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 the 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 arrested, 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 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 to 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 joywalking 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 let him keep 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 6, 2002. The brothers were constant companions in ministry for 50 years, and together, they fought for peace and justice in the modern world. They are remembered by many as significant figures in the anti-war movement.

Daniel 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, their work in opposition to the Vietnam War...

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 shot 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 long-time endorser of the “consistent life ethic,” and he served on the advisory board of Consistent Life, an organization that describes itself as “a clearinghouse for information about contemporary nonviolent resistance with the same emphasis on prisoner support and coverage of anti-war arrests in North America, plus overseas anti-nuclear and anti-war resistance with the same emphasis on prisoner support.”

The Nuclear Resister

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ISSN #883-9875

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

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 First Circuit Center. The University of Illinois, Alderson E. Easton, 4040 N. Magnolia, Chicago, IL 60613 or online at protonet.com.

ABOUT THE NUCLEAR RESISTER
Since 1980, the Nuclear Resister has provided comprehensive reporting on anti-nuclear civil resistance in the United States, with an emphasis on providing support for the women and men jailed for these actions. In 1989, 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. Broad access to their actions and support for the imprisoned activist is 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.

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.
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 Huntington’s-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 persecutes 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 and a fall resulting from depression 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, he is still seeking 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 freetheamhs3.wordpress.com or Free the NATO 3 on Facebook.

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 a stroke. Search for “Peltier” at amnesty.org to learn more about petitioning for clemency 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 Tammy Jarvis, USP Coleman 1, 1404 NE 54th Terrace, Sumterville, FL 33521; Helen J. Marberry, RO Southeast Regional Office, 3800 Camp Creek Pk., SW Bldg 2000, Atlanta, GA 30331; Thomas R. Kane, Acting Director, Federal Bureau of Prisons, 320 First Street, NW, Washington, DC 20534.

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.”

More than half after his life behind bars, the deteriorating health of the 71-year-old political prisoner, including diabetes, depression, 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. 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 corrective and/or reconciliation steps.

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.

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 Pamela Lamberty said prosecutors 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 role in making weapons of mass destruction. The jury 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.

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 issued against her by a Colon Evans of the Hancock Air National Guard Base 174th Attack Wing (Syracuse) by a judge. Orders of protection are generally issued to prohibit people from committing violence. Grady Flores was arrested for ostensibly violating this order while standing in the road outside the base and simply watching a protest against 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 prison in connection with incidents for which he was previously sentenced for 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 years about 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 continued on page 7

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

NUCLEAR RESISTERS

Leonard Peltier 89637-132 (life)
US Coleman 1, POB 1033, Coleman, FL 33839.

(Vative American political prisoner framed for murder while defending traditional indigenous from threats including uranium mining on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation)

Robert J. Dietrich 81196-012
846 NE 54th Terrace, Sumterville, FL 33521;

(Active Whitelawer convicted on charges related to release of nuclear weapons.

Northrup Grumman)
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 peacekeepers, 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 wages of war in nature, is total – but the wages of peace, by our own account, is no more than 1%...We are instructed that deprivation and discipline, private grief and public obedience are to be our lot. And we obey. And we bear within us the god-given image of the enduring common good – war is, 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 the 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.

For more information, visit peaceworks grp.org.

MEMORIAL DAY FOR NUCLEAR WORKERS

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

“We are memorializing those who died and got sick because of the toxic chemicals used in the old plant,” said one of the walkers from among the former employees. “We are continuing to fight the nuclear weapons industry. We are here to protest the building of 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. Mountenay, a minister from Independence, Missouri. “If it happened then, it will happen again at the new plant.”

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

WRITINGS FROM JAIL from Los Angeles

May 14, 2016

Dear Friends,

Love and Gratitude to all of you who continue to hold me 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 (Pentente) and so many others who have helped light the path of active love and resistance to empir. Knowing that two of my most cherished mentors are both imprisoned in this facility, it is impossible not to feel a sense of place and a rage engendered by a spirit of solidarity as we witness the evils of the nuclear age provide yet another opportunity to practice the presence of God, 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 in sound or touch when deprived of sight, so too the human spirit can find new heights of freedom when forcibly restricted from unrestricted 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 requires a high price of money towards the light, and costs 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 the hallucination of terror and the possibility of healing, to the dreams of victims of war that are 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 oppression 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 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 sentenced to 100 hours of community service with an “organization unrelated to nuclear disarmament.”

