

the Nuclear Resister

“A Chronicle of Hope”

No. 188

June 1, 2018

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!

Protest at Nuclear War Planning Base

Without any vote on the matter, the people of eastern Massachusetts now reside in a new “ground zero” for nuclear attack. Hanscom Air Force Base in Lincoln is now home to the Program Executive Office (PEO) for Nuclear Command, Control and Communications (NC3) that will build the systems to control U.S. weapons during a nuclear war.

The more planning is advanced to fight a nuclear war, the farther the United States moves away from its treaty commitments and the global movement for the abolition of nuclear weapons. To protest Hanscom’s new mission, Massachusetts Peace Action called for a march to “spread the alarm” from the Lexington Common to the gates of the air base.

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Plowshares Activists Arrested Inside Trident Nuclear Sub Base

The Kings Bay Naval Base in southeast Georgia. Wednesday night, April 4, 2018. A few cuts in the perimeter chain-link fence and they’re in. Seven white Catholics, honoring the life of the black Baptist preacher who took on “the giant triplets of racism, extreme materialism and militarism,” and was shot dead for it, exactly fifty years earlier.

Once inside, the seven veteran activists carried their observance of the “sorrowful anniversary” of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s assassination to three places inside the Atlantic home port for six Trident nuclear ballistic missile submarines. They brought along an indictment of the U.S. government for crimes against peace by the creation and deployment of these weapons of mass destruction. As part of their evidence, they had a copy of Daniel Ellsberg’s book *The Doomsday Machine: Confessions of a Nuclear War Planner*. They also carried cans of spray paint, baby bottles of their own blood and hammers – the tools to properly name and begin to convert the weapons.

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 went to the administration building. They secured the site with yellow crime-scene tape, marked the base logo sign with blood and hung a banner stating “The Ultimate Logic of Trident is Omnicide”, echoing King’s observation that the ultimate logic of racism is genocide.

At the missile monument installation, two men hung banners on the full-size model of the Trident D-5 missile on reverent display. Patrick O’Neill, 61, from the Fr. Charlie Mulholland Catholic Worker in Garner, North Carolina was filmed by Mark Colville, 55, from the Amistad Catholic Worker in New Haven, Connecticut as he swung a disarming hammer at the base of the mock D-5.

Military police found the third group of activists at an inner fence surrounding the nuclear weapons storage bunkers. 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 were arrested there.



The Kings Bay Plowshares: Clare Grady, Elizabeth McAlister, Patrick O’Neill, Carmen Trotta, Steve Kelly, SJ, Martha Hennessy and Mark Colville.

The other four were also arrested and all were taken into custody on Georgia state charges of misdemeanor criminal trespass and two felonies: possession of tools for the commission of a crime and interference with government property.

The seven took the name Kings Bay Plowshares, continuing the tradition of biblically inspired nonviolent direct actions to “beat swords into plowshares” that began in 1980 with the Plowshares 8 action at a Pennsylvania nuclear missile warhead production plant. Colville, Grady, Kelly, McAlister and O’Neill are all veterans of previous Plowshares actions, some more than 30 years ago.

At a preliminary hearing on April 6, all were denied bond. They were held in the overcrowded Camden County Detention Facility for a month.

On May 2, a federal grand jury returned an indictment of the seven on charges of misdemeanor trespass and three felonies: conspiracy, destruction of property on naval installation and depredation of government property. Just before their first appearance in federal court on May 10 they were moved to the less crowded Glynn County Detention Center near the federal courthouse in Brunswick, Georgia. In related proceedings, the state charges were “dead docketed”, so they could be brought back later if prosecutors choose.

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MOTHER’S DAY AT THE BANGOR TRIDENT BASE

On Saturday, May 12, more than 40 activists with the Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action celebrated the true meaning of Mother’s Day with a protest of nuclear weapons at the main gate of Kitsap-Bangor naval base, the Trident submarine Pacific Ocean port in Washington state.

Mother’s Day in the United States was first suggested in 1872 by Julia Ward Howe as a day dedicated to peace. Howe saw the effects on both sides of the Civil War and realized destruction from warfare goes beyond the killing of soldiers in battle.

The Seattle Peace Chorus Action Ensemble led the demonstrators in peace and protest songs throughout the vigil and nonviolent direct action. Ten activists symbolically closed the base for about 20 minutes by blocking the road with two banners held across the inbound lanes. One read “The Earth is Our Mother. Treat Her With Respect,” and the other stated, “We Can All Live Without Trident.”

One activist walked across the “blue line” that marks federal jurisdiction and presented a letter addressed to the Base Commander. Navy security officers accepted the letter and the activist was allowed to return to county

property without being arrested.

Washington State Patrol officers briefly detained those blocking the roadway and released them with citations for being pedestrians in the road unlawfully. Cited were Sue Ablao, Larry Kerschner, Kim Loftness, Doug Milholland, Margarita Munoz, Ramon Nacanaynay, Dale Rector, Christine Rogers, Tom Rogers and Michael Siptroth.

When asked why he resists Trident, Ground Zero member and former Navy submarine commander Tom Rogers said, “Our kids deserve to grow up in a world without nuclear weapons. It is a failure of our generation that they must live in fear of nuclear annihilation and bear the cost of a massive modernization of our nuclear weapons complex.”

The Trident submarine base at Bangor represents the largest concentration of deployed nuclear weapons in the U.S. and is the home port for 8 of the Navy’s 14 Trident ballistic missile submarines. The Trident bases at Bangor and Kings Bay, Georgia together represent just over half of all the nuclear warheads deployed by the United States.

For more information, contact the Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action, gzcenter.org, info@gzcenter.org.

Resistance Reflections

by Elizabeth McAlister

I was born a twin, the sixth of seven children to parents both of whom were “refugees” from the North of Ireland in the early 1920s. Being Catholic then and there meant being unwelcome, if not complete outcast. My father set up a contracting business in New Jersey and directed it for the rest of his life. Catholic and Republican, it was a shock to them that I became an ardent opponent to the war in Vietnam even as my twin’s husband fought there. There were many family disagreements but we were blessed at being able to continue to laugh, love, visit and to talk with one another throughout. It taught me much about fidelity.

I entered religious life from college and, upon profession, was assigned to teach History of Art at Marymount College, an all women’s college in Tarrytown, New York. The war in Vietnam was heating up; my students had brothers, boyfriends facing induction and potential if not probable injury and/or death. How to mentor? How to grieve? How to walk with them? The answer was in the streets opposing the war; the answer grew to participating in acts of civil resistance to it.

Communities of resistance formed and I became part of them. The people in them touched my heart and helped to form my conscience. This was the context in which I met Philip Berrigan, a Josephite priest. He was instrumental in helping to move many people from meetings and marches into direct action and resistance. He was the first Catholic priest in the country to engage in civil resistance and to suffer prison in consequence. He then worked tirelessly to encourage acts of resistance; there were no less than 300 actions against draft boards across the country which finally forced the military to move to a volunteer Army, Navy, etc. I participated in the draft board action in Delaware in which all the boards in that state were compromised in the one evening.

Phil and I both left our religious communities in 1973, married one another and began our life in community with a circle of people with whom we had worked over the years. We called our community “Jonah House” and it continues to struggle to live and act responsibly in a war-torn world. It was there that our three children were born

and raised. It was from there that we organized regular resistance to war and weapons at the White House, the Pentagon, and Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Research Lab – among other sites.

Sometime in 1973, we read of the change of U.S. nuclear policy under James Schlesinger - then secretary of war - from MAD (Mutually Assured Destruction) to FTO (Flexible and Strategic Targeting Options). We set ourselves to research it and learned that it made nuclear war more probable and imminent. We agreed to remain with resistance to the war in Vietnam until it ended but to learn as much as we could about the implications of the new policy and how we might address it. Two years later our military was ingloriously routed from Vietnam and we began to address the horror of nuclear war!

A whole series of “plowshares” actions happened all across this country. In each, people went through a process of formation in order to feel right and ready to address an aspect of the nuclear triad. They occurred not just in the U.S. but in England, Scotland, Germany, the Netherlands, Australia and New Zealand.

I participated in the Plowshares action at Griffiss Air Force Base in Rome, New York on Thanksgiving Day 1983 and was sentenced to three years in federal prison.

Throughout this time I supported many going through such actions, as well as continuing to resist locally in Baltimore and D.C. I went to the Kings Bay Trident base on the 50th anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr.’s assassination to raise the cry against these weapons of mass destruction, which have already done incalculable harm to the lives of many both here and abroad. The devastation of which they are capable is almost beyond imagining. We must pull it back; we must turn it around; we must stop it – for God’s sake, for the sake of the children, for the sake of life on earth.

[Elizabeth McAlister is awaiting trial for the Kings Bay Plowshares action at the Glynn County Detention Center. This is reprinted from the biographical notes at kingsbayplowshares7.org]

POOR PEOPLE’S CAMPAIGN TIES STRUGGLES FOR JUSTICE TOGETHER

The Poor People’s Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival launched the day after Mother’s Day with rallies and nonviolent civil disobedience at more than 30 state capitals across the country. The Campaign revives the vision of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s 1968 Poor People’s Campaign that challenged the fundamental and interconnected injustices of racism, poverty and war. To these triple evils, as King identified them, the 50th anniversary campaign has added ecological devastation as part of the common threat to humanity.

Activist and author David Swanson, arrested in Washington, D.C., identified it as “The first multi-issue coalition we’ve seen in years that properly takes on militarism rather than indulging the fantasy of a \$1 trillion a year military coexisting with decent humanitarian and environmental policies.”

The organizing model for this, the first phase of the Campaign, is a series of six weekly rallies and civil disobedience actions, each highlighting facets of the Call. Phase One will wind up on Saturday, June 23 with a “Global Day of Solidarity and Sending Forth Call to Action Mass Rally” in Washington, D.C.

The inaugural actions on Monday, May 14 addressed children, women and people with disabilities in poverty. Much of the major media reporting on that day and in the weeks since has neglected to mention the U.S. war economy and militarism let alone the connection to domestic poverty, despite the principles laid out by the Campaign.

After the first three weeks of action, chronicled below are reports of nearly 850 arrests reported from 22 states and the District of Columbia. Each week, some civil disobedience actions did not result in arrests. The largest number of arrests were reported during the May 14 action in Washington, D.C. when demonstrators occupied First Street outside the Capitol building and refused to leave. One hundred and forty-six people were cited and released.

Summarizing other reports from May 14:

- Montgomery, Alabama – 10 people cited for disorderly conduct at Court Square.
- Little Rock, Arkansas – 20 arrested after blocking traffic downtown.
- Hartford, Connecticut – 16 charged with disorderly conduct for blocking Capitol Avenue near the interstate.
- Indianapolis, Indiana – 14 cited for obstruction of traffic

- at a downtown intersection and jailed overnight.
- Des Moines, Iowa – 10 cited for refusing to leave the offices of Gov. Kim Reynolds.
- Topeka, Kansas – Two dozen people cited for unlawful assembly and unlawful obstruction of a roadway at 9th and Topeka Boulevard.
- Augusta, Maine – 22 charged with trespassing and failure to disperse/unlawful assembly outside the Governor’s Mansion.
- Annapolis, Maryland – 11 cited for obstructing free passage and failure to obey a lawful order when they blocked traffic in front of the statehouse.
- Jefferson City, Missouri – 88 people issued summonses for obstructing a lawful police order to move.
- Concord, New Hampshire – Six arrested and taken to jail for blocking traffic downtown.
- Trenton, New Jersey – 19 arrested while blocking traffic outside the statehouse.
- Raleigh, North Carolina – 49 arrested for blocking traffic around the statehouse.
- Harrisburg, Pennsylvania – 13 arrested at a sit-in outside the statehouse, cited for disorderly conduct and blocking the roadway.
- Columbia, South Carolina – 16 charged as pedestrians in the roadway outside the South Carolina statehouse.
- The second week of actions beginning on Monday, May 21 were about linking systemic racism and poverty: voting rights, immigration, xenophobia, Islamophobia and the mistreatment of indigenous communities. They include:
 - Sacramento, California – 18 people waiting to see Gov. Jerry Brown were arrested when the State Capitol building closed, and racked up five charges each.
 - Topeka, Kansas – 18 arrested for trespass at voter-suppression leader Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach’s office.
 - Baton Rouge, Louisiana – Nine arrests blocking downtown traffic.
 - Annapolis, Maryland – Four cited for disrupting work inside the statehouse with songs and chants.
 - Boston, Massachusetts – 16 “orderly” arrestees removed from the statehouse.
 - Lansing, Michigan – 16 arrests during protest at the Grand Tower building in Lansing.
 - Minneapolis, Minnesota – Two waves of blockades shut down the light rail downtown, resulting in 18 arrests for trespass and interfering with transit.

where we’re at

It’s forecast to reach 107°F the day we get this issue ready to mail! Tucson is ranked the 5th sunniest city in the U.S., and we’re hoping that photovoltaic solar panels will soon cover the roof of the Nuclear Resister office! At the end of June, regressive net metering changes go into effect in Arizona, and we want to hurry in order to be “grandfathered” in at the current rate. To help the Nuclear Resister go solar, a supporter has generously offered to match all donations, and we’ve already raised 20% of the installment cost! We hope you will make as generous a donation as you are able to help towards the remaining cost – thank you! (Make checks payable to the Nuclear Resister. Write “solar power” in the memo line and your donation will be matched! Donations of \$50 or more can be tax deductible if made payable to The Progressive Foundation. Mail to Nuclear Resister, POB 43383, Tucson, AZ 85733.)

In March, we heard the sad news that Jean Gump died. Jean and her husband Joe, who died in 2014, raised 12 children. After their kids were grown, they spent time in prison for participating in separate plowshares actions – Jean spent four years behind bars for the 1986 Silo Plowshares action. Her last arrest, in July 2010 at the Y-12 nuclear weapons complex in Tennessee, marked the 30th anniversaries of the Plowshares movement, Nukewatch and the Nuclear Resister.

For many years, Jean and Joe put a monthly check in the mail to support the Nuclear Resister, with a handwritten note. Felice fondly remembers spending a week in Israel with them in 1997 as part of a delegation calling for nuclear whistleblower Mordechai Vanunu’s freedom. We will forever be grateful to them for their love and support, and unwavering dedication to a peaceful and nuclear-free future.

Felice & Jack

!Presente!

Jean Gump
long-time peace,
anti-nuclear and
plowshares activist,
convicted felon, wife,
mother, grandmother,
great-grandmother

May 24, 1927 –
March 16, 2018



Kalamazoo Gazette file photo

Thanks

Thanks to Charlotte, Betty, Bob, Cindy and Faith for helping to mail the last issue, and to Ruth for proofreading assistance.

the Nuclear Resister

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YOU CAN HELP!

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

SUBSCRIPTIONS and BULK ORDERS

One-year subscriptions are US\$25 in the United States, US\$30 to Canada, and US\$35 overseas. Payment can only be accepted in US currency or checks drawn on US institutions. All subscriptions are sent via First Class or Airmail.

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

THE NUCLEAR RESISTER ON MICROFILM

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

ABOUT THE NUCLEAR RESISTER

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

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

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

Jack and Felice Cohen-Joppa, Editors

Norman Lowry Out Soon

Norman Lowry will be released from a Pennsylvania state prison at the end of August. He will complete the maximum sentence of seven years for what was his third peace action at a Lancaster military recruiting office.

Lowry, a grandfather who had been working as a chaplain in urban ministry to the homeless and destitute, was first arrested in April, 2009 outside the recruiter’s office. He used his 20-ounce framing hammer to break several windows on the recruiter’s vehicles, “actions ... carried out as a Spiritual, Socio-Political Protest against the Extreme Violence, Racism and Poverty Production of the United States of America, to me, the world’s most evil-ever imperialist empire... I was openly declaring nonviolent war on all mechanisms of said Violence, Racism and Poverty-Production.”

He was arrested, refused to post bail, was convicted on three counts and served seven months in jail.

Less than three months after his release he returned to the office, this time pleading with recruiters and potential enlistees to abandon war.

He was sentenced to 6-12 months for trespass, concurrent with an 18 month sentence for violating probation from the first action.

Lowry was released again in June, 2011, and on August 1, 2011 he returned a final time to the recruiting office. He was again arrested for trespass and refused to post bail. Upon conviction for trespass under Pennsylvania law, the judge acted in his discretion to sentence Lowry to serve from one to seven years in state prison. Any time after one year, if Lowry would agree never to block the entrance of any military recruiting office in the state, he would be released from prison.

He never agreed. Lowry now looks forward to his release without conditions, spending time in nature and with friends on the outside who have made his acquaintance since he’s been in prison.



Letters of support can be sent to Norman Edgar Lowry Jr. KN 9758, SCI Dallas, 1000 Follies Rd., Dallas, PA 18612.

Protesters Disrupt Hearing for Torturer Haspel

Opponents of her nomination were among the first people admitted into the May 9 hearing of the Senate Intelligence Committee on the nomination of veteran spy Gina Haspel for Director of Central Intelligence. Human rights and anti-war activists who condemned Haspel’s direct involvement in post-9/11 Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) torture wore signs into the hearing that read, “No Torture, No Gina” and “Don’t Reward Torturers.”

As the hearing began, people rose up in turn to shout their objection, “Stop the torture! Don’t reward torturers!”

“What meaning does love have when we allow torture to continue unopposed?” asked David Barrows as Capitol police removed him from the crowded room. He was quoting the words of Sr. Dianna Ortiz, who was tortured under CIA supervision in Guatemala in 1989. Others took his place to denounce the nominee, disrupting the hearing until police also removed them from the room.

Among the seven people ejected and arrested that day, Ray McGovern, a 79-year-old retired career CIA officer, was roughed up and had his shoulder dislocated. Video of the altercation shows police pulling his arms in opposite directions while taking him through the audience and out the door, where he was tackled onto the tile floor. McGovern was jailed overnight on charges of unlawfully disrupting Congress and resisting arrest. In court the following afternoon, he pled not guilty and was released from jail. He’ll be back in court on May 25.

Janice Sevre-Duszynska was also held overnight because her arrest came while awaiting trial for a January sit-in at Rep. Steny Hoyer’s Washington office. She is to be arraigned on the Haspel hearing charges on June 11, the same day as a pre-trial hearing with the same judge for the Hoyer sit-in.

The other five – David Barrows, Tighe Barry, Medea Benjamin, Pete Perry and Helen Scheitinger - were released after paying a \$50 fine for “incommoding.”

CATONSVILLE NINE MEMORIAL BUST

A series of May events in the Baltimore area commemorated the 50th anniversary of the Catonsville Nine. The Nine, all opponents of the Vietnam War, took the files of hundreds of men due to be conscripted from the office of the Catonsville draft board out onto a lawn, and burned them with homemade napalm. At the time, two of the Nine, Fr. Philip Berrigan and artist Tom Lewis, were out on bail after pouring blood on draft files as two of the Baltimore Four.

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PELTIER SUPPORT COORDINATOR DENIED VISITS

In late April and for the second time in three months, prison officials denied The International Leonard Peltier Defense Committee (ILPDC) coordinator and paralegal Paulette Dauteuil permission to visit for 30 days, this time claiming routine swabs of her pockets found traces of illegal substances. Peltier’s attorney David Frankel challenged the move, believing Dauteuil is being targeted to disrupt communication between Peltier and his legal team, who cannot visit as often as Dauteuil.

The ILPDC recently elected new leadership to its national board, and members recently traveled to the United Nations for the 17th Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. They formally requested appointment of a Special Rapporteur to make a personal visit to Leonard Peltier inside the

U.S. Penitentiary in Coleman, Florida and make a special report before the 18th United Nations Permanent Forum session.

Continuing to raise funds for his legal defense, the International Leonard Peltier Defense Committee is now offering lithograph fine art prints of Peltier’s original paintings, and auctioning a purse he has painted. For more information, visit whoisleonardpeltier.info/storefront.



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

Ramadan in Prison

Just before the Muslim holy month, Rafil Dhafir was the target of an obscene tirade from a prison guard, in clear violation of Federal Bureau of Prisons regulations requiring respectful communication with prisoners. He filed a formal complaint. Supporters who wrote to the warden asking for an investigation were assured one had been completed and found no evidence to support Dhafir’s complaint, while the prison has still not responded to Dhafir. Meanwhile, he writes that the Muslim prisoners are enduring a rash of petty theft by a particular guard who takes food they are permitted to hold in their cells during the Ramadan month of daylight fasting.

Dhafir also offered a historical correction to the update on his case in the last issue. In 2003, he was not at home, but rather on his way to the mosque where he usually went for *fajr*, morning prayers, when he was “abducted by criminals.” Also, Help the Needy (HTN) was registered under another organization “as we were frugal” about spending the charity given for Iraqis.

He continues:

The whole thing was about “terrorism” allegedly. When they found (the U.S. Attorney and his aides as well as Mordue, the alleged judge) that there was NO terrorism, they came up with the fraudulent accusation of the other things. My records never had anything to do with such things but when you consider the time of my (February 2003) abduction, just a few weeks before illegally entering Baghdad, they had no choice but to come up with something no matter how untrue/trivial it was and with the help of [Attorney General John] Ashcroft and [George] Pataki, N.Y. governor then, in smearing not only me but the entire Muslim community in Syracuse and elsewhere, they were able to get away with it. I want to set the record straight so that no one will ever say, “I didn’t know.”...



Letters of support should be sent to Rafil Dhafir 11921-052, FMC Devens Unit GB, Federal Medical Center, P.O. Box 879, Ayer, MA 01432.

Inside & Out

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

NUCLEAR RESISTERS

Clare Grady 015632
Elizabeth McAlister 015633
Stephen Kelly 015634
Mark Colville 015635
Glynn County Detention Facility, 100 Sulphur Springs Road, Brunswick, GA 31520.
Please note: This jail will accept only plain white pre-stamped postcards available at some Post Offices and online at usps.gov. Blue or black ink only. No labels. Hand-write your full name and return address and the prisoner’s full name, ID# and address. No letters or packages accepted.
(Kings Bay Plowshares activists held on multiple charges following arrest at Kings Bay nuclear submarine base in Georgia, 4/5/18)

Leonard Peltier 89637-132 (life)
USP Coleman I, POB 1033, Coleman, FL 33521.
(Framed for murder while defending traditional indigenous from threats including uranium mining on sacred lands)

Crystal Antem 14341
Centre pénitenciaire Nancy-Maxéville, 300 rue de l’Abbé Haltebourg, 54320 Maxéville, FRANCE.
(three months – in 3/19/18)
(Convicted of participation in a group intending to damage property during protest of planned nuclear waste dump in Bure, France, 2/18)

PREVIOUSLY LISTED/RECENTLY RELEASED: Laura, Aka



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

ANTI-WAR RELATED ACTIONS

Rafil Dhafir 11921-052
FMC Devens Unit GB, Federal Medical Center, P.O. Box 879, Ayer, MA 01432.
(22 years – out 4/26/22)
(Convictions resulting from providing humanitarian and financial aid to Iraqis in violation of U.S. sanctions, 2/05)
Norman Edgar Lowry Jr. KN 9758
SCI Dallas, 1000 Follies Rd., Dallas, PA 18612.
(1 to 7 years – max out 8/31/18)
(Sentenced 5/21/12 for third trespass at military recruiting office in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, 8/1/11)

Jared Chase M44710
Dixon Correctional Center, 2600 North Brinton Avenue, Dixon, Illinois 61021.
(8 years – out 6/6/19)
(Convicted of possession of incendiary devices with intent to commit arson during protests at NATO summit in Chicago, May, 2012)

SACRED PEACE WALK 2018

The 24th annual Sacred Peace Walk, organized by the Nevada Desert Experience (NDE), took place from March 24 - 30. The walkers prepared for their journey to the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS, formerly known as the Nevada Test Site) with a one-day orientation at the Frances and Clare compound in North Las Vegas, where the NDE office is located. Permits to travel and camp on the traditional territory of the Western Shoshone were issued. Much of Shoshone traditional territory was seized and remains occupied by the nuclear test site in violation of the 1863 Treaty of Ruby Valley.

The next day, Palm Sunday, the walkers began at the Atomic Testing Museum, proceeded down the Las Vegas Strip and out to the Department of Energy and National Security Technologies office in North Las Vegas.

On Monday morning, they were shuttled to the outskirts of the city. Four days and 60 miles later, they arrived at the site of the peace camp, just across the highway from the main gate into the nuclear test site.

Along the route on Wednesday, March 28, the Peace Walk stopped to hold signs and banners at Creech Air Force Base, the drone warfare center in Indian Springs. Darcy Ike and Robert Majors were arrested for blockading the entrance road into the base. They were taken to jail in Las Vegas, where they were processed and later released.

On Good Friday, Johnnie Bobb, Western Shoshone spiritual person and Chief of the Western Shoshone National Council, opened the day with a sunrise ceremony at the peace camp. After a Good Friday liturgy marking the Stations of the Cross, a group of 20 activists crossed onto the test site property. The line-crossers carried branches of creosote, a traditional desert medicinal herb, to signify the denial of Western Shoshone rights to gather plants there.

After their brief detention in the permanent large holding pens just inside the gate, the activists were charged with trespass, processed and released on site.

For more information, visit nevadadesertexperience.org.

Drone Resistance Week at Creech AFB



A row of mourners with child-sized coffins blocks drone operators arriving for work at Creech Air Force Base in Indian Springs, Nevada.

Following the Sacred Peace Walk, about a dozen CodePink activists continued the peace presence in the Nevada desert with a week of drone war resistance activity at Creech Air Force Base, from April 1 - 7. While staying at the Temple of Goddess Spirituality in nearby Cactus Springs, the group demonstrated near the gate each morning and evening to greet commuter traffic from Las Vegas with large banners and signs opposing drone warfare. Veterans of previous action weeks at Creech observed a significant increase in Reaper drones taking off and landing, now every 5 or so minutes and a sign that many new operators are in training.

On Tuesday morning, April 3, the activists dressed in black and donned white masks to create a mournful funeral procession along Highway 95, carrying coffins labeled with the nine countries the United States is currently “droning.” Each person also wore the name of a young child killed in Yemen by missiles fired from U.S. drones. Their somber march continued up the entry road

that they then blocked with their bodies and coffins “to stop business as usual.”

The stopped traffic quickly backed up onto the highway. Police announced a two minute warning to leave the roadway or face arrest. When time was up, all left the road except four women, ages 62 - 75. They were promptly arrested for blocking the entrance and refusing to disperse, and driven to jail in Las Vegas. Toby Blome, Maggie Huntington, Eleanor Levine and Susan Witka were cited, then released later that afternoon.

The four were subsequently notified that prosecutors would not pursue charges at this time, the same outcome as for Blome and JoAnne Lingle’s arrests at Creech last October.

See Future Actions, page 7, for information about next fall’s 4th Annual Shut Down Creech peace camp and nonviolent direct action.

Good Friday Peace Actions

PENTAGON

from Art Laffin’s report

From Holy Thursday afternoon to Good Friday afternoon, about 25 people gathered in Washington, D.C. for a Faith and Resistance retreat and public witness. Dorothy Day Catholic Worker hosted members of Jonah House, the Atlantic Life Community and students from Loras College from Iowa at St. Stephen and the Incarnation Church. Holy Thursday was a day of reflection, sharing, action planning and liturgy. Good Friday was a day of public witness.

The theme of the retreat was, “Standing With the Crucified Christ Today,” and it opened with communal Gospel sharing about crucifixion narrative from the Gospel of Luke (Lk. 23: 33-49) and its meaning for today. Action planning, a shared meal and a Maundy Thursday celebration and prayer service completed the day.

On Good Friday, the community gathered early at the Pentagon. Their procession along Army-Navy Drive to the police designated protest zone was not, to their surprise, met by the usual large Pentagon police presence.

Seven of them, carrying a copy of the U.N. Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, walked past the designated protest area to the police check point closest to the building. They offered a prayerful litany with the response: “With every bomb, Christ is killed again!” Then they asked police to let them speak to a Pentagon official and deliver the treaty personally, along with their appeal for the United States to ratify this historic treaty.

While they waited for someone to receive the treaty, police told them they had to return to the designated protest area. They were arrested about ten minutes later.

Joe Byrne, Kathy Boylan, Anne-Marie Eslinger, Sr. Carol Gilbert, Libby Johnson, Sr. Ardeth Platte and Sr. Megan Rice were taken to the Pentagon police station, charged with “disobeying a lawful order” and released within two hours.

As hundreds of Pentagon employees streamed by into work, the rest of the community displayed a huge banner that read “U.S. Empire Crucifies Humanity.”

At noon-time, as hundreds of tourists looked on, the group conducted a “contemporary crucifixion” on Pennsylvania Avenue, directly in front of the White House. Twelve people wearing black robes, representing the contemporary crucified victims of wars, prisons, racial violence, economic exploitation and environmental destruction, each took a turn standing on a crate for several minutes in silence, arms outstretched on a cross. After each victim came off the cross the assembled community sang “Were You There When They Crucified My Lord?” The demonstration concluded without arrests.

Three weeks later, before their first scheduled court appearance, the seven arrested at the Pentagon were told that the U.S. Attorney had moved to dismiss their cases.

For more information, visit dccatholicworker.wordpress.com.

LOCKHEED MARTIN/ PENNSYLVANIA

It was a small group that gathered on Good Friday, March 30 at the corner of Mall and Goddard Boulevards directly behind one of the country’s largest shopping malls, the King of Prussia Mall outside of Philadelphia.

continued on page 6

Protest, cont.

continued from page 1

“This is not the democracy my ancestors fought for when they overthrew King George during the Revolutionary War,” said Michelle Cunha of Massachusetts Peace Action.

On May 27, about 40 people gathered at the Minuteman Statue on the Lexington Common. Carrying a letter protesting the nuclear weapons development addressed to the commander, they marched three miles to the base. While the others demonstrated nearby, six people crossed a police line to deliver the letter but were refused and arrested for trespass instead.

The letter began:

A number of us are crossing the line into Hanscom AFB in order to express our concern and outrage at the related nuclear weapons work at this facility. We all know these weapons wreak murder on an indiscriminate basis, that they are genocidal, and even so-called limited nuclear war could result in omnicide. We all know this.

We attempt to enter this site as a function of our humanity and sense of morality. But we trespass also as citizens of this beautiful and fragile planet upholding international law...

After quoting the commitments made in the United Nations Charter, to the Nuremberg Principles, and in the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, the letter concluded:

The work being done with nuclear weapons and nuclear policy at Hanscom AFB violates all these laws and higher moral laws and is thus a great crime. We act to expose this criminality and to meaningfully withdraw our consent in the crime of using nuclear weapons as a strategic threat.

John Bach, Laura Evans, Pat Ferrone, Dan McLaughlin, Jerald Ross and John Schuchardt were released on personal recognizance. In court two days later, their charges were dismissed.

For more information, visit masspeaceaction.org.

Kings Bay, cont.

continued from page 1

A week later, Patrick O’Neill filed this report by telephone from the Glynn County jail:

At a May 17 hearing in United States District Court in Brunswick, Georgia, the seven Kings Bay Plowshares entered not guilty pleas to all of the charges. U.S. Attorney Karl Knoche told U.S. Magistrate Stan Baker that the government recommended that the activists be held without bond pending their federal trial.

Calling the action “serious criminal activity” carried out by defendants with “long criminal histories” who were a threat to the safety of the community, Knoche asked Baker to withhold bond.

The seven Kings Bay Plowshares were already a bit rattled as we faced a group of southeast Georgia federal and state judiciary and police folks who likely can make no sense of the actions of seven older adults breaking into a perfectly wonderful submarine base for the purposes of smashing idols and beating swords into plowshares.

In more than a quarter century since the Kings Bay Trident naval base was proposed by President Jimmy Carter, there has been little public opposition from the St. Marys, Georgia community that has reaped enormous economic benefits from the Trident’s weapons of mass destruction.

Knoche’s comments were in stark contrast to those of the Kings Bay Naval Base’s Public Affairs Officer Scott Bassett who told media outlets that “at no time was anyone threatened,” adding that “there were no reported injuries, and no military personnel or assets were in danger.” Defendant Mark Colville responded to Knoche saying, “We are the most peaceful people I know of on the planet. We’re trying to protect the community (from Trident).”

Defendant Carmen Trotta, who along with Elizabeth McAlister and Fr. Steve Kelly entered a deadly force zone that contained nuclear storage bunkers said, “The trio took care to tell the U.S. Marines who apprehended them that ‘We come in peace. We mean you no harm. We are unarmed.’”

In the end, Magistrate Baker said the actions of the Kings Bay Plowshares had “an element of danger to it” and he ordered a secured bond and monitored house arrest for six of us. Fr. Kelly was denied bond because he has a federal detainer from Washington state for a past action at the Trident base there.

Colville, McAlister, Martha Hennessy, Clare Grady and I were given \$50,000 signature bond each, with a \$5,000 cash deposit.

Trotta, who fought back tears as he talked about his thirty years working and living among the poor “who had nothing, who have to sleep out in the cold at night.” Trotta told Baker that he splits his time between living at St. Joseph’s Catholic Worker

continued on page 5

WRITINGS FROM JAIL

~ from the Camden County Detention Facility

by Elizabeth McAlister
April 11, 2018

Absurd Convictions

Modest Hopes is the title of one of the more than fifty books by my late brother-in-law Daniel Berrigan (RIP and Presente!). It might be fair to say that we came to Kings Bay Submarine Base animated by the absurd conviction that we could make some impact on slowing, if not ending, the mad rush to the devastation of our magnificent planet. And this is no extreme overstatement. The six Trident submarines that consider Kings Bay their homeport carry enough destructive power to destroy all life on Earth. What difference can seven aging activists make?

We come with hammers to imprint the pristine coat of the weapon. Knowing a bit about how important image is in the military, the weapons so scarred may be trashed.

We come with blood (our own) to mark the weapons’ purpose as the spilling of blood and yes,

We come with bolt cutters to violate the fences that protect the weapons that spell death to all life.

But, above all, we come with our voices and our lives. We raise our voices in a cry to dismantle the weapons – all of them – and we risk life and limb and our future hopes to make this plea: “Dismantle the weapons.”

Admirals at Kings Bay, you must know as well or better than we, that the payload of your six Tridents is more than enough to obliterate all life on Earth (cf. Daniel Ellsberg’s book *Doomsday Machine: Confessions of a Nuclear War Planner*, Bloomsbury, 2017, to learn more).

We plead with you to examine your priorities. Is this really what you want to be about?

How can you look at your children and grandchildren and continue to grease the wheels of destruction? Turn it around before it is too late...



by Clare Grady
April 16, 2018

We say, “the ultimate logic of Trident is omnicide”, and yet, the explosive power of this weapon is only part of what we want to make visible. We see that nuclear weapons kill every day by their mere existence. Their production requires mining, refining, testing and dumping of radioactive material, which poisons sacred Earth and Water, all on Indigenous land.

We see the billions of dollars it takes to build and maintain the Trident system as stolen resources, which are desperately needed for human needs.

We see nuclear weapons as a cocked gun, the biggest gun, used 24/7 to ENFORCE the many layers of state-sponsored violence and deadly force required to maintain white supremacy, global capitalism and global domination.

We invite others who have been privileged by these systems to join us in withdrawing consent from their deadly function and purpose. We live with hope for a nuclear-free, decolonized world.

THE
INSIDE
LINE



by Martha Hennessy
April 22, 2018

When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. “Sovereign Lord,” they said, “you made the heavens and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David: ‘Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together against the Lord and against the Lord’s anointed one.’”
(Acts 4: 23-26)

We walked in the dark, stars overhead, with Orion at our shoulder and the waning moon rising late. Praise to you Dear God, for this gift of Eden. There were fireflies and croaking frogs to keep us company. And to think the logic of Trident is the obliteration of Creation. What did God whisper to my ancestors and then to me? Swords into Plowshares! We don’t mean to make everyone furious, but why turn our blood and hammers into spray paint and bolt cutters?* Why continue to set the desecrated altar to the false idols of war? We walked onto a military base that harbors the ultimate destruction, and we prayed for the power of a message, of a witness that could reach many ears; conversion of free will towards life-giving work and away from death-dealing false constructs.

We strung up crime scene tape over the model missiles and over the door to the Strategic Weapons Facility Atlantic (SWFLANT), a place where war plans promise to take all we love. We wish to indict this war machine for what it is: immoral, illegal and monstrous. Our foolish plans desire to see a world in which the suffering is lessened, and our leaders begin to know what it means if they pull the nuclear trigger. Our action is an invitation to all for a change of heart that will bring us to true revolution.

** Editor’s note: the charging documents and the Magistrate referred to their possession of bolt cutters and spray paint, but ignored mention of the symbols of blood and hammers, which were used by the seven in their symbolic action.*



Kings Bay, cont.

continued from page 4

House in Manhattan and living with his elderly father on Long Island. He told Baker he had no funds and practiced a life of voluntary poverty but he could raise perhaps \$1,000 for cash deposit. Baker compassionately agreed to a \$1,000 deposit for Trotta’s \$50,000 signature bond.

Following the hearing, defendants, lawyers and many court personnel gathered together for informal conversation inside the bar of the courtroom. The U.S. marshals joked with the defendants and relationships were established.

The bond hearing went a long way towards humanizing the initial tense, chilled formality of the court scene. Magistrate Baker became kinder and softer and U.S. Attorney Knoche was more friendly and more at ease as the hearing went well past business hours. “It was transformative,” said New Orleans-based Plowshares defense attorney Anna Lellelid, referring to the narratives presented by the defendants. “You were all transformative.”

On May 24, Hennessy, O’Neill and Trotta posted bond and were released from jail. They agreed to the conditions of house arrest, including wearing an ankle monitor. The three will continue to organize for nuclear disarmament from their home communities in the time leading up to their trial.

Colville, Grady and McAlister chose not to accept the conditions of release and post bond. Along with Kelly, they will continue to write, pray and organize from inside the Glynn County jail.

A motions hearing is set for August 3, at which time the schedule for their trial should be taking shape.

Kings Bay is not only the Atlantic homeport for six U.S. Trident submarines. It also provides critical but legally questionable support services for Britain’s fleet of four Trident nuclear missile submarines.

For more information, visit kingsbayplowshares7.org and the Kings Bay Plowshares Facebook page, or email kingsbayplowshares@gmail.com, or call 207-266-0919.

Correspondence with prisoners in Glynn County is very restricted. The jail will accept only plain white pre-stamped postcards available at some post offices and online at usps.gov. You must use only blue or black ink. NO labels are allowed. You must hand-write your full name and return address and the prisoner’s full name, ID# and address. No other writing on the mailing front is allowed. No letters or packages accepted.

Please send individually addressed pre-stamped USPS postcards to Clare Grady 015632, Elizabeth McAlister 015633, Stephen Kelly 015634, and Mark Colville

by Fr. Steve Kelly, S.J.
April 29, 2018

“Do you swear/affirm to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you [God]?” Dennis Apel was asked as he took the stand in federal court for his witness at Vandenberg Air Force Base. Dennis looked to the judge and said, “If I am allowed to, I will, believe me, tell all the truth...” “The torch of truth-telling is then passed on to the next set of nuclear resisters. They in turn give to the next. So we await, from the bowels of our Southeast Georgia keep, the next of the three phases (action, trial, prison) of the Kings Bay Plowshares witness.

The second phase of our plowshare’s witness, inspired by the 50th anniversary of Martin Luther King’s assassination, is to figuratively hammer the Judiciary... in an attempt to convert the courts (plural) from legitimizers of nuclear holocaust sword to abolition plowshare. Our instrument, all self-righteousness aside, is what usually becomes the first casualty in the courtroom – truth. That’s the paradox, the torch passed on: We cannot shirk nor truncate “all the truth” for it is The witness...

There are many unknowns as this golf-pencilled prose is sent off late April (i. e. federal or state jurisdiction), but hammer we will, despite seeming failure.

by Mark Colville
May 3, 2018

A Brief Reaction to Being Charged With 3 Felonies and a Misdemeanor by the U.S. District Court, Brunswick County, Georgia

Once again, a federal court has plainly identified itself as another hall of the Pentagon by turning a blind eye to the criminal and murderous enterprise from which the Pentagon has repeatedly refused to desist for the past 73 years. According to international and constitutional law, both of which are binding and superseding law in all U.S. jurisdictions, the building and possession of first-strike nuclear weapons is a crime. Yet, apparently the U.S. District Court in Brunswick is content to let impunity and immunity reign supreme for those who would hold all of humanity hostage by terroristic threat, choosing instead to criminalize the right and duty of nonviolent resistance.

The destructive capacity of the D-5 missiles fitted for the six Trident submarines home-ported at Kings Bay is enough to kill an estimate of more than six billion people.* What the U.S. Attorney’s office asserts by the charges it brings, and the charges it fails to bring, is that the genocide unleashed by the launching of those weapons will be a legally sanctioned event.

As a conscientious citizen of this planet, I refuse to accept the legitimacy of such a court, and I am proud to stand accused by it. In a spirit of hope and solidarity, then, I invite all who dare to dream with us of a future without a nuclear gun held to the heads of all our children, to stand in vigil with the Kings Bay Plowshares.

* data provided by nukewatchinfo.org

[The seven Kings Bay Plowshares await trial with four in jail and three now out on monitored home confinement. Additional reflections from jail from the Kings Bay Plowshares activists can be found at kingsbayplowshares7.org/jail-reflections.]

015635, all at the Glynn County Detention Center, 100 Sulphur Springs Road, Brunswick, GA 31520.

Contributions to the Kings Bay Plowshares support fund for commissary, travel and legal expenses can be mailed to Catholic Worker, P.O. Box 3087, Washington, DC 20010 (memo to Kings Bay Plowshares), or via the “donate” link at kingsbayplowshares7.org.

Promote the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in your community. Find information and resources for projects and campaigns at icanw.org.

Organize a vigil or other public solidarity event or support party, invite a member of the Kings Bay Plowshares support team to speak, write postcards to the activists in jail and/or show the movie about the Plowshares movement, *The Nuns, The Priests, and the Bombs* (nunspriestsbombsthefilm.com).

Voices for Creative Nonviolence is interested to help organize a walk this autumn in solidarity with the witness of the Kings Bay Plowshares activists. They have been looking at a route that would take them from the Savannah River nuclear plant in South Carolina to the Kings Bay Naval Station. They’re tentatively thinking about beginning on September 4, 2018, and walking for three weeks. It’s possible that the Kings Bay Plowshares activists will face trial this fall. For more information, and if you are interested in participating, contact info@vcnv.org or call the Voices office at 773-878-3815 or after June 8, call Kathy Kelly at 773-619-2418.

India

Farmers near the uranium mine and mill at Tummalapalle, in India’s Andhra Pradesh state, have been protesting contamination of the soil and groundwater and the depletion of their irrigation wells by operations of the nuclear industrial site. Some have had to abandon their homes to the invisible blight and have suffered health problems they blame on the widespread pollution. When independent testing documented elevated levels of uranium, salts and other chemicals, the Uranium Corporation of India (UCIL) arranged a meeting with village leaders to dispute the findings and try to calm the growing protest around India’s richest uranium deposits.

The meeting with nuclear scientists and officials from UCIL and the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) was finally set for Monday, April 9. That day, police arrested three prominent activists as they traveled to the meeting at the invitation of the farmers. The eminent septuagenarian scientist and environmentalist Dr. Babu Rao, Jayasree Kakumani and Rajesh Serupally were taken into custody.

It was only following intense protest by the activists and villagers that Dr. Rao was allowed to participate in the meeting. The press, however, was excluded from the meeting, and the other two activists were held by police until after the meeting had concluded. All three signed papers under protest stating that they would not indulge in such “anti-social activities that disturb peace.”

Dr. Rao told the *Times of India* that the UCIL officials did not produce any evidence to support the claim of no uranium contamination from the facility.

“There is no proper lining for the tailing pond. This is bound to cause pollution through seepage,” he said. The officials told Rao and farmers that they would document their claims later.

“Regardless of what their reports say, it is all happening because of the plant. This time we went in small numbers. Next time all the families from our villages will go there to protest,” said G. Mahesh Reddy, one of the protesting farmers, to thenewsminute.com.

Memorial Day Witness at K.C. Nuclear Weapons Plant

by Jane Stoever

As she prepared to cross a property line in protest at the new nuclear weapons plant in Kansas City, Lu Mountenay, a minister in Independence, Missouri asked, “Do peace activists like myself bother the military-industrial complex in the least?”

She said she used to think not, but she’s beginning to change her mind. It would be the fourth time she’s crossed the line, she said. “My grandchildren understand why I go to jail. I do it for them. They get it, even if the military-industrial complex doesn’t.” Turning to the four men ready to commit civil resistance with her, she said, “Here I stand with four thorns in the side of militarism.”

The 65–strong protesters on hand for PeaceWorks KC’s seventh annual Memorial Day rally, die-in and

Poor People’s Campaign, cont.

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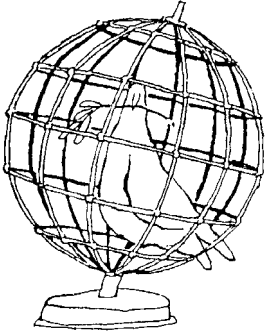
- Jefferson City, Missouri – Police cited 12 people.
- Albany, New York – 27 arrested inside the statehouse at closing, blocking halls and doors. One man jailed overnight for misdemeanor resisting arrest and felony assault allegedly injured a state trooper.
- Harrisburg, Pennsylvania – 24 arrested blocking the halls of the statehouse with banners.
- Columbia, South Carolina – More than a dozen people arrested for blocking a downtown street.
- Nashville, Tennessee – 21 arrested for obstruction before they could take over the James Robertson Parkway.
- Montpelier, Vermont – 14 arrested for refusing to leave when the capitol building closed.

Appropriately for the week of Memorial Day, week three demonstrations tied together opposition to the injustice of the war economy, militarism abroad and gun violence at home. The civil disobedience actions this week were held on Tuesday, May 29, including:

- Sacramento, California – 20 people who disrupted proceedings in the State Assembly cited on three counts.
- Hartford, Connecticut – Five arrested for disorderly conduct blocking rush-hour traffic.
- Washington, D.C. – 39 arrested at Sen. Mitch McConnell’s office, cited for “crowding, obstructing, or incommoding” and released.
- Topeka, Kansas – 12 arrested after they blocked traffic for about an hour.
- Baton Rouge, Louisiana – Two arrested for disturbing the peace after being removed from legislative appropriations committee meeting.
- Boston, Massachusetts – 16 arrested after refusing to leave the building.

INTERNATIONAL NOTES

Wales



France

Since activists occupying the communal woods tapped for France’s underground nuclear waste dump were forcefully evicted last February, a heavy police presence remains in the village of Bure, center of the resistance, and surrounding villages in the northeast district of Meuse. Residents are often stopped for hours-long identity checks and sometimes vehicle searches as they go about daily routines.

In recent trials, several suspended prison sentences of three or four months plus fines have been imposed and at least nine people were banned from the district.

Two people jailed after their arrest in February for refusing to surrender DNA samples (“Laura” and “Aka”) were back in court on March 19. One was given a four month suspended prison sentence, and Crystal Antem (legal name) was sentenced to three months in prison on conviction of participation in a group intending to damage property.

For more information, visit vmc.camp (French language), and look for a report soon at nukeresister.org.



Notes of support should be sent to Crystal Antem 14341, Centre pénitentiaire Nancy-Maxéville, 300 rue de l’Abbé Haltebourg, 54320 Maxéville, FRANCE.

civil disobedience laughed, and she reflected, “I, too, am a bothersome weed on the property of death, perhaps a dandelion – hear me roar!” She led the crowd in cheering “No more nukes!” as the five crossed the purple property line. Joining her were Tom Fox, Sunny Jordan Hamrick, Henry Stoever (crossing for the third time) and Brian Terrell.

They were arrested, processed and released pending a municipal court date still to be set. After his release, Terrell told the crowd the charge was trespass, and he will plead not guilty, seeing his action as necessary to try to prevent a nuclear war. He said that in court, “I will answer to these false charges!”

For more information, contact PeaceWorks KC, 4509 Walnut St., Kansas City, MO 64111, 816-561-1181, PeaceWorksKC@gmail.com, peaceworkskc.org.

- Kalamazoo, Michigan – 19 arrested for trespass after they refused to leave the statehouse.
- Jefferson City, Missouri – 15 cited on the scene and one was taken to the county jail for citation.
- Concord, New Hampshire – Eight arrests for refusing to leave the statehouse at closing.
- Raleigh, North Carolina – 12 arrests for trespass at a legislative office building.
- Nashville, Tennessee – About 20 arrested blocking downtown street near venue for Trump speech that night.
- Montpelier, Vermont – 10 arrested inside the statehouse after it closed.

Between now and the June 23 rally in Washington, D.C. and at state capitals, these themes will be highlighted:

Week four, June 3 – 9: The Right to Health and a Healthy Planet: Ecological Devastation and Health Care

Week five, June 10 – 16: Everybody’s Got the Right to Live: Education, Living Wage Jobs, Income, Housing

Week six, June 17 – 22: A New and Unsettling Force: Confronting the Distorted Moral Narrative

To find an event near you, visit poorpeoplescampaign.org. More information can also be found at breachrepairers.org.

The Nuclear Resister will continue reporting on arrests associated with the Poor People’s Campaign, which clearly incorporates opposition to militarism and war. We invite contact from activists in each of the places where arrests were reported to help subsequent reporting on any prosecutions. If we’ve missed an action that resulted in arrests, let us know. Please leave a message at 520-323-8697 and we’ll return your call ASAP, or email nukeresister@igc.org. Thank you.

About 100 people greeted merchants attending the Defence Procurement Research Technology Exhibition (DPRTE) in Cardiff, Wales on March 27 with shouts of “Blood on your hands!”, “Shame!” and “How can you justify what you do?”

Police broke up a blockade at one entrance to the venue, the Cardiff Motorpoint Arena, arresting six people. They were held for up to 12 hours in police custody. Three people are charged with aggravated trespass and three others were released with a formal caution.

Adam Johannes of Cardiff Stop the War Coalition and one of the arrestees said, “Stopping the Cardiff Arms Fair is part of a greater struggle to achieve an anti-austerity and anti-war government that will exit U.S.-led wars, abolish nuclear weapons, leave NATO, support Palestinians, Kurds and others and remake us as a society exporting aid and doctors instead of weapons and wars.”

For more information, visit facebook.com/pg/stocardiffarmsfair.

CATONSVILLE, CONT.

continued from page 3

Because the late Philip Berrigan’s last arrest was at the National Security Agency, supporters honored the legacy of the Catonsville Nine with nonviolent direct action at the NSA.

About 20 people demonstrated at the NSA’s “Puzzle Palace” headquarters in Fort Meade, Maryland on May 6. During the demonstration, four members of the group approached the guardhouse to deliver a letter to the new director, Lt. Gen. Paul Nakasone, requesting a meeting to discuss what the group felt were examples of unconstitutional behavior, including illegal surveillance and the selection of people to be killed by killer drone strikes. They were stopped by a police line.

The group was unable to convince police that they had a constitutional right to dialogue with a representative of this government agency. Eventually Ellen Barfield and Max Obuszewski were both handcuffed. They were cited for failure to comply and attempting to enter without authorization, then released.

For more information, contact Max Obuszewski at 410-323-1607 or mobuszewski2001@comcast.net.

Good Friday, cont.

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Lockheed Martin overlooks the Mall. Traffic converges on the intersection from three different directions. In the middle of it all stood about a dozen people, all of whom had stood on that ground many times before. Every Good Friday for four decades, the Brandywine Peace Community has kept this vigil.

One of those present, Paul Sheldon writes, “I view these actions as faithfulness to a continuing campaign at Lockheed Martin, the world’s largest war profiteer and nuclear weapons’ contractor.”

Crosses, each with a Lockheed Martin logo at the crucifixion nail points, were hammered into the ground. Large posters and striking banners were hung, including one depicting Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the message: “For Justice . . . Make War No More. Ignite Peace.”

A big blue wooden sign with the Lockheed Martin logo included the words, “We’re making a killing.” After an hour of vigiling, people walked up the driveway entrance to Lockheed Martin, intoning a bell that has become a mainstay of Brandywine actions.

As seven people in the group blocked the drive with banners, signs and crosses, all joined in reading a Good Friday litany. After refusing a police order to leave, the seven were eventually arrested by Upper Merion police, cited for “disorderly conduct” and released.

Arrested were Beth Centz, Carroll Clay, Barry Kreider, Tom Mullian, Mary Ellen Norpel, Paul Sheldon, and Fr. Patrick Sieber, OFM.

For more information, visit brandywinepeace.com.

LIVERMORE

The annual Good Friday service and protest at the Lawrence Livermore National nuclear weapons Laboratory drew at least 75 people to the nuclear weapons research and development site in California. Police arrested 26 people for unlawful assembly, holding them briefly until they could be processed and released.

For more information, contact Tri-Valley CAREs, 925-443-7148, www.trivalleycares.org.

Iowa Drone Campaign Enters Second Year After Hung Jury Mistrial

It’s been a “rocky road” of sparse community participation and support with minimal media attention in the first year of a campaign of nonviolent resistance at the Iowa Air National Guard drone command center in Des Moines.

But after a two-day trial in April, one of six jurors apparently heard the message of defendants Eddie Bloomer (Des Moines), Greg Boertje-Obed (Duluth) and Brian Hynes (Bronx). The panel deliberated for five hours, and deadlocked five-to-one on three separate ballots. The judge declared a mistrial.

The three men were arrested for trespass on December 28, 2017 while commemorating the biblical King Herod’s notorious slaughter of innocent children to preserve his political power (Matthew 2:16). Each testified movingly from their perspective and vocation as Catholic Workers about drone warfare as the modern equivalent of Herod’s slaughter and an international war crime.

Prosecutors have not decided whether to seek a retrial.

On May 19, Armed Forces Day, members of Veterans for Peace, Des Moines Catholic Worker and Iowa’s religious community kicked off the second year of the campaign with a rally and direct action at the drone command center.

Elliott Adams, former national president of Veterans for Peace, stressed the fundamental importance of diplomacy, rather than violence, in resolving international conflicts.

Rev. Bob Cook (Presbyterian), Rev. Chet Guinn (Methodist) and Srs. Elaine and Jeannie Hagedorn (Catholic Sisters of Humility) spoke from their religious perspective about the immorality and injustice of the drone warfare conducted at the base. Together they agreed that these actions of the U.S. government terrorize families and communities in the Middle East while decreasing the safety of Americans by fanning the flames of terrorism against the United States.

Frank Cordaro, co-founder of the Des Moines Catholic Worker, called on Des Moines Bishop Richard Pates to follow through on the U.S. Catholic Bishops 2014 statement on U.S. drone warfare, which decried the immorality and injustice of the “War on Terror” and found that U.S. drone warfare fails the criteria of the Catholic teachings on “Just War.” This statement was signed by Bishop Pates as head of the U.S. Catholic Bishops International Justice and Peace Committee in 2014. Today, in 2018, U.S. drone warfare has grown “exponentially.” Cordaro not only challenged Bishop Pates to speak out, he also called on all priests, pastors and members of religious orders to speak out, too.

At the conclusion of the rally, Frank Cordaro and Elliot Adams peacefully crossed the line onto the base in

Quick Trial for Priest’s Drone Protest

by Joy First

On April 10, Fr. Jim Murphy represented himself at trial before Judge Paul Curran in Juneau County, Wisconsin Circuit Court, charged with trespass to land and disorderly conduct for a protest last June 27 at Volk Field.

Before their trial date, co-defendants Phil Runkel and Joy First pled no contest to trespass and the disorderly conduct charge was dismissed. [*Editors’ note: These are ordinance violations, charged after the original criminal charges were dropped as reported last summer.*]

At Volk Field, personnel are trained to operate the RQ-7 Shadow Drone, used for reconnaissance, surveillance and target acquisition. Recent reports suggest that the RQ-7 is now likely also weaponized.

Captain Kevin Peterson took the stand for the prosecution, and identified Fr. Murphy as one of the people who entered the base. He said that he knew the small group of regular vigilers were going to be there that day in June, that they would have crime scene tape and desired to get arrested.

Fr. Murphy cross-examined Captain Peterson, and asked if Peterson really knew what was going on in their minds that he could say they desired to get arrested. Peterson admitted that he could not.

FUTURE ACTIONS

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

eurosatory arms expo

The French group Disobedience is planning a nonviolent blockade on June 12 among other protests at the biennial Eurostatory arms exhibition at the Paris-Nord exhibition center in Villepinte. Interested participants should contact remi@desobeir.net, and attend a meeting in Paris on the afternoon of June 2. For more information, visit www.desobeir.net (French).

livermore lab

Join keynote speaker Daniel Ellsberg to commemorate the U.S. atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki at Livermore Lab, the place where scientists are creating new nuclear weapons. Rally with speakers and music begins Monday, August 6, at 8 a.m., at the corner of Vasco and Patterson Pass Roads in Livermore, California. Following the program will be a procession to the Lab gates where those who choose will peacefully risk arrest to protest the Trump Administration’s nuclear weapons policies. There will also be a Peace Camp the weekend before at Lake Del Valle. For more information, contact Tri-Valley CAREs at 925-443-7148, 510-839-5877 or trivalleycares.org.

vandenberg

The Los Angeles Catholic Worker and Vandenberg Witness will mark Hiroshima Day, August 6 with protest and possible nonviolent resistance at the main gate of Vandenberg Air Force Base in Lompoc, California. For details, contact the L.A. Catholic Worker at 323-267-8789, lacatholicworker.org, or Vandenberg Witness at 805-343-6322, vandenbergwitness.org.

bangor

Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action will host its annual Hiroshima/Nagasaki weekend of commemoration on August 4 - 6 at the Center, with a nonviolent resistance action at the adjacent Kitsap-Bangor nuclear submarine base. All are invited to join for one, two or more days, in a program featuring retired CIA officer and peace activist Ray McGovern and Backbone Campaign Executive Director Bill Moyer. Details are in progress; for more information, contact the Center at info@gzcenter.org, or visit gzcenter.org.

an act of civil resistance and were arrested. Both spent the night in jail, pled guilty to trespass at jail court, and were fined and released the following day.

In addition to a regular presence at the base, the next action in the campaign will be the second annual August 6 - 9 vigil at St. Ambrose Cathedral, begging the Bishop to join them. Plans are also being made for the 2018 Feast of the Holy Innocents vigil and action in December.

For more information, contact Frank Cordaro at 515-490-2490, frank.cordaro@gmail.com, or visit dmccatholicworker.org.

faslane

The Scottish Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament invites international supporters to a major rally at the nuclear submarine base at Faslane on September 22, to challenge the government of the United Kingdom to recognize the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. Nonviolent direct action in conjunction with this demonstration is anticipated. For more information, contact the Campaign at www.banthebomb.org or Trident Ploughshares at tp2000@gn.apc.org, tridentploughshares.org.

creech air force base

The 4th annual Shut Down Creech event will mobilize from Camp Justice, on the grounds of the Temple of Goddess Spirituality in Cactus Springs from September 30 to October 6. Peaceful, nonviolent resistance to put an end to drone killing and global warfare – Come for all or part of the week! Peace and justice groups across the country are invited and encouraged to send at least one representative and to consider co-sponsorship. For more information contact Toby Blomé at ratherbenyckeling@comcast.net or Eleanor Levine at eastbaycodepink@gmail.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

...**The International Anti-Nuclear Summer Camp 2018** will be held from August 6 - 12 in a field and olive grove overlooking the Mediterranean Sea near Narbonne, France. The camp will address two main topics: the uranium conversion facility of Orano (formerly Areva) in Narbonne-Malvési, and safety issues associated with the nuclear transport across the nuclear fuel chain. During the camp there will be at least one nonviolent direct action day against the nearby nuclear industries. Participants are invited to offer workshops or presentations on nuclear topics, especially the anti-nuclear struggles or nuclear policy in their home regions. Together, campers will make compost toilets, solar showers, a group kitchen, and provide whisper translations and space for informal meet and greets, artistic and cultural exchanges, siestas and little feasts. Bring your own tents, sleeping bags, music, instruments or your cabaret art, and anti-nuclear films of current campaigns to share in the evening. There will be a daily fee for food, water and other expenses. For more information, contact camp2018@nuclear-heritage.net or visit nuclear-heritage.net, or send registration details and number of attendees to: camp-registration@nuclear-heritage.net.

...**The 2018 National Catholic Worker Gathering** will take place at Nazareth College in Rochester, New York, July 27–29. Titled “Drawing on Our Roots, Reflecting in Our Times,” the gathering will explore the themes of Catholic Worker founders Peter Maurin and Dorothy Day regarding Cult, Culture, Cultivation. For registration and more information, email catholicworker85@gmail.com.

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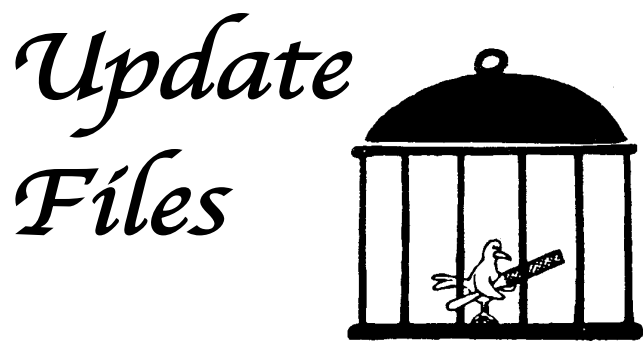
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#188

BÜCHEL, GERMANY: In two October trials, eight German nuclear abolitionists were convicted of trespass for occupying the runway at the air base where an estimated 20 U.S. nuclear weapons are stockpiled for NATO. For the September, 2016 action organized by the Youth Network for Political Action, four of the defendants appeared in juvenile court because they were under 21 at the time of their arrest. All were fined the equivalent of 30 “daily wages.” Two of the young defendants and the other four adults all appealed the judgements, and in April the district court affirmed the sentence of the two youth. The judge admitted that the federal government is probably in violation of international law, that protest of the issue is ignored, and sometimes civil disobedience is the “mildest remedy,” but nevertheless found no imminent danger that would justify the runway occupation. Clara Tempel, now 22, said in October that, “It is incomprehensible why the preparation of a nuclear war in Germany remains legally without consequences, but our grassroots resistance is judged. We are all obliged to resist such injustice. This is especially true since Germany boycotted the negotiations on the U.N. nuclear weapons ban treaty last year... If the political class fails so clearly here, as a citizen I have no choice but to take charge of our own destiny.” After their sentence was re-affirmed, Tempel spoke also for her codefendants and told the court, “Together, we will prepare new actors, recharge our batteries, take new people to the military grounds, to the courtrooms and to the wretched places of the world...”

AUSTRALIA: Joe Mekhael was found guilty April 17 of resisting arrest and committing a nuisance a year earlier when he interrupted an ANZAC Day war memorial service in Sydney with anti-war shouts. The judge declared, “It is offensive because it is behavior likely to wound the feelings and arouse anger and resentment and outrage in the mind of a reasonable person.” Mekhael was fined \$700 for the nuisance, and given a 12 month good-behavior bond for resisting arrest...

BEALE AIR FORCE BASE: State charges against Toby Blome for blocking the road into the Global Hawk surveillance drone operations base near Sacramento, California last October have been dropped...



SHANNON, IRELAND: Yet another hearing in Ennis Circuit Court on April 13 considered the status of four men charged for two separate actions protesting the violation of Irish neutrality by the regular U.S. military transports through the international airport. For Colm Roddy and Dave Donnellan, it was their 18th appearance since their arrest two years ago, still with no trial date set. Dan Dowling and Edward Horgan, arrested in a similar protest last year, had joined the other men asking for a change of venue. The judge’s decision is pending...

BURLINGTON, VERMONT: Three opponents of basing the F-35 warplane with the Air National Guard at the international airport have reached a very satisfactory negotiated settlement after they were thrice cited for violating the local noise ordinance and then arrested for disorderly conduct. Ben Cohen, Ray Gonda and Richard Joseph were arrested while blasting recorded jet noise at the deafening volume characteristic of the F-35 from massive speakers they towed through town last March. Opting for a community justice process, they were diverted from criminal prosecution and instead met twice with plaintiffs and mediators. A total of \$4,500 in fines was reduced to payment by the defendants of \$900 and attendance at a weekend workshop on building nonviolent movements. The \$900 will go toward scholarships for members of minority communities impacted by the F-35 to attend the same workshop for the purpose of empowerment to participate actively in the community. The three men are helping reach out to these communities to recruit interested participants...

FRANCE: Three hundred supporters rallied outside the courthouse in Privas, France on May 17 during the trial of Greenpeace France and its 22 activists who had swarmed the grounds of the Cruas-Meysse nuclear power plant in a protest last November. The day-long solidarity demonstration included workshops, meetings and discussions on nuclear safety and renewable energy under the watchful eye of a large police presence. Inside the courtroom, the prosecutor tried to limit testimony to the facts of the audacious protest that used fireworks and projected images to highlight flaws in nuclear plant security. Defendants pressed the issue of nuclear safety while the prosecutor wondered how Greenpeace could be sure a terrorist did not infiltrate its ranks. A sentence of six months, suspended, for 19 of the activists and the representative of Greenpeace, plus four months in jail for the remaining three due to their records is under consideration, and the decision of the court will be announced June 28...

JEJU ISLAND, KOREA: The Jeju higher court in February ruled two women not guilty of charges from 2012 and 2013 that they obstructed a business – namely the work of the firms constructing the Navy base on the Peace Island. The court accepted a challenge to the integrity of essential digital evidence in their cases...

LONDON: The final four defendants to face trial for blockades that disrupted set-up for the DSEI arms fair last September were found guilty of aggravated trespass. While they presented ample evidence about the violations of arms export laws documented at previous DSEI exhibitions, they and the public had effectively been prohibited from examining the exhibits in 2017. The judge denied as “not a reasonable line of enquiry” the defense motion for disclosure about the exhibits, and the prosecutor seized on this absence of evidence as evidence of the absence of any crime that might justify the blockade and arrests. The judge also narrowly construed the alleged crime of obstruction to relate to traffic only, and not also to the arms exhibition that was the reason for the actions. Despite two defendants having no previous conviction, and the other two possessing a “colourful history” of protest, no differentiation in sentence was made. All were ordered to pay £500 in costs, a £200 fine, and a £30 victim surcharge...

the Nuclear Resister

“A Chronicle of Hope”

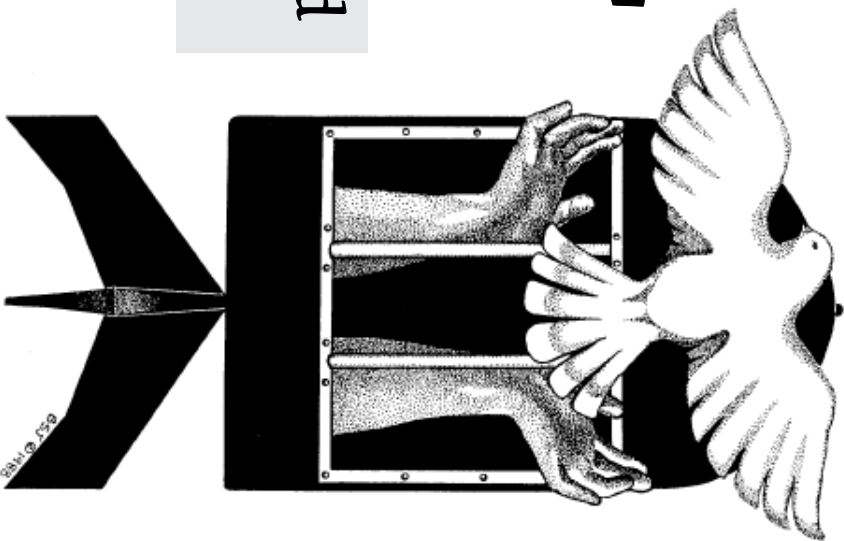
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