A nonviolent action campaign to ignite public debate about the Iowa Air National Guard drone base in Des Moines continued throughout the summer. But their efforts were overshadowed by the confession of two participants in the drone campaign, Ruby Monyota and Jessica Reznicek, to sabotage and arson of the Dakota Access pipeline.

Since May, it has been the focus of regular vigils with occasional blockades and arrests. The “Stop the Killing, Shut it Down” campaign is sustained by a small number of Des Moines Catholic Workers and members of the local Veterans For Peace chapter.

Seven people arrived for the vigil on the afternoon of June 10 to find the main entrance to the base had already been shut down and police were waiting. As the demonstrators circled together in front of the gate, a guard behind it announced over the public address system that they were all trespassing and must leave. Five of them hugged Al Burney and Mark Kenney, who planned to stay and risk arrest. (Just the day before, Burney pledged, and was ordered to pay court costs but not fined for blocking the gate on May 27.)

City police emerged from the gate to arrest the two men as the others began to walk away. An officer called to Frank Cordaro to come back. The Campaign for Peace returned and was placed under arrest for violating a “ban and bar” letter from his May 27 arrest at the base.

“A dumb arrest on my part,” Cordaro wrote. “Lesson learned in the process. Once you get a ‘ban and bar letter,’ don’t go to the gate as a support person, unless you’re willing to be arrested, too.”

Cordaro was in court a few days later on June 15 to enter a plea for his June 3 arrest at the drone base.

In his statement to the court, Cordaro said, “For me, this is primarily a spiritual exercise and public witness of my Christian Catholic faith. I am modeling my efforts after Dorothy Day, the founder of the Catholic Worker movement, who, in the 1950s, protested at the annual Air Raid Drills in New York City five years in a row, until the city stopped having them. Dorothy and the CW’s plea: go to jail to comply with an order to go into the designated zone, continue further nor remain on the sidewalk. They refused to comply with an order to go into the designated zone, and, after several warnings, they were placed under arrest.”

Despite outreach to the press about the regular vigil, repeated arrests and jail sentences, local media had only reported the news once – a TV report at the outset of the campaign, back on May 11.

The absence of media attention and any resulting public discussion or commentary from religious leaders about the reality of global drone warfare waged locally led the campaigners to the decision to amplify the optics of a blockade.

On the morning of Wednesday, June 28, four people locked their arms inside three large barrels filled with concrete to blockade the base. The entry road was closed for about two hours while fire crews cut through the barriers.

Jesse Horne, Spencer Kaaz, Ruby Monyota and Jessica Reznicek were arrested and charged with interference with official acts and obstructing a public way.

After spending a night in jail, they pleaded guilty to the two misdemeanors and were fined and released. The court also ordered a joint restitution payment of $3,241 for street maintenance, police and fire labor costs.

The action garnered some local press and on Saturday, July 1, 20 people participated in the largest Saturday protest to date at the drone base. Ed Bloomer and Jesse Horne were both arrested and jailed overnight. In court the next morning, both entered guilty pleas and were ordered to pay a fine and court costs, then released.

On Saturday, July 9, Cordaro was arrested as soon as he arrived for the weekly witness. Police had a recent warrant for him for disorderly conduct at the June 28 blockade, when he stood directly in front of vehicles stopped by the blockade but left when police ordered others to disperse. Held overnight, Cordaro pleaded guilty on Sunday and was sentenced to five days in jail.

A different local debate was fueled on July 24, when Montoya and Reznicek held a press conference outside the headquarters of the Iowa Utilities Board to criticize the Board’s recent actions over a Dakota Access

Des Moines No Drones Campaign ‘Stretched’ by Pipeline Arrests

Des Moines No Drones Campaign

July 29, 2017

photo by Aaron Jorgenson

“Stretched” by Pipeline Arrests

Des Moines No Drones Campaign, the home to a drone warfare command center, July 28.

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The MQ-9 Reaper drone command center at the base places Des Moines in the center of global warming. Since May, it has been the focus of regular vigils with occasional blockades and arrests. The “Stop the Killing, Shut it Down” campaign is sustained by a small number of Des Moines Catholic Workers and members of the local Veterans For Peace chapter.

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Des Moines No Drones Campaign

No. 186

September 7, 2017

HIROSHIMA/ NAGASAKI ACTIONS

Events commemorating the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki 72 years ago took place around the world in early August. In the United States, nuclear abolitionists were calling for demonstrations at five nuclear-related sites: a major nuclear arms contractor in Pennsylvania, a California missile base, a Washington Trident submarine base, a California nuclear weapons lab and the Pentagon.

Lockheed Martin

On Saturday, August 5, on the eve of the Hiroshima bombing, members and friends of the Brandwynde Peace Community gathered at Lockheed Martin in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania. The grassy area out front where they have a few times every year for decades, they displayed colorful banners and signs. One reading “Hiroshima! We Shall Not Repeat the Sin” hung boldly from the wall behind the main entrance. Musician Tom Mullian and Rev. David Brown performed original and traditional folks songs for the occasion.

As a peace bell tolled, all those gathered walked to the main driveway entrance. Four people then blocked the entrance, holding the classic picture of the Hiroshima child. Arrested and cited were Beth Centz, Tom Mullian, Paul Sheldon and Fr. Patrick Sieber. For more information, visit www.brandwyndipewace.com or email brandwynde@juno.com.

Vandenberg AFB

On the west coast on August 5, members of the Los Angeles Catholic Worker joined the Guadalupe, California Catholic Workers and others in a prayerful witness at Vandenberg Air Force Base. Their commemoration of the 72nd anniversary of the U.S. atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki included a call for the elimination of ICBM missile testing from Vandenberg.