For more information, visit gzc.org, where most of the demonstrators’ full testimony can be found.

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 sentenced to 100 hours of community service with an “organization unrelated to nuclear disarmament.”

For more information, visit gzc.org, where most of the demonstrators’ full testimony can be found.
**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 day 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 witnessing, starting at the Pentagon. Early in the morning, the community processed from Army-Navy Drive to the police designated protest zone with sign 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. Arlinda Bellock were arrested 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 dcdatholicworker.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, and to deter those who would attack your wedding party.

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 weapons of mass destruction. Twenty-three people crossed the line and were arrested by waiting police, and later 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 Western Shoshone Holy Cross on Good Friday. After breakfast, a Christian liturgy and communion, the Stations of the Cross were observed as the group walked through the pedestrian tunnels under the underground medicines at the Camp Guerrilla theme, 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. They were detained for a short time, then cited and released.

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

...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 and the disabled adults, orphans, widows and widowers, homeless, traumatized and distressed; I apologize that my action was so patently and ineffective.

Jeffers was found guilty and ordered to pay £520 in costs and £450 compensation.

For more information, visit brandivynpeace.com.

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**RESISTING THE GLOBAL ARMS TRADE**

**London, Cont.**

continued from page 1

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 defenders’ belief that weapons 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. There should be feedback 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, 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 of the very conflict which the war profiteers were profiting from.

On Good Friday, March 25, 2016. Photo by Tamir Yaron

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**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 you have redeemed the world...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 and the disabled adults, orphans, widows and widowers, homeless, traumatized and distressed; I apologize that my action was so patently and ineffective.

Jeffers was found guilty and ordered to pay £520 in costs and £450 compensation.

For more information, visit stopthecardiffarmsfair.org.uk.

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**WALES**

Welsh activists held a protest festival with live music and free Food Not Bombs buffet outside the Defense Procurement, Research, Technology and Exportability (DPRIE) exhibition in downtown Cardiff on March 16. Two years ago, Cardiff police stopped the DPRIE 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 weapon mat.

This year, several professional broadsheet “subvertisements” appeared in local bus stop advertising spaces, portraying the DPRIE 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.”

In the last days, the Stop the Cardiff Arms Fair has laid out more bombing, and ban- ning refugees fleeing U.S., e.g. from Syria to Afghanistan.

For more information, visit stopthecardiffarmsfair.org.uk.

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Jeffers was found guilty and ordered to pay £520 in costs and £450 compensation.

For more information, visit stopthecardiffarmsfair.org.uk.

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**Peacemaker**

Sam Yergler writes about attending Thunder and Lightning on March 24, 2016 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 Preda- tor drone they had on display. It was afforded with a banner reading “Peace Drone.” As it took off, I addressed: "Ladies and gentlemen, this is a peace drone. Do not be afraid, unlike the Reaper Drone it will not be hunting terror. 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 citi- zens 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 base that the FBI one that would be contacting me and I was escorted off the scene. 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 quadcopter. He has yet to be contacted again by the FBI or the FAA.

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**Put Away the Sword**

Pat Sieber writes, “After about an hour, Lockheed Martin interrupted the prayer service and hauled away nine of us in the empire’s ‘blinged’ known as metal handcuffs – which were tight and broke the skin – a little blood on Good Friday – seems to be the accomplished. For more information, visit brandivynpeace.com.

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**THE NUCLEAR RESISTER**

continued on page 7

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June 2, 2016
INTERNATIONAL NOTES

Finland

Nuclear resistors 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 claiming is the Haukipudas 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 a 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 building sites.

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 two and three dozen activists locked on to construction equipment, and one was tasered as police tried to cut the locks. A classic nonviolent blockade by police and activists on April 29, which was later recovered from a local landfill.

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 live ammunition at those who threw rocks at their self-defense. One police car went up in flames. Again about three dozen people were jailed overnight, with nine held for violent rioting and resisting arrest.

