

the Nuclear Resister

April 24, 2018 Supplement

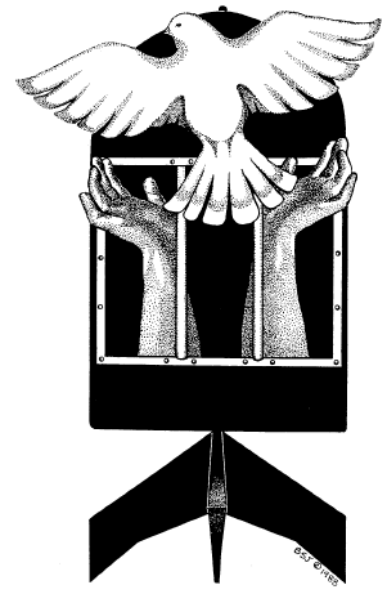
www.nukeresister.org

Seven Catholic Peace Activists Denied Bail After Protest Inside Nuclear Submarine Base

Early on the morning of April 5, 2018, seven nuclear abolitionists were arrested inside the Kings Bay Naval Base in St. Mary's, Georgia.

Kings Bay is the Atlantic homeport for six Trident nuclear ballistic missile submarines and also provides critical support services for the fleet of four British Trident nuclear missile submarines.

The intent of the Kings Bay Plowshares was to begin fulfilling the prophet Isaiah's command to "beat swords into plowshares." Carrying hammers, cans of spray paint and baby bottles of their own blood, the seven attempted to convert weapons of mass destruction. They marked areas with crime scene tape and hung banners reading: "The ultimate logic of racism is



weapons storage bunkers, military police arrested Elizabeth McAlister, 78, co-founder with her late husband Philip Berrigan of Jonah House in Baltimore, Fr. Steve Kelly, SJ, 69, from Oakland, California, and Carmen Trotta, 55, from the New York Catholic Worker.

Arrested at the administration building were Clare Grady, 59, from the Ithaca Catholic Worker and Martha Hennessy, 62, from the New York Catholic Worker and granddaughter of Catholic Worker movement co-founder Dorothy Day.

Mark Colville, 55, from Amistad Catholic Worker in New Haven, Connecticut and Patrick O'Neill, 61, from the Fr. Charlie Mulholland Catholic Worker in Garner, North Carolina, were arrested at a monument to the Trident D5 and other nuclear missiles.

The seven disarmament activists are being held at the Camden County Detention Facility in Woodbine, Georgia. They are charged with three Georgia state crimes – misdemeanor criminal trespass and two felonies: possession of tools for the commission of a crime and interference with government property. At their preliminary hearing on April 6, all were denied bond. Federal charges are expected in the coming weeks.

This is the latest of more than 100 Plowshares actions around the world since 1980.

For more information, visit www.nukeresister.org and the Kings Bay Plowshares page on Facebook.

See how to support the Kings Bay Plowshares on the reverse side.



The Kings Bay Plowshares, from left: Clare Grady, Patrick O'Neill, Elizabeth McAlister, Stephen Kelly S.J., Martha Hennessy, Mark Colville and Carmen Trotta

The seven Catholic activists entered the high-security base on the night of April 4, choosing to act on the 50th anniversary of the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who said, "The greatest purveyor of violence in the world (today) is my own government." King had devoted his life to addressing the triple evils of militarism, racism and materialism.

genocide, Dr. Martin Luther King", "The ultimate logic of Trident is omnicide" and "Nuclear weapons: illegal – immoral." They also brought an indictment of the U.S. government for crimes against peace, and, as part of their evidence, a copy of Daniel Ellsberg's book *The Doomsday Machine: Confessions of a Nuclear War Planner*.

At the fence surrounding the nuclear

Kings Bay Plowshares Action Statement

We come in peace on this sorrowful anniversary of the martyrdom of a great prophet, Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Fifty years ago today, April 4, 1968, Dr. King was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee as a reaction to his efforts to address “the giant triplets of racism, extreme materialism and militarism.”