Three Los Angeles Catholic Workers who had each received a ban and bar letter after previous arrests at the base – Jeff Dietrich, Mike Wissiewski, and Karon Benton – were arrested and threatened with arrest for “ban and bar” violations if they did not immediately leave the protest area. Dietrich and Wissiewski chose to leave, while Benton refused. She was immediately arrested, cited for trespass and later released pending a future court date and possible jail time.

For more information, visit lacatholicworker.org.

Pentagon

On August 9, about 30 faith-based peace activists held a midday witness of repentance at the Pentagon to commemorate the 72nd anniversary of the U.S. nuclear bombing of Nagasaki. They carried disarmament signs and photos of the carnage and victims of the atomic bombings in a procession from Army-Navy Drive to the police-designated protest zone. The zone is a space enclosed by a chain link fence between the south parking lot and the Pentagon Metro entrance.

Bill Franklin-Streit and Eric Martin proceeded past the protest zone and were told by police that they could not continue further nor remain on the sidewalk. They refused to comply with an order to go into the designated zone, and, after several warnings, they were placed under arrest.

Before their arrest, as the two men stood in silence on the sidewalk holding photos of Nagasaki victims, Art Laffin read the following statement aloud as the soldiers and air workers passed by:

Seventy-two years ago, on August 6, 1945, the U.S. ushered in the Nuclear Age by committing the unspeakable act of using nuclear weapons against the people of Hiroshima. Three days later, on August 9, the U.S. used a second nuclear weapon against the people of Nagasaki. Over 200,000 Japanese died in these bombings and many thousands

continued on page 5

continued on page 3
Resistance Reflections

Ending the Nuclear Nightmare

by Bonnie Ufer

Not everyone you meet invites you to get arrested, but, in the name of peace, nuclear disarmament, and reactor stare-downs, they do. Actually, consider this a 10-minute commercial for challenging the nuclear establishment on the line and in court.

There’s no harm in nonviolent resistance. I have been arrested fewer than 100 times over the past 30 years to draw attention to the deadly nuclear industry and to senseless ongoing war. I encourage you to do the same as the U.S. nuclear arsenal daily threatens everyone on planet Earth. The nuclear industry is responsible for vast amounts of contaminated air, sea and land in areas called “dead zones” on our own soil. Pick up a copy of Nukewatch’s Nuclear Heartland; it should put you in the mood for action.

I know you can and do write letters, sign petitions, pass out literature, call into radio programs, write songs, do dances, create art and videos to further the cause of peace and justice. I know you plaster your car with bumper stickers. You may belong to an organization that purchased a billboard for a peace message and had a discussion about community justice. Perhaps you’ve joined a march or vigil, organized a Run for Freedom, and maybe you even recycled your TV. There are so many things to do to create change. Buy responsibly, picket, strike and divest from harmful industries. Why, you could refuse to pay war taxes, help blockade the entrance of a weapons manufacturer, sit in a tree to prevent clear cutting and save old growth forests, occupy a nuclear missile site, even if you can’t do it alone. Actually, my dream is that one day, we’ll be so huge, we’ll walk up to the White House and simply ask for the keys. But that is going to take a lot of help from a lot of people who want to take action.

In the meantime, our water is being poisoned, food supply altered, people tortured and everyone — today and into the future — radioactively contaminated. And remember, I am simply a symbol of the driving of the president. Each of us is responsible for environmental destruction.

For almost three decades I have resisted the nuclear industry and the war system and I know that what I do is not enough and I know we are not enough, yet. And I know this is no time to stop. As people have turned their focus to climate change, the reality of nuclear war and the threat of nuclear reactor terrorism by the president, I have come to feel that my work is more important than ever. Each of us is responsible for environmental destruction.

When it comes to nuclear weapons, the law on our side. The Nuremburg Principles, the Geneva Conventions, the Hague Court of Justice at the Hague, the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, U.N. General Assembly Resolutions, humanitarian law, Article Six of the U.S. Constitution making treaties part of the supreme law of the land, the International Court of Justice and the Hague, the Geneva Conventions, the Nuremburg Principles, the International Criminal Court. The nuclear industry is responsible for immoral, illegal and a crime against humanity.

Our situation is serious. And nuclear weapons make it grave. The flight-to-impact time for your average nuclear weapon is 12 minutes. That’s it. And what if it’s a com-

Thanks to Sonia, Xiaomara, Faith, Richard, Jim, John, Gretchen, Linda, cil, Coco, Felicie, Polly, Betty, Paige and Steve for helping to mail the last issue, and to Ruth for proofreading this issue.

¡Presente!

Bill Dubb

peace, anti-nuclear, environmental and social justice activist, father, grandfather

July 9, 1935 – August 4, 2017

Fr. Jerry Zawada, OFM

nuclear resister, prophetic voice for peace and justice, Franciscan friar

April 28, 1937 – July 25, 2017

the Nuclear Resister

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The Nuclear Resister

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the Nuclear Resister

The NukeWatch website is available on microfilm as part of the Archives of American Art, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C. Available at the Library of Congress Center for Microform Collections. The Nuclear Resister is available on microfilm as of August 1, 1980.

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ABOUT THE NUCLEAR RESISTER

Since 1980, the Nuclear Resister has provided comprehensive reporting on actions for anti-nuclear civil resistance in the U.S. 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 international actions, primarily 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 to the nuclear industry in the industry. Each issue is focused on nonviolent actions, news and updates on anti-nuclear and anti-war activism. All text and graphics are out of the public domain, and are used for building awareness of their actions and support for the imprisoned activist are essential to the expansion of anti-nuclear, nonviolent political actions.

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

Jack and Felicie Cohen-Joppa, Editors
More have suffered and died since from the effects of nuclear weapons. The U.S. has never reported for the use of these weapons of indiscriminate mass murder.

The renowned Trappist writer and peacemaker, Thomas Merton, in his remarkable `Original Child Bomb," describes the firepower, death and destruction that accompanied the bombings: "The bomb exploded within 100 feet of the aiming point. The fireball was 1000 feet across. The temperature at the center of the fireball was 100,000,000 degrees. The people who were near the center became nothing. The whole area became one big fireball and the ruins all caught fire instantly everywhere, burning briskly, 70,000 people were killed right away or died within a few hours. Those who did not die at once suffered great pain. Few of them were soldiers."

We come to the Pentagon today to say "Yes" to the God of Life who commands us to love and not to kill, and "No" to the forces of evil, death and destruction. As people of faith, we stand here in front of the Pentagon, the center of waging war on our planet, with contrite hearts as we call on our nation to join us in repenting for the colossal sin and crime of building and using nuclear weapons, to apologize to the Japanese and A-Bomb survivors (known as Hibakusha) for our country's use of the bomb against them and to demand an end to ongo- ing criminal nuclear war preparations.

More information, visit trivalleycares.org.

**Bangor Trident base**

In Washington state, activists concluded this year's commemorative resistance with an action at the nuclear submarine base that would likely command any nuclear attack on North Korea should President Donald Trump give the order.

Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor, just 20 miles from Seattle, is home to the largest concentration of deployed nuclear weapons in the U.S. More than 1,300 nuclear warheads are either on the Trident D-5 missiles loaded on eight missile-launching submarines based at Bangor or stored at the Strategic Weapons Facility Pacific (SWFPAC) located there.

The Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action organized a vigil and nonviolent direct action at the Bangor base on August 14. Participants briefly blocked the base during the morning shift and were carried on a chain brought in front of the gates at the Army Base. Peace Chain nuclear declarations were read aloud and the chain brought in front of the gates at the Army Base. Lewis Randa was arrested when he refused to leave the entrance, and he spent the night in jail.

For more information, visit peaceabbey.org.

**Natick Peace Chain**

On Sunday, August 27, more than two dozen people formed a Peace Chain in Natick, Massachusetts. Carrying a length of heavy steel links, they walked from Natick Common to the entrance of the U.S. Army Natick Soldier System Center to call upon the military to refuse any order to launch a nuclear attack on North Korea. Hanging from the chain were 12 letters explaining why the nuclear war is not an option for the holder of the nuclear codes. Unless, however, the President is mentally disturbed.

"Our government has no sane option but to negotiate with North Korea to prevent a human, environmental and moral catastrophe of our own making," their statement read. "We must remember the devastation in North Korea when, between 1950 and 1953, American war planes carpet bomb and burned to the ground nearly every city and town in North Korea." They haven't forgotten and their fear and hatred towards the United States continue unabated.

"We have signed a petition to Vice President Pence and the Cabinet to recognize that President Donald Trump is mentally disturbed, witness his erratic and bizarre behavior, and to immediately initiate the 25th Amendment to have the President removed from office before we are cursed with a war that could very well leave our planet irrevocably damaged and uninhabitable. Through the Peace Chain Action we will specifically spell out what a nuclear war would mean to a President who actually asked the question, 'If we have nuclear weapons, why can't we use them?'"

When they arrived at the base entrance, the twelve Peace Chain nuclear declarations were read aloud and the chain brought in front of the gates at the Army Base. Lewis Randa was arrested when he refused to leave the entrance, and he spent the night in jail.

For more information, visit peaceabbey.org.

**Senate Hearing for Torture Memo Author Disrupted**

At the Senate confirmation hearing for Steven Bradbury as general counsel for the Commerce, Science and Transportation Department on June 28, members of Veterans for Peace and CODEPINK protested Bradbury, whose authorship of the "Torture Memo" explained why the Bush administration. Three members of Veterans for Peace were arrested for speaking out at the hearing.

"Anybody whose moral compass is so broken that they would condone torture doesn't deserve a position in the U.S. government," stated Ken Ashe as he was handcuffed by Capitol Police.

"I disrupted the hearing for a man, Steven Bradbury, who should be on trial for war crimes," said Tarak Kauff as he was pulled out of the hearing by police. "He sanctioned, conditioned, and confirmed torture practices that were used by my government, practices that disgraced our country."

"I am a veteran. I am deeply concerned about our soldiers, who are at risk for torture if our nation tortures," said Ellen Bartfield. Bradbury was acting head of the Department of Justice's Office of Legal Counsel from 2005-2009, where he authored the "torture memos" that contradict domestic and international law regarding the protection of prisoners. In 2008, Bradbury was blocked from holding Senate- confirmable positions due to his role in Bush's torture program.

Ashe and Kauff both posted a forfeiture bond to resolve their cases, and Bartfield faces trial this fall.

For more information, contact info@codepink.org.

**Senate Hearing**

Leonard Peltier phoned his support group on Saturday, September 2, hours before his parole hearing to announce that the National Chairman of Veterans for Peace, Mike Kanu, who was originally scheduled to speak in his support before the parole board had been arrested and imprisoned the morning of the hearing.

"Good Morning everyone. OK...it's been a rough ride for me, but I'm one step back from passing away. I was taken to an outside hospital in Leesburg, Florida for what I was told was a routine heart stress test. And it turned out that they found that I have three stenosis - three of them! They decided to operate right away and I just returned from a three-hour heart surgery. My chest was opened and they took the arteries out of my legs and placed them in the blocked arteries. I had to be given a liter of blood. Now I am back at the prison and getting around in my wheelchair. They said this would help my shortness of breath and the pressure in my chest."

The Native American activist is serving two life terms, fraudulently convicted in the killing of two FBI agents during a siege on the Pine Ridge Reservation in 1975 that provided cover for the theft of tribal land for mining, including uranium.

Peltier will turn 73 on September 12 and has visits scheduled around that time with family and friends. For more information, visit whisleonardpeltier.info.
Anti-war activists demonstrate on the steps of the U.S. Capitol before their arrest.

**RIVERS OF BLOOD AT THE U.S. CAPITOL**

In Washington, D.C. on July 12 – the 200th anniversary of Henry David Thoreau’s birth – members and supporters of the National Campaign for Nonviolent Resistance (NCNR) visited both the Senate and House Office Buildings with a petition to congressional leaders condemning U.S. military action.

Wearing t-shirts marked with red blood-like stains, they threw ceremonial petals on the steps of the Capitol.

At the office of Sen. Chuck Schumer, a staffer member met with the activists and listened to each one. Their pleas covered the issues of war funding, drone strikes, the authority for military force, poverty and other concerns.

From the office of Nancy Pelosi’s staff, where both the petition and the activists were accepted.

**U.S. JOIN THE TALKS! BAN THE BOMB!**

On June 19, after a vigil for nuclear disarmament at the Isaiah Wall opposite the United Nations buildings in New York City, 50 people marched to the U.S. Mission to the U.N. to protest the ongoing U.S. failure to take part in nuclear disarmament negotiations on a nuclear weapons ban treaty. Nineteen of the activists blocked the doors, some holding a long banner with the words that of the Bhagavad Gita spoken by physicist Robert Oppenheimer as he witnessed the world’s first nuclear test in July, 1945: “I am become Death, Destroyer of Worlds.”

While the group chanted “U.S. join the talks, ban the bomb,” police soon moved in and arrested the blockaders for disorderly conduct. All of them were taken to the 7th Precinct on Pitt Street, and were released at 5 p.m. with desk appearances before a July 24 date court.

For more information, email ncnywrl@att.net.

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In the planning meeting, Max claimed he had been arrested for nonviolent resistance and it didn’t use the language of a peace activist, even though he said he had been trying to join us in our action and he wanted information about the bail system.

When asked whether the police intended to read the entire petition, which the police refused to do, he said yes.

The fire in my heart [Jer. 20:9] for the welfare and well-being of all God’s people and for a nuclear-free world will not be extinguished.

For more information, contact Steve Jacobs at sfcb913aol.com, 573-875-7874.

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Columbia, Missouri Catholic Worker Steve Jacobs will appear for trial before a local judge on September 7 on a charge of “peace disturbance.” A reliable policeman cited the quotation on Memorial Day that the city’s annual Memorial Parade arrived and the Angel, Golden Knights paratroopers descended from the sky onto the Columbia College soccer field just across the street from Francis X. Tolton High School.

A crowd was able to flood their neighborhood and fills the streets around the house of hospitality, Jacobs. They had put together an 80-minute mix of anti-war tunes. That morning, he set up his sign system in an upstairs room and pointed speakers towards the window towards the soccer field.

Jacobs writes:

I’d never cranked it up all the way before but when I put the music on at 11:45 and 1:45; we’d have the silence to fill as we were up there – I cranked it to get into a pissing contest with the college, but in the meantime we were providing service to the city to more fully represent the broad political spectrum of opinions held by its citizens. So for 30 minutes we listened to Pitt Ochs sing “One More Parade” followed by Jackson Browne’s “Lives In The Balance,” Dylan’s “Masters Of War,” my own song “Dead Body” and the Everly Brothers’ “Jacoby’s Ladder (Not In My Name),” Roy Zimmerman’s “This Is The Day,” David Rovics’ “Hang A Flag In The Window” and Pink Floyd’s “Dogs Of War.” That’s when the police arrived.

Officer Bell told me, “We’ve had a complaint from someone at Columbia College that we planned on turning off the music at 1:45 and we’d let them have the silence to fill the middle here and so I’m hoping you can turn down the music.”

I said, “Well, I appreciate your awkward position. I said, “Well just tell your supervisor and the folks at Columbia, Missouri Catholic Worker Steve Jacobs will appear for trial before a local judge on September 7 on a charge of “peace disturbance.”

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After the fourth warning, Max Obuszewski was taken off the court.

They unfurled a red sash on the steps to symbolize the 20th anniversary of Henry David Thoreau’s birth – members and supporters of the National Campaign for Nonviolent Resistance (NCNR) visited both the Senate and House Office Buildings with a petition to congressional leaders condemning U.S. military action.

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Bell that I knew that this type of patriotism was a religion to some people but that our pacifist anti-war expression was part of our religious beliefs.

He mentioned that it was his decision to “go out of the way” and “take of care of what? There’s no violation here.”

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**Arrests at Volk Field Drone Base**

Members of the Wisconsin Coalition to Ground the Drones and End the Wars returned on June 27 for their monthly vigil at Volk Field, in rural Juneau County. The Wisconsin Air National Guard Base trains personnel to operate the RQ-7 Shadow Drone, used for reconnaissance, surveillance and target acquisition. These are all critical components of the drone warfare being waged across the Middle East, Africa, and now reportedly in the Philippines. Some reports suggest that the RQ-7’s weapons capability is also now being used.

