 15 they arrested eight activists on suspicion of property deprecation. The eight were held for 20 hours, including four-hour interrogations full of threats and humiliations in the middle of the night. The activists at Sortir du Nucléaire wonder if freedom of expression and democracy must be buried first before nuclear waste can be buried.

For more information, visit sortirdunucleaire.org.

OUT ON APPEAL, CONT.

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drones may kill fewer people, he professed that they "offer a harsh symmetry with nuclear weapons."

Nuclear weapons are the ultimate modern weapon, a weapon of mass destruction for mass society, he said, while drones are the ultimate post-modern weapons, a technology that obliterates the limits of space and time, and obliterates a crucial line between war and peace by making the entire world a battlefield.

The judge sentenced Murray to one year conditional discharge, a \$250 fine, and the \$125 state surcharge. After some discussion, Gideon did not issue a new order of protection against Murray, satisfied that the conditions of the sentence will be sufficient to protect the commander.

For more information, including Harry Murray's memo and video of his sentencing dialogue with Judge Gideon, visit blog.upstatedroneaction.org.



If the court does not hear the appeal or rules against her, Grady Flores will return to spend 65 more days in jail. Contributions towards her legal expenses and to make up for income lost while in jail will be gratefully received. Contributions noted for Mary Anne Grady Flores can be made payable and sent to Ithaca Catholic Workers, 514 North Plain St., Syracuse, NY 14850.

June 2, 2016

burghfield

Nuclear disarmament activists will gather this June for Disarm Trident, a month of "determined, imaginative and persistent" nonviolent disruption of the United Kingdom's nuclear bomb assembly plant at AWE Burghfield. Trident Ploughshares is coordinating more than a dozen geographic or interest-based groups to protest the planned replacement of Britain's submarine-launched nuclear arsenal at the factory where critical warhead work is undertaken. For more information, visit tridentploughshares.org.

roxby downs

South Australia is again under threat from the global nuclear industry, which is mining more uranium and looking for an out-of-the-way place to dump the world's reactor waste. Aboriginal lore telling of an underground lizard being disturbed by the mining has inspired the Lizard Bites Back Protestival, an international gathering July 1-4 at the Olympic Dam uranium mine near Roxby Downs, South Australia. Join the carnival in the desert and nonviolent direct actions to Shut Roxby Down. For more information, visit lizardbitesback.net.

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, 702-647-0728, mail@lvcw.org, www.lvcw.org.

soa watch

The School of the Americas Watch Border Convergence will take place October 7-10 in Nogales, Arizona and Nogales, Sonora, making the connections between militarized U.S. foreign policy and the reasons why people flee to the U.S. for their lives. Learn about the issues in workshops and join international demonstrations and nonviolent direct action to resist militarization, support refugees and end migrant incarceration. For more information, contact School of the Americas Watch, 202-234-3440, info@soaw.org, or visit soaw.org/border.

RESISTING THE GLOBAL ARMS TRADE, CONT.

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CANADA

At the end of May, arms merchants visiting Ottawa for the Canadian Association of Defence and Security (CANSEC) industry trade show were greeted by "General Chaos" and the War Criminals Welcoming Walk, with a costumed commander and parading demonstrators from Homes Not Bombs, Ottawa Raging Grannies, Christian Peacemaker Teams and Coalition to Oppose the Arms Trade visiting several downtown hotels. At each hotel, people who have lived and worked in war zones spoke out about the impact of the international arms trade for people on the ground. They also worked diligently (and ultimately successfully) to persuade the boisterous General Chaos to stop promoting war.

On May 25, activists from several groups held a six hour vigil with large 4' x 4' Faces of War at the entrance to CANSEC, with photos of children and families in Gaza, Iraq and Afghanistan whose lives have forever been ruined by the sales at these weapons shows. Others occupied the lobby of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to protest the government's approval of a \$15 billion arms deal with Saudi Arabia. Given the Saudi human rights record, activists say the deal violates Canada's own war crimes guidelines. Two people held up a "No More Arms Deals" banner, while others handed leaflets to people passing through the lobby. David Milne, Kirsten Romaine and Kevin Shimmin were handcuffed and arrested for trespass and engaging in prohibited activity when they refused to leave. They were released and await a court date.

Homes Not Bombs and affiliated groups plan further direct actions not only against the controversial Saudi deal, but also Canada's burgeoning multi-billion dollar weapons trade. For more information, contact tasc@web.ca, or visit homesnotbombs.blogspot.ca.

hiroshima & nagasaki days

In addition to the actions announced below, civil resistance is also anticipated at other nuclear related sites. Visit nukeresister.org/future-actions this summer for an up-to-date list.

pentagon & white house

Plans are underway for an August 6 and 9 Hiroshima-Nagasaki Commemoration peace witness at the White House and Pentagon. For more information, contact Art Laffin, Dorothy Day Catholic Worker, artlaffin@hotmail.com.

livermore

A public Nagasaki Day commemoration will begin at 8 a.m. on August 9, at Livermore nuclear weapons laboratory's northwest corner, Vasco & Patterson Pass Roads, Livermore, California. Music, speakers, art and a solemn moment of silence to honor radiation victims will be followed by a short procession to the Livermore Lab gates, where those who choose will peacefully risk arrest. A group Peace Campout, suitable to all ages of experienced campers, will take place in conjunction with the action the night before in beautiful Del Valle Regional Park. For more information and to RSVP, contact Scott at Tri-Valley CAREs, 925-443-7148, or visit trivalleycares.org.

bangor

The Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action will host a weekend of events to commemorate the 71st anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, including a demonstration at the Bangor Trident base on August 8, and a peace flotilla on Hood Canal, adjacent to the Bangor base. The peace flotilla will be accompanied by The Golden Rule, the original nuclear protest boat, recently restored. For more information, contact the Ground Zero Center, 360-930-8697, or visit gzcenter.org.

chain reaction

Nuclear disarmament campaigners around the world are invited to take nonviolent actions at nuclear-weapons related sites under the banner Chain Reaction between July 8 – the 20th anniversary of the International Court of Justice case against nuclear weapons, and October 2, the International Day for Nonviolence. The actions will build support in nuclear-armed states and nuclear-reliant states for the growing momentum by non-nuclear states to take action to delegitimize and outlaw nuclear weapons regardless of participation by the nuclear states. The National Campaign for Nonviolent Resistance will coordinate nonviolent direct action in the Washington, D.C. area on September 26, in conjunction with the No War 2016: Real Security, Without Terrorism conference. For more info, visit worldbeyondwar.org/NoWar2016.

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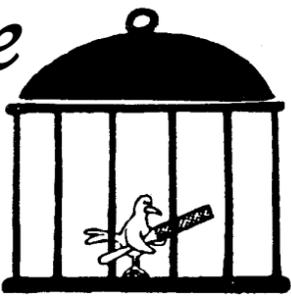
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Update Files



VOLK FIELD: Mary Beth Schlagheck was convicted of trespass at the reconnaissance drone training center in Wisconsin at an April 20 bench trial. Brian Terrell and Kathy Kelly, arrested in February when they walked into the base intending to break bread with the commander, got the original charge of state trespass to a dwelling dismissed. Despite the sworn complaint of the arresting officer that they had entered a dwelling and blocked traffic, they had done neither. The state came back later with a new county charge of trespass to land. A trial date will be set...

INDIAN POINT: At their arraignment on March 8, eleven people pled guilty to a charge of disorderly conduct. They were arrested in December when the New York nuclear power plant's last operating license expired but it wasn't shut down. They were fined \$125 each for blocking the gate, and successfully crowdsourced the total payment online. "We are pleading guilty because we did it and are proud of what we are doing to make our community safer. Nothing else has worked. We might need to do something similar in the future. The reactors are a continual danger to us all," said spokesperson Sally Gellert...

WASHINGTON, D.C.: Prosecutors were unprepared to proceed when five activists came to Superior Court on May 23. The defendants from the National Campaign for Nonviolent Resistance were charged with obstruction and failure to obey on the day of the State of the Union address when they insisted on delivering an anti-war petition to Congress at the U.S. Capitol. The judge granted the defense motion to dismiss the charges. At a hearing in April, four other defendants had agreed to pay a \$50 fine and have the charges dismissed...

INTERNATIONAL NOTES, cont.

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Menwith Hill

Ministry of Defence and North Yorkshire police have imposed a new legal maneuver in the decades-long effort to restrict regular peace vigils at the U.S.-run Menwith Hill satellite ground station near Harrogate, England. Under a 2014 act of Parliament, a "dispersal order" was approved for the first time that bars the presence of demonstrators from an area in front of the main gate traffic barriers, specifying just those hours each Tuesday evening when the Campaign for the Accountability of American Bases holds a vigil there.

News of the order came as a surprise when vigilers arrived on March 8. Just six days earlier, current and former vigil organizers had met with representatives from both police departments, and thought they had reached an agreement for the demonstrations to continue as they have for at least the last two years.

Vigilars often cross the road in front of traffic stopped at the barrier while leaving the base. They hold signs and an upside-down American flag inscribed with anti-war messages in front of the vehicles. The dispersal order now confines the demonstration to an area behind traffic barriers.

Former CAAB coordinator Lindis Percy proceeded to demonstrate in the usual fashion and was arrested for failure to comply with the dispersal order. At her first court appearance on April 7, Lindis successfully opposed imposition of bail restrictions that would bar her from within 50 meters of the Menwith Hill gates.

When Lindis returned to Menwith Hill for a spontaneous demonstration on April 15, military police approved another specific dispersal order and she was again arrested for refusing to leave. This time, the bail conditions were imposed to restrict her protest to the area behind the barriers.

At a bail variation hearing on April 26, the restrictions were reaffirmed, so Lindis acted as a legal observer for the demonstration that Tuesday evening.

Two weeks later, she again attended in a coat labeled "legal observer." Nevertheless, she was immediately arrested for breach of bail conditions and held overnight. The next morning, Lindis told the court she was not demonstrating, and so did not violate conditions barring a demonstration at the site. The charge was soon withdrawn and she was released, but with the same conditions. Trial for both charges has been set for September.

For more information, visit caab.org.uk.

RECOMMENDED SUMMER READING

The Hammer Blow – How 10 Women Disarmed a Warplane by Andrea Needham (Peace News Press, 2016) looks from behind the scenes at the dramatic 1996 Seeds of Hope – East Timor Ploughshares nonviolent direct action. Ten women were instrumental to planning and supporting the action that used household hammers to damage a British fighter jet being readied for export to Indonesia's war against East Timor. Needham and three others were arrested, jailed and eventually acquitted after testimony that their action was necessary to prevent a greater crime. £10 + postage (£3.95 to USA) from peacenews.info/webshop.

Nothing is Impossible – Stories from the Life of a Catholic Worker by Scott Schaeffer-Duffy (Haley's, 2016). Inspiring and quite often humorous biographical tales of nonviolent action, jails, war zones, family, hospitality and more from an arachnophobic marathon runner and activist. \$24.95 + \$4 postage from nothingisimpossiblebook.com or Haley's, 488 South Main Street, Athol, MA 01331, 800-215-8805.

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Resister

"A Chronicle of Hope"

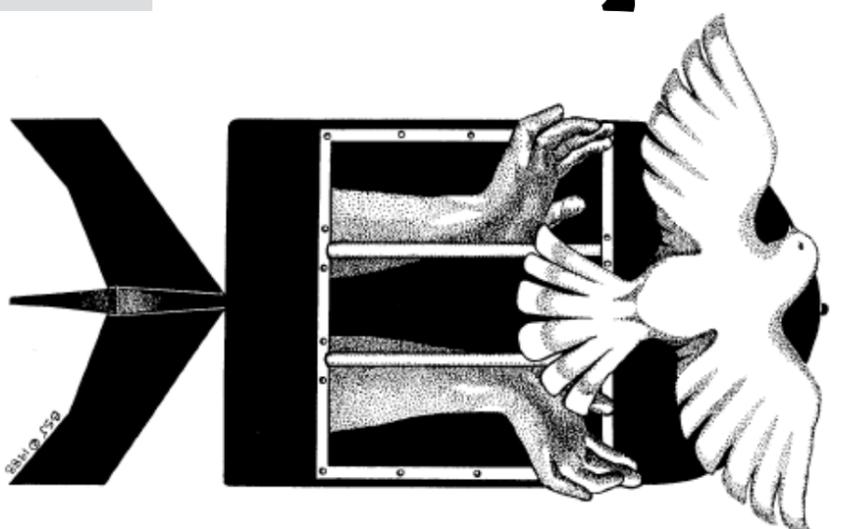
Three in Prison for
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Shut Down Creech!
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"Not Guilty" for
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Fr. Daniel Berrigan,
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Leonard Peltier
Petitions for Clemency



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