We come to Kings Bay to answer the call of the prophet Isaiah (2:4) to “beat swords into plowshares” by disarming the world’s deadliest nuclear weapon, the Trident submarine.

We repent of the sin of white supremacy that oppresses and takes the lives of people of color here in the United States and throughout the world. We resist militarism that has employed deadly violence to enforce global domination. We believe reparations are required for stolen land, labor and lives.

Dr. King said, “The greatest purveyor of violence in the world (today) is my own government.” This remains true in the midst of our endless war on terror. The United States has embraced a permanent war economy.

“Peace through strength” is a dangerous lie in a world that includes weapons of mass destruction on hair-trigger alert. The weapons from one Trident have the capacity to end life as we know it on planet Earth.

Nuclear weapons kill every day through our mining, production, testing, storage, and dumping, primarily on Indigenous Native land. This weapons system is a cocked gun being held to the head of the planet.

As white Catholics, we take responsibility to atone for the horrific crimes stemming from our complicity with “the triplets.” Only then can we begin to restore right relationships. We seek to bring about a world free of nuclear weapons, racism and economic exploitation.

We plead to our Church to withdraw its complicity in violence and war. We cannot simultaneously pray and hope for peace while we bless weapons and condone war making.

Pope Francis says abolition of weapons of mass destruction is the only way to save God’s creation from destruction.

Clarifying the teachings of our Church, Pope Francis said, “The threat of their use as well as their very possession is to be firmly condemned ... weapons of mass destruction, especially nuclear weapons, create nothing but a false sense of security. They cannot constitute the basis for peaceful coexistence between members of the human family, which must rather be inspired by an ethics of solidarity.”

Nuclear weapons eviscerate the rule of law, enforce white supremacy, perpetuate endless war and environmental destruction and ensure impunity for all manner of crimes against humanity. Dr. King said, “The ultimate logic of racism is genocide.” We say, “The ultimate logic of Trident is omnicide.” A just and peaceful world is possible when we join prayers with action. Swords into Plowshares!

Support the Kings Bay Plowshares

1) Write to the Kings Bay Plowshares

Clare Grady 65197
Patrick O’Neill 65205
Elizabeth McAlister 65198
Stephen Kelly 65201
Martha Hennessy 65206
Mark Colville 65200
Carmen Trotta 65203

Camden County Detention Facility
P.O. Box 699
Woodbine, GA 31569

Please note: Include each prisoner’s ID number. The prisoners may only receive plain white postcards. Any stamps or stickers will be cut off before the prisoner receives the card. Plain white pre-stamped postcards may be purchased at some post offices or online at usps.com. Include your return address in writing, not on a sticker. They cannot receive letters or packages.

2) **Provide financial support** for commissary, travel and legal support expenses with a donation sent to: Catholic Worker, Memo line: Kings Bay Plowshares, PO Box 3087, Washington DC 20010 or via www.gofundme.com/xaajdf-kings-bay-plowshares-support-fund

3) **Promote the Treaty for Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons** in your community. To learn more visit www.icanw.org. They won the Nobel Peace Prize! Two ICAN projects:

– Organize around Don’t Bank on the Bomb. Write letters, divest from, and vigil at financial institutions that are invested in the nuclear arms race.
– Have an origami crane folding party. Send the cranes to Ambassador Nikki Haley and other leaders along with a message asking them to support the ICAN treaty for nuclear abolition. To learn more visit www.icanw.org/projects.

4) **Organize a vigil or other public solidarity event** or have a support party. Here are a few ideas: Invite a member of the Kings Bay Plowshares support team to speak, write postcards to the seven activists in jail and/or show the movie about the Plowshares movement, *The Nuns, The Priests, and the Bombs*. To learn more contact Jessica Stewart at 207-266-0919 or jms733@cornell.edu or email Beth Brockman at brockman.beth@gmail.com