Numerous letters to the base commander seeking a meeting to talk about their concerns have gone unanswered, and on July 5th 2017, two protestors delivered a letter in person who have been arrested. When people met this day in a nearby park for the final planning meeting, two cars from the Juneau County Sheriff’s department drove up, one of the canines the unit. They arrested Brian Terrell of the Chicago-based Voices for Creative Nonviolence and took him in handcuffs. It was not unexpected, as Terrell had an outstanding warrant for refusing to pay a fine from his arrest for trespass at the base in February, 2016.

After his arrest, the group finished their meeting and processed to the gates of Volk Field, where about ten deputies were waiting.

Fr. Jim Murphy and Joy First walked to the gate with crime tape they planned to hang on the fence, but it was quickly snatched from their hands by a captain as told the that the base commander didn’t want any tape on “his” fence. First stepped across the line and was arrested as she started to read from a war crimes indictment. Murphy walked onto the base and was also arrested, as was Phil Runkel.

The three were taken to the Juneau County jail, charged with trespassing and disorderly conduct and then released. Terrell was released three days later, when he wrote to fr.freeze from Low Moss Prison by Brian Quail (published in Scotland’s The National)

July 19, 2017

BANGED up again! It’s been many years since I last supped porridge as a guest of Betty Dodson. Memories of shopping out and sharing a smoke-filled cell did not prepare me for a sojourn in Low Moss. A cell to myself, tv, and shower were unexpected pleasures. Coming from Coupland Camp it was a relief to get a proper bed. The sad truth is at my advanced age moving the body horizontally to the vertical is a real problem when tackled from ground level.

So, truth to tell, I’m quite enjoying it! Just a pity that these comforts come with incarceration, and loss of liberty to leave my cell unperused. Apart from that, my mind is one of intense disappointment and irritation at the Court’s reaction to our blockade.

The magistrate’s refusal to look at the context of our action is unreasonable. “You blocked the road and stopped the traffic,” was all she would say. She refused to take into account the situation we were confronting.

I asked the magistrate what we had to do to get the legal system to recognise that Trident is a real and present, existing, ongoing war crime. Preparing to commit a crime is itself a crime, and the greater the crime being planned, the greater the crime. I pointed out that the women of the March 2013 action were sitting at a control panel waiting for an order to launch, and Theresa May has already boasted that she would “press the button.”

So, here and now we are willing and able to bring about death by blast, burning and radiation to untold thousands, as well as causing catastrophic environmental danger.

Her reply that “that was a matter for Westminster and not a concern of this court” was a pathetic dodge.

July 7, the U.N. made the most important decision it has ever made since its foundation in 1945 in relation to the nuclear wars. The draft international treaty agreed by 122 batons means that nuclear weapons must be banned, as are chemical and biological weapons.

We might have a future after all. One thing is for sure: either we have a nuclear free future or we have no future at all.

Scotland is the one country in the world that can break the nuclear chain because it is the one country that (by independence) can free itself of nuclear weapons.

While so the cell door slams and the key turns in the lock, here in Low Moss prison, I promise to redouble my efforts to rid our land of the obscenity that is Trident and urge all people of good will to do the same in this, the most important campaign in the world.

[by Brian Quail, from Glasgow, was jailed for refusing to agree to bail conditions after his arrest for blocking the road to the Coulport nuclear weapons depot in Scotland.]

**Des Moines, cont.**

pipeline permit. Reading from a prepared statement, the two women claimed responsibility for several acts of sabotage, including arson, that targeted the pipelines and construction equipment at multiple isolated sites. The actions began last November and ended in May, when oil began flowing in the pipeline.

After their conviction, the women provoked immediate arrest by using crowbars to pry letters from the Board’s large sign behind them. They were arrested for malicious mischief and trespass. The FBI visited the women in jail, but they refused to talk.

Their confession left the Catholic Worker community feeling “stretched,” but together with the veterans they vow to continue the weekly “Rally, Witness, Direct Action, Risk, Arrest & Go To Jail” witness every Saturday at 6:00 p.m. at the National Guard Base.

On August 11, about 30 FBI agents conducted a pre-dawn raid of Berrigan House. Cordaro, Montoya and Reznick were all rounded awake and detained for a few hours. The Home Place was boarded up and locked. Reznick and Montoya and Reznick again refused to speak to the agents.

For more information about the drone campaign, visit dумбerriganhouse.org. The actions of Montoya and Reznick are being chronicled at mississippistand.com.

**Fr. Kabat Returns to K.C. Nuclear Plant**

by Chrissy Kirchhofer

In keeping with the tradition of Interdependence Day, the recognition of our need for each other as well as the impact of the United Nations, the Church Peace Office of the Catholic priest Carl Kabat took action on July 4 at the Kansas City National Security Campus. Kabat’s attempt to increase the threat of nuclear disarmament through the non-violent device of symbolically pouring red paint on the National Nuclear Security Administration sign was thwarted by employees of Honeywell.

After five years of annual actions on Interdependence Day, Kabat witnessed security personnel at all of the entrances to the facility for the first time. Despite the heavy rainfall and security presence, Kabat opted for the bike path instead of a single-minded pursuit of nuclear disarmament. Further down the path, Fr. Kabat was met by additional security personnel who prevented him from getting closer to the National Security Campus for the production of 85% of the non-nuclear components of U.S. nuclear weapons. Carl was charged with trespassing and released. He did not appear for an August 4 court date.

After spending 18 years in prison over the past three decades, Kabat remains committed to this pursuit of nuclear disarmament 100%. He insists nuclear weapons are insane, not him.

Action, Risk Arrest & Go To Jail witness every Saturday at 6:00 p.m. at the National Guard Base.

~ from SCA

Dallas

by Norm Lowry

August 1, 2017

“The difficulty lies not in solving problems but in expressing them.” - Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

Today I began my last scheduled year in prison. What an adventure this chapter of my life has been… My life’s finest. I have gained a good number of scars, both externally and internally. Yet I’ve reaffirmed the fact that scars can seam together a massive character… if we allow this to be.

When I first came to prison, in 2009, all but two persons known preprison needed to say their goodbyes. I still deeply miss those precious ones yet there are less traveled roads one must occasionally travel, roads too weird and/or too frightening to most.

Besides, stark truth causes cognitive dissonance in the masses, especially within our western culture which is so "virtual" in its orientation. It’s a simple, structural truth.

Late in 2009, Jack and Felice made contact and have, over time, been largely responsible for causing an avalanche of scars, both externally and internally. Yet I’ve reaffirmed the fact that scars can seam together a massive character… if we allow this to be.

For more information about the drone campaign, visit dумбerriganhouse.org. The actions of Montoya and Reznick are being chronicled at mississippistand.com.
A delegation of U.S. nuclear resisters who protested this summer atop a nuclear weapons bunker in Germany is getting credit for helping put the issue of the ‘shared’ U.S. nuclear weapons squarely on the German federal ballot this fall. At a campaign rally in August, Martin Schulz, leader of the Social Democratic Party, declared, “As chancellor, I will commit Germany to having the nuclear weapons stationed here withdrawn from from the country. There’s a right trailing in the polls, the declaration is a benchmark in the long campaign to remove U.S. nuclear weapons stationed in Germany under a NATO agreement.

A group of five peace activists entered the Büchel Air Base in Germany after nightfall on Monday, July 17. For the first time in a 21-year campaign of protest against the deployment of a U.S. B61 thermonuclear bombs there, they climbed on top of one large bunker containing the nuclear weapons. After cutting through two exterior fences and two more fences surrounding the large earth-covered bunkers, the five spent more than one hour unnoticed sitting on the bunker. No notice of the group was taken until after two of them climbed down to write “DISARM” on the bunker’s metal front door, setting off an alarm. Surrounded by vehicles and guards searching on foot with flashlights, the five eventually alerted guards to their presence by singing, causing the guards to look up.

The five were held for about an hour while their ID was recorded and they were photographed and searched. Susan Crane, said, “The Commander of the base came to meet us at 3:00 a.m. and told us what we did was very dangerous and we might have been shot. We believe the greater danger comes from the nuclear bombs that are deployed at the base.”

An hour after being detained, they were released. The Americans were not charged and were later able to leave the country without further incident. Büntzly was reported for trespass and damage to property, but has not been summoned.

The action came at the conclusion of an “international week” at the base, part of a 20-week-long series of rallies and blockades—“Twenty Weeks for Twenty Bombs,” or “20W20.”

More than 60 people from around the globe—Russia, China, Mexico, Germany, Britain, the United States, The Netherlands, and others—from 25 different countries entered the base in July. Like Büntzly, they entered the base to remove U.S. nuclear weapons stationed there.

A total of 11 activists from the United States were arrested. For more information, visit buechel-atombombenfrei.de.

On July 8, the day after 122 nations adopted the treaty banning nuclear weapons, about 50 nonviolent disarmament campaigners from across Great Britain and Europe pitched camp together near the nuclear warhead depot at Coulport, Scotland. The nonviolent direct action network Trident Ploughshares had issued a call to follow the treaty accomplishment with a week of peaceful disruptive activity at the depot and the nearby Faslane base, homeport for Britain’s Trident nuclear submarine fleet.

During eight days of daily vigils at the gate, skill-sharing, strategy discussions and creative public actions, the first arrests came early on the morning of July 11. Heavy concrete and metal tubes linked the arms of Scottish activists Alastair Armstrong and Helen Dick to a bunker and a special bail condition, and three codefendants were released from prison. Their trial was joined with the British activists after he was arrested in Dumbarton.

On behalf of the 11 Spanish activists taking part in the camp, Almudena Izquierdo said, “We demand our government to recognize the U.N. Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty in order to prohibit nuclear weapons from entering foreign military bases and ports in Spain.”

After being separated by police using power tools, the five were taken into custody and jailed overnight. Appearing in Dumbarton Magistrates Court the next morning, Angie Zelter and Jon Baggarly, both from Trident Ploughshares, were granted non-bail release pending a trial on August 3. The court also lifted the special bail condition, and three codefendants were released from prison. Their trial was joined with the British activists after it was dropped his demand for the special bail condition on July 25.

Inside Line.)

Baggarly, Susan Crane, John LaForge and Bonnie Urfer, and German Gerd Büntzly, said in their statement, “We are nonviolent and have entered Büchel Air Base to contest the nuclear weapons deployed here. We seek to remove U.S. nuclear weapons-free world. All of creation calls us to life, to disarmament, to a world of justice—for the poor, the Earth, and the children.”

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The U.S. National Organizing Committee for Ban the Bomb and the Scottish Committee for the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons, along with Trident Ploughshares, have issued a call to follow the treaty accomplishment with a week of peaceful disruptive activity at the depot and the nearby Faslane base, homeport for Britain’s Trident nuclear submarine fleet.

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Angie Zelter and co-founder of Trident Ploughshares, wrote from prison:

Right since Trident Ploughshares was launched in 1998 members of Trident Ploughshares have stood up in court and argued that Trident is illegal because it is an inherently indiscriminate weapon, the use of which would create the deaths of at least hundreds of thousands if not millions of civilians. At times the courts have listened to those arguments, and other times they have not.

Now the United Nations has adopted a Treaty that will ban nuclear weapons for the very reasons so many of us have worked and gone to prison because of the unacceptable humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons. The new global norm of not possessing, deploying or using nuclear weapons makes clear that the nine nuclear weapons countries must destroy their weapons in a timeframe and the world. So at this time it is even more important that we stand at the gates of the places where those weapons are held and demand that the government listen to the majority of the world and start the process of disarmament now.

We convene in Dumbarton to all those who stand with us and for disarmament, and we will take our arguments to every court, government body, and high street, until the U.K. – and the world – is rid of these terrible weapons.

(See Brian Quail’s letter from prison on page 5, The Inside Line.)

At an intermediate hearing on July 26, the prosecutor dropped his demand for the special bail condition on Quail and Zelter without explanation, and they were released from prison. Their trial was joined with the others scheduled for October.

For more information, visit tridentploughshares.org.
Australia

Taliban Saber

Australian opponents of their country’s participation in joint military exercises with the United States travelled to Queensland’s Whitsunday Islands to protest the biennial Talisman Saber war games.

Adopting a Star Wars theme for one of their public protests, a Citizens’ Inspection Team approached the USS Green Bay, a ship from the Imperial fleet” docked at Cairns on June 30.

“What is this ship doing so far from home?” they wondered. “If we don’t ask, who will?”

Across the road from the dock, the team in their white lab coats imitated the sailors that they could change the side of history they are on at any moment, and come over to the light.

“Join with the Force, join the Alliance, work with the Jedi, resist with the Empire. At any moment, you could do that. It’s just a decision away!”

A visitor from a far-off galaxy, by all appearances the Princess Leia, commissioned the inspection.

“Such dark forces have already acted upon other galaxies, and we shall not let these dark forces to act upon this galaxy, this planet. Therefore, I do approve of the inspection of this warship,” she said, as she waved her light saber in the direction of the U.S. navy’s amphibious transport ship.

Margaret Pestorius then walked across the road to commence the inspection but was quickly intercepted by military police.

She was arrested and held in a police van for 45 minutes.

In court on July 18, Pestorius was given credit for time served and while no conviction nor penalty were recorded, she paid the $120 “offender’s levy”.

For more information, visit peaceconvergence.org.

France

Bure

The grassroots struggle to stop construction of a permanent underground dump for France’s nuclear waste escalated through the summer. Major multi-day gatherings in June and August drew up to 2,000 opponents from near and far to the rural site in the northeast department of Meuse.

Heavily armed police frequently patrolled the area and sometimes flew helicopter surveillance over the small village of Bure, where a House of Resistance is established, and other hamlets near the communal Bois Lejeu woodlands. There, a rota of resident activists – the “Owls” – live in a half-dozen tree houses and other structures where the nuclear dump’s ventilation and equipment shafts would be installed.

Following a three-day family-friendly “Bure-lesque” festival of education, networking, entertainment and action, gendarmes in riot gear blocked hundreds of masks, flags and the Owl’s camp on August 15. When some rocks were thrown, the police responded with tear gas and explosive percussion grenades fired at protestors. In total, more than 30 demonstrators were injured, two seriously. One young father was hospitalized and remains at risk of losing use of his toes after a grenade blasted his shoe off, shattering his bones.

Despite this and other clashes including incidents of property destruction on the large research campus of ANDRA, the nuclear waste authority, police have made few arrests on Bure. On February 28, when scores of demonstrators toppled a large section of fence around ANDRA’s campus was convicted of trespass and assault.

Sean Blair and Laura Drew had their bench trial on August 24. Drew was acquitted of trespass while Blair was convicted of the same charge.

They were warned that their protest, even though they did not damage the sword.

Among more than two dozen supporters in court was Fr. Peter Murmane. As a student of Catholic symbolism, he took the stand and testified about the cross and the sword that, “Putting them together is like putting a swastika on a synagogue.”

The elder Dowling was sentenced to three months in jail, suspended for one year, 100 hours of community service and $51.82 cost of repairing the war memorial. Webb was ordered to pay the other half and perform the same community service.

Paine, who videotaped the protest and publicized it afterwards, was fined $1,000.

“What you did here was not report dispassionately and independently as some of the reporters that are here today are doing,” the judge told him. “You were positively involved and active participants, although to a lesser extent than others.”

Fritz Dowling, who provided music for their litany of repentance, was fined $1,000 but had no conviction entered on his record.

For more information, visit swordtoplowshare.net.

New Zealand

In the lead-up to last November’s arms expo in Auckland, New Zealand, a Wellington maker of triggers for military explosives, mortar and artillery shells was visited by Death. Several spectors in black robes with scythes, balloons, confetti and party poppers came to celebrate common cause with the management of MAS Zengrane at their nondescript factory in Lower Hutt. Turned away by party poppers at the door, the Dark Angels brought their macabre celebration next door to the company’s new construction site. In vain, a lone worker pushed back against the agents of Doom.

When police finally arrived, two Grim Reapers were arrested, both charged with trespass and an added charge of common assault. Fritz Dowling, a green activist charged with the worker of striking with him.

Sean Blair and Laura Drew had their bench trial on August 24. Drew was acquitted of trespass while Blair was convicted of the same charge.

In June, Drew was also acquitted on a separate trespass charge from a protest at the Ministry of Defence in 2016, when she was roughly arrested for not leaving the scene on police orders. Video evidence showed she had left the building well before expiration of the two-minute warning given by police.

See Future Actions, page 7, about nonviolent resistance plans for the October arms expo in Wellington.

Toowoong Plowsshares Trial

Four Australian men were convicted in July of willful damage to the “Cross of Sacrifice,” a war memorial in Hume’s Toowoong cemetery. In an Ash Wednesday act of repentance, Jim Dowling prided the brass blade of a big sword from the large stone cross where it hung for more than a century. Over a makeshift anvil they brought to the cross, and he felt compelled to remove it.

“Our consciences called us to resist war-making, and especially Christian war-making,” he said.

Fritz Dowling (Jim’s son) and Andrew Paine were also charged and convicted on video evidence that they joined the protest, even though they did not damage the sword.

Following jury deliberations, the judge declared a mistrial in the case of three additional plaintiffs.

For more information, visit swordtoplowshare.net.

India

Across India, government-promoted nuclear power projects continue to face large scale protest and resistance.

Political parties often insert themselves into this opposition to harness the political power of local resistance to such projects. Twenty leaders of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) were arrested and briefly detained on July 27 when they protested at the office of a local tax assessor, where a back-room deal had just been announced. Without the required public hearing, the local authority agreed to hand over more than 2,000 acres of land for the Kovadda nuclear power project on India’s central east coast. Party leaders also protested that the land deal would force the evacuation of villagers before construction of the promised removal and relocation colony several miles away.

On the west coast, where a demonstrator was killed during an anti-nuclear protest in 2011, thousands of local villagers joined a jail-bharo on August 20. The protest involved courting arrest with a massive sit-in near the site of the Jaitapur nuclear power park, a six-reactor project that would be the largest ever built. Police monitored the situation but did not try to arrest and detain all who joined in.

Creech air force base

The Codepink Fallo Drone Resistance Week at Creech Air Force Base in Nevada will take place October 5-12. Las Vegas airport pick-up and transportation/carpooling can be arranged. Details in progress; for more information, contact Toby at ratherbenyckeling@comcast.net.

wellington weapons expo

Stop the Arms Trade Alliance is conducting trainings and planning for nonviolent direct actions to shut down the NZDAI Weapons Expo on October 10-11 in Wellington, New Zealand. For more information, email peacewellington@tispnet.net or visit stopthearmstrade.nz.

jesuit universities ROTC

Catholic peace activists are invited to join in nonviolent direct action at each of the 17 Catholic Jesuit universities that host U.S. military training centers (ROTC, ROTC, AFROTC), with major emphasis for action on November 16, the anniversary of the political assassination of six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper and her daughter in El Salvador in 1989. If you live near a Catholic Jesuit university that has ROTC training, contact Bob Graf at 414-379-4162 or bobsyounelc@ sbglobal.net for more details.

NOTES

#186

free to prisoners, of course!

your information will not be shared.

FUTURE ACTIONS

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

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September 7, 2017

THE NUCLEAR RESISTER Page 7
HANCOCK FIELD: The long-awaited appeal of Mary Anne Grady Flores will be heard in the New York State Court of Appeals in Albany on October 11. Grady Flores has already served 56 days for violation of a 2012 order of protection granted to the commander of a drone attack unit based at the Syracuse airport. An order of protection, usually reserved for cases of domestic violence or stalking, was granted against Grady Flores and about 50 other demonstrators not because the commander felt threatened by their peaceful presence, but because, as he testified at her 2014 trial, “I just want the protesters away from my base.” Her violation consisted of photographing an Ash Wednesday, 2013 protest from across the road, unaware that by entering the roadway she had crossed the property line claimed by the base. If her appeal is denied, Grady Flores may have to complete her sentence with 65 more days in jail...

BRITISH AEROSPACE: Sam Walton and Woody Woodhouse entered not guilty pleas at their pretrial hearing on July 10. They are charged with two counts each of criminal damage for entering a manufacturing plant and attempting to disarm warplanes bound for export to Saudi Arabia and almost certain use to commit war crimes in Yemen. Trial is now set for four days beginning on October 23 in Burnley, Lancashire...

BURGHFIELD, ENGLAND: Five Christian activists who blocked an entry drive into the Atomic Weapons Establishment had their convictions overturned on appeal. They were convicted of willful obstruction of the highway during a series of coordinated actions in June, 2016, but the court agreed that they had only blocked the private driveway and not the public thoroughfare...

BEALE AIR FORCE BASE: After a series of federal trespass summonses over the last few years were all eventually dropped, it happened again for four people charged at the gate of Davis Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson. A court committed to protecting those who profit from warfare base and the highway nearby. However, on his own initiative sua sponte, the chief judge of the Las Vegas Justice Court summoned one of the ten people arrested, Brian Terrell, to appear before him on September 25 to answer a charge of disturbing the peace. Terrell has been arrested multiple times at Creech over the last eight years and helped to organize protest there while on the staff of both the Nevada Desert Experience and Voices for Creative Nonviolence. Terrell filed a motion seeking more information about the charge and was told in reply that he will not need to appear in person...

PINE GAP, AUSTRALIA: The six self-described Peace Pilgrims arrested for trespass in September, 2016 at the U.S. spy satellite station in the outback are now set to face trials in Alice Springs on November 13 and 16...

SHANNON, IRELAND: Four men were in Ennis District Court on July 19 for separate hearings related to two different actions to inspect U.S. warplanes passing through the international airport. The ShannonWatch activists believe the frequent flights are flagrant challenges to Irish neutrality. Dave Donnellan and Colm Roddy are charged with causing criminal damage when they entered Shannon International Airport in May, 2016 to search U.S. military aircraft for contraband. Their cases were moved up to the circuit court level and a jury trial, with a status hearing on September 25. Dan Dowling and Edward Horzan are charged to have graffitied U.S. military aircraft at another citizen inspection last April. Each had their bail conditions loosened a bit and are “due for mention” in the court on September 13. Their cases are also headed towards a jury trial in the circuit court...