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 Raasepori, the jailed activist left 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 serious nuclear waste, waiting radioactive for a span of hundreds of thousands of years we are more than ever obliged to take as a down payment 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 reasons differ from time to time. During the protest camp the repressive means that were used upon our movement were mind blowing, going from pepper spray and electroshocking, to searches in our homes, 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 but the world about the global scale of awareness towards the dangers and effects of nuclear power. And that our actions and protest can be a inspiration for others and even for future generations.

For more information, visit fennovaimo.no.com.

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 military truck carrying 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 packet and hoped held. Ainslie took video as Quail activated a pedestrian crosswalk, just as the convoy approached. When the lead truck stopped for the red light, Quail approached from the opposite lane, and jogged across 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 continued without its delivery.

For more information and to see the video, visit banehbog.com.

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 U.S. 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 5.4 billion KW, or about $2.9 million. Daily protest of the site continued in a nonviolent peaceful manner.

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 exercise whereby prayerfully saw 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 blocking during Catholic mass in February, 2014. The court said the mass was a form of political expression, and the charge of obstruction of movement is not appropriate in this case.

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 rather than pay 30,000 won (about $30) fine, was released the next day after being charged with criminal destruction.

For more information, visit savejejunan.org and download their monthly newsletter, Gangjeong Village Story.

New Zealand

The USS Apocalypse “sailed” into the New Zealand Ministry of Defence building on April 26 to launch Global Day of Action on Military Spending. A handful of activists dressed as nuclear workers carried the large cardboard frieght into the very heart of the Ministry building, against the government’s invitation to the U.S. Navy to send a ship for the big follitla that will celebrate the New Zealand Navy’s 75th anniversary this fall.

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 Forces Association weapons conference. Demonstrators from Peace Action Wellington were arrested last year’s conference. Some took a plea bargain, will be prosecuted, will most 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 Fukushuma.

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 brokend down April 7. At 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 of the climbing activists were 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 police were called 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.uranstransporte.de.
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 am ashamed, and I believe 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 the Las Vegas Nevada, October 7-9, 2016, by the Las Vegas Catholic Worker community at Christ the King Catholic Worker 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, contact the Las Vegas Catholic Worker, 702-647-0728, mail@lvcw.org, www.lvcw.org.

Resisting the Global Arms Trade, cont.

BNAGSOUS

Burghfield

Nuclear disarmament activists will gather this June for Burghfield Trident, a “unique, 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 Protostitial, an international gathering July 1-4 at the Olympic Dam uranium mine near Roxby Downs, South Australia. Join the demonstration 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 Worker 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, 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 border militarization and the rationale for why people flee to the U.S. for their lives. Learn about the issues in workshops and join international demonstrations and nonviolent direct actions against border militarization, support refugees and end migrant incarceration. For more information, contact the School of Americas Watch, 202-234-3440, info@soaw.org, or visit soaw.org/border.

Hirosima & 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, 925-443-7418, 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 against the 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 Spade, a 38-foot protest boat, recently restored. For more information, contact the Ground Zero Center, 360-930-8697, or visit gzcener.org.

Chain reaction

Nuclear disarmament campaigners around the world are invited to take part in nonviolent actions related to the banner event, the 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-relevant 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 Saturday, November 26, in conjunction with the No War to 2016: Real Security, Without Terrorism conference. For more info, visit worldbeyondwar.org/NoWar2016.

Out on appeal, cont.

For more information, visit sortidindenuclear.org.

Drakes may kill fewer people, he protested, 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 annual condition 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 sufficiently deter him from his radical commander.

For more information, including Harry Murray’s memo and video of his sentencing dialogue with Judge Gideon, visit blog.spatacledonation.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., Ithaca, NY 14850.

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WASHINGTON, D.C.: Prosecutors were unprepared to proceed when five activists came to Superior Court on March 8, 2016 to enter pleas to charges in connection with a demonstration at the 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.

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 pacemenews.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 by Scott Schaeffer-Duffy of a Catholic Worker (Haley’s, 2016).

A greater crime. £10 + postage (£3.95 to USA) from peacemenews.info/webshop.

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.

Vigilers 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.