

# the Nuclear Resister

“A Chronicle of Hope”

No. 192

July 31, 2019

## Blockaders Demand Conversion of Bath Iron Works

In Maine, a statewide coalition is organizing and taking direct action for the economic conversion of Bath Iron Works (BIW), where General Dynamics builds warships.

At a press conference announcing plans to protest an April 26 christening, their Conversion Campaign pointed out that the Pentagon has the largest carbon footprint on the planet. The Navy and BIW should focus their efforts on the national and global threats posed by climate change, speakers said, and not on building vessels that exacerbate climate change.

On the morning of April 26, about 75 members of more than a dozen peace groups showed up at Bath Iron Works to picket at the christening of the Navy's third and final Zumwalt-class guided missile destroyer. The Pentagon originally ordered a fleet of 32 of the high-tech stealth ships but, when costs were rocketing to \$7.5 billion each with no clear mission, the program was cut. This last boat, the USS Lyndon B. Johnson, will be set aside for parts for the other two.

“Making warships at BIW is not even a good jobs policy. Researchers have consistently found that investment of the same resources in sustainable energy solutions like commuter trains or wind turbines would produce many more jobs,” said Mary Beth Sullivan, spokeswoman for PeaceWorks of Greater Brunswick.

Demonstrators lined Washington Street with signs and banners to greet buses bringing guests into the shipyard. At about 9 a.m., a group walked into the street and stopped one of the buses. Other demonstrators got behind the bus, preventing it from turning around. Police arrested eight people behind the bus, then blocked the street themselves as the bus backed up to turn down King Street. More demonstrators moved into the street and some then held a die-in to block the intersection at King and Washington. Police arrested 17 more, and took all 25 to the Bath Police Department. There they were cited for obstructing a public way and released.

Two weeks later, the Sagadahoc County district attorney thanked the police for their efforts and said she would not be prosecuting the group. Spending the necessary legal resources would only give the protesters “more undue publicity” and would be counterproductive.

So, on the occasion of the next christening on June



photo by Regis Tremblay

**Maine state police handcuff a nonviolent blockader outside Bath Iron Works, April 26, 2019**

22 of the USS Daniel Inouye, an Arleigh Burke-class destroyer, demonstrators from across the state and as far away as California were there to press their case for conversion. Holding signs that read, “Tell Congress: Fund Climate Solutions, Not Endless War” and “Bring Our War Dollars Home,” protesters spread out from the corner of King and Washington, with some going to the south gate and others north to Vine Street. For about an hour ending at 9 a.m., 12 people were arrested for blocking access to the south gate. Another five were taken into custody for blocking buses on Washington Street, then five more along Vine.

All of those arrested for blocking traffic or gates were taken to the police station for processing. Nine of the 22 refused to sign the summons or bail slip to be freed. Jim Freeman, Sadie Fulton, Bruce Gagnon, Ken Jones, Natasha Mayers, George Ostensen, Dixie Searway, Mary Beth Sullivan and Russell Wray were bused to a regional jail and held until Monday, when they were released. The 22 have court dates in August and September.

For more information, contact the Global Network Against Nuclear Power and Weapons in Space, [globalnet@mindspring.com](mailto:globalnet@mindspring.com).

## Memorial Day, 4th of July Arrests at K.C. Nuke Plant

by Jane Stoeber

In a rebuke to White House attempts to “make America nuclear again,” 17 peace activists were arrested for trespass during the ninth annual Memorial Day peace witness for a nuclear weapons-free world.

Sponsored by PeaceWorks – Kansas City, the annual event surpassed previous years’ participation by turning out some 90 peace activists. Three who came from Europe added another first – representation from a growing and global nuclear weapons abolition movement.

A rally at the decommissioned Bannister Federal Complex commemorated the 154 employees known to have died from toxins generated at the plant during its 65-year history of nuclear weapons production. Then the activists travelled to the new National Security Campus at Missouri Highway 150 and Botts Road in south Kansas City, where more than 80% of the non-nuclear components of the U.S. nuclear arsenal are developed or procured. A mile-long march to the entrance of the plant was emceed by Jim Hannah, who urged the marchers to bear in mind not only what they are against, but what they are for.

“As we march today toward this citadel of mass destruction,” Hannah said, “let us also imagine that fine day when the world awakes from the nightmare of nukes, when flowers and soybeans will again grow where now there is only concrete and asphalt, when our grandchildren may one day ask, ‘What’s a nuclear weapon?’ And let us hold to that ancient promise, ‘nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.’”

When they reached the entrance of the plant, the activists read the names and maladies of persons who died from toxins at the old weapons plant, then symbolically lay on the ground in a die-in until the bugle call of “Taps” was sounded. Statements from line-crossers followed; then in unison they stepped across the purple line indicating the plant boundary. After repeated warnings that they would be arrested for trespass if they remained, they were handcuffed, searched, and photographed by Kansas City police on the site and then released with a summons to appear in court on August 7.

To date, nearly 140 arrests have occurred since 2010, the year construction began on the new plant. More than two million dollars a day is being spent there as the current administration ramps up efforts to “modernize” the current U.S. nuclear arsenal of some 5,000 warheads.

For more information, visit [peaceworkskc.org](http://peaceworkskc.org).

### Interdependence Day at K.C. Plant

*Thanks to Chrissy A. Kirchhoefer for her report.*

With the blessing of his religious order, the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, 85-year-old Fr. Carl Kabat returned on July 4 to the Kansas City Plant for his yearly “Interdependence Day” witness against nuclear weapons and their production at the plant.

Undeterred by the heavy rain, he walked down the entry road with Byron Clemens. The two men were able to quickly get beyond the boundary line. Kabat’s new tactic of an “underhand softball throw” launched a splash of red paint eight feet tall on the main entrance sign, “to

## MANNING STILL IN PRISON, DAILY FINES MOUNT

Army whistleblower Chelsea Manning was released from custody after 63 days on May 9, at the end of the term of the grand jury she had steadfastly refused to testify before. One week later, she was summoned before a different grand jury and presented with the same questions to answer related to the government’s prosecution of Julian Assange over the release of documents Manning provided to Wikileaks. And she faced the same choice: deny her principles and testify or face imprisonment and fines intended to compel her testimony.

Judge Anthony Trenga ordered Manning fined \$500 for every day in custody after 30 days, increasing to \$1,000 per day after 60 days in custody. She was invited by the court to use her time in confinement to reflect on her principles with respect to the institution of grand juries in the United States. She responded on May 28 with a six-page, single-spaced letter to the judge, concluding:

The foregoing is intended to give you a better and more nuanced understanding of my conscientious objection to the grand jury. I understand the idea that as a civil contemnor, I hold the key to my cell – that I can free myself by talking to the grand jury. While I may hold the key to my cell, it is held in the beating heart of all I believe. To retrieve that key and do what you are asking of me, your honor, I would have to cut the key out, which would mean killing everything that I hold dear, and the beliefs that have defined my path.

Each person must make the world we want to live in around us where we stand. I believe in due process, freedom of the press, and a transparent court system. I object to the use of grand juries as tools to tear apart vulnerable communities. I object to this grand jury in particular as an effort to frighten journalists and publishers, who serve a crucial public good. I have had these values since I was a child, and I’ve had years of confinement to reflect on them. For much of that time, I depended for survival on my values, my decisions, and my conscience. I will not abandon them now.

Two days later, her attorneys filed a motion for reconsideration of the nearly unprecedented combination of confinement and fines to compel an individual’s testimony, but the court has not responded nor set a date for hearing the motion. A supplemental brief filed on Manning’s behalf in June offered financial records to show she cannot pay the fines because she is not wealthy, and confinement has obviously compromised her earning capacity as a public speaker. At press time, the fines topped \$30,000.

For more information and to contribute to her legal support and rent fund, visit [ychelsea.is](http://ychelsea.is).



Letters of support should be sent to Chelsea Elizabeth Manning A0181426, William G. Truesdale Adult Detention Center, 2001 Mill Road, Alexandria, VA 22314. She cannot receive postcards or any cards, but color drawings are okay. Do not decorate envelopes.

illuminate the insanity of nuclear weapons from the past, potential in the future and present misguided priorities.”

“To follow Jesus and the Gospel, we must publicly and nonviolently resist evil,” he said. “May God have mercy on us for not doing so.” Of nuclear weapons, Kabat concludes, “they need to be destroyed. They are dangerous and disregard future generations.”

The pair were detained on site for a few hours. With the legendary Carl Kabat present, many of the plant employees stopped by to say hello, even ones he had not previously met but who knew of him. Both men were charged with trespass, and Kabat also with destruction of property.

Kabat was one of the original Plowshares Eight in 1980 and has participated in subsequent Plowshares  
*continued on page 5*

# DRONE WHISTLEBLOWER CHARGED

An Air Force veteran and former intelligence analyst for a private military contractor was arrested in May and charged with one count of felony theft of government property for sharing more than a dozen classified documents critical of the U.S. drone assassination program. Analysis of court documents and the public record quickly led to the conclusion that he leaked the mostly secret and top secret documents to journalist Jeremy Scahill and *The Intercept*, the investigative journalism platform co-founded by Scahill.

Oddly, the May 9 arrest of Daniel Hale came nearly six years after he first spoke out publicly against the U.S. drone warfare program at a CodePink Ground the Drones summit, and at least five years after the FBI was first aware that he was the likely source for disclosures at the heart of *The Intercept*’s The Drone Papers series (2015), and his appearance in the documentary film *National Bird*. In August 2014, two weeks after *The Intercept* first published an article based on his material and just days after he completed an assignment for the defense contractor Leidos with the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency as a political geography analyst, FBI agents searched his home and seized thumb drives containing at least one classified document, software used for anonymous internet browsing and communication, and contact information for Scahill.

Hale is being represented pro bono by Abbe Lowell, an expert in defense of cases brought under the Espionage Act. Hale pled not guilty to the charge on May 17 and is free awaiting trial.

## Mother’s Day Arrests at Bangor Trident Base

About thirty people took part in a spirited rally at Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor on Saturday, May 11, proclaiming the original anti-war message of Mother’s Day. Kitsap-Bangor is the home port and weapons depot for the Pacific Ocean fleet of Trident nuclear missile firing submarines.

Earlier in the day, the nuclear disarmament activists had gathered just up the road at the Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action for a keynote talk by Kathy Kelly of Voices for Creative Nonviolence titled: “Deploying Love in a Permanent Warfare State.” Tacoma-based attorney Blake Kremer then briefed the activists on their legal rights while undertaking nonviolent actions.

Outside the base, the Ground Zero activists were accompanied by the Seattle Peace Chorus. Some blocked the entrance to the Trident (main) Gate while holding up banners that read, “Disarm Trident, Deploy Peace” and “Congress Wants \$1 Trillion for Nuclear Weapons. What Will Be Left for Our Children?” Supporters standing along the road held signs reading, “Abolish Nuclear Weapons” and “Our Children Deserve Better.”

Washington State Patrol officers soon moved to clear the road and cited eight resisters for blocking it: Kathy Kelly, Larry Kerschner, Kit Kittredge, Mona Lee, James Manista, Brenda McMillan, Doug Milholland and Ray Nacanaynay.

Bob Delastrada crossed the boundary line and was arrested by Navy police and released with a federal trespass citation.

A mitigation hearing on the state traffic citations is scheduled for August 6, Hiroshima Day.

For more information, visit [gzcenter.org](http://gzcenter.org).

# Resistance Reflections

By Scott Schaeffer-Duffy  
*Reprinted from telegram.com*

May 15, 2019

After a panhandler I befriended during a weekly peace vigil in Lincoln Square ended up in Worcester County Jail, I sent him a letter, which was rejected because I used a beige rather than white envelope. The jail returned another letter because I wrote it “on plain white paper” when “only white lined paper is allowed.”

My friends Jesuit priest Steve Kelly, Elizabeth McAlister and Mark Colville have been in jail waiting trial for their April 4, 2018 protest against nuclear weapons at Georgia’s Kings Bay Naval Station. The Glynn County Detention Center only allows inmates to receive correspondence written on 3.5 by 5.5 inch, plain white post cards. I purchased a stack of these at the post office, but had two of them returned to me because I put “Rev.” in front of Father Steve’s name and “Mr.” in front of Mark’s.

As a Catholic Worker peace activist who has spent a total of one year in various jails for nonviolent civil disobedience, I’ve been disciplined for wearing underwear in Georgia’s Muscogee County Jail, where it was considered contraband, and for circulating a petition in Worcester County Jail, which was considered “inciting a riot.” I was denied visits, phone calls, mail, medical attention, and access to religious services in six states, often without explanation. In every jail, I’ve been demeaned, brow-beaten, and mistreated by guards whom I can only describe as professional sadists. One guard in the

## Protesting Lockheed Martin’s Role in Yemen

On Saturday afternoon, April 27, Bryce Druzin “finally did it.”

The Bay-area comic who grew up in Palo Alto, California was deadly serious after spraypainting “YEMEN” and the date, “8–9–18” in blood-red letters on the signs, sidewalk and driveway of Lockheed Martin’s Advanced Technology Center, then emailing a local newspaper and the police to tell them. He was waiting patiently when police arrived.

“I vandalized Lockheed Martin’s office in Palo Alto because of their weapons sales to Saudi Arabia for their war in Yemen and President Trump’s recent veto of bipartisan congressional legislation that would have ended U.S. involvement and weapons sales,” he wrote.

When a Saudi jet used a Lockheed Martin bomb on a Yemeni school bus, killing 40 children on August 9, 2018, “that really shook me.”

As he was being arrested, he told the *Palo Alto Weekly*, “You know, it just kind of built up over time. I’m glad I finally did it. I grew up in Palo Alto, and it’s embarrassing to have this company in my hometown. This is my hometown where I grew up, and these are our neighbors that live in the community and they’re helping murder people. If you had a neighbor who was murdering people, you wouldn’t want that person here anymore. I don’t want Lockheed here anymore. It’s a real simple thing for me.”

“The message is more effective when there’s a person taking responsibility and explaining why they did it,” Druzin wrote on Facebook. “It’s in line with nonviolent principles. I didn’t want Lockheed employees wondering ‘Who did this? What will he do next?’”

Druzin was booked on a charge of felony vandalism and held overnight before release on his own recognizance.

Las Vegas County Jail, for example, had such a ferocious hairtrigger temper that I prayed he didn’t have a wife or children at home.

And I’m a white man. My treatment was always better than the indignity heaped on inmates of color.

On April 30, 2019, *The New York Times* published a detailed account of extreme violence in Alabama’s prisons which they called a “Hellscape.” The Trump Justice Department concluded conditions were “cruel” and blamed the problems on “a fatal combination of indifference and incompetence.”

I believe all Americans, even those who believe incarceration should be torture, need to consider that humiliating and mistreating inmates returns them to society in a worse state than when they entered a “correctional” institution. If for no reason other than self-interest, we need to make our jails and prisons more humane. Assuring prisoners have easy access to visitors, affordable phone services, mail, books, art, education, religious services, and lawyers who monitor human rights does not make jails country clubs, but can improve lives and reduce recidivism.

When I went to visit my wife while she was incarcerated for an anti-nuclear weapons protest in MCI Framingham, I was made to wait more than half the time allowed for visits and then subjected to a strip search before being allowed 10 minutes with my wife seated more than six feet away from me, under the close scrutiny of two guards. This kind of mistreatment of the friends, family, and loved ones of inmates, who have committed no crime, should set off alarm bells as to the dysfunctional and hostile posture prison authorities take toward inmates.

I believe Fyodor Dostoevsky had it exactly right when he said, “The degree of civilization in a society can be judged by entering its prisons.” The capricious and malicious mistreatment of inmates being carried out in our name needs to stop.

*Scott Schaeffer-Duffy is a Worcester resident and Saints Francis & Thérèse Catholic Worker. On the rainy night of July 22, his 61st birthday, Scott Schaeffer-Duffy was hit by a car while out running. He suffered cuts and bruises, broken rib and scapula, some facial fractures and took a heavy blow to the head. Please keep Scott, his wife Claire and their family in your thoughts and prayers as he recovers.*

## Thanks

Thanks to David, Cindy, Luise, Faith, Kim, Jim, Charlotte, Paige and Gretchen for helping to mail the last issue, and to Ruth for proofreading assistance.

### the Nuclear Resister

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

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

#### THE NUCLEAR RESISTER ON MICROFILM

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


# iPresente!



**Macy Morse**  
January 25, 1921 - July 18, 2019  
Wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, peace, anti-nuclear & plowshares activist



**Barry Binks**  
April 25, 1940 - May 24, 2019  
Partner, father, peace & justice activist, Veterans for Peace



**Lu Mounenay**  
May 11, 1949 - April 21, 2019  
Wife, mother, grandmother, peace & anti-nuclear activist, minister, PeaceWorks  
Kansas City



# JAY CHASE

## DUE OUT SOON

Jared “Jay” Chase is due to be paroled from an Illinois state prison on November 6. Chase is the last convicted anti-war activist to complete a prison sentence resulting from protest arrests and undercover police instigation at the NATO summit held in Chicago in May 2012.

Chase was one of a group of young men later dubbed the NATO 3 because they were targeted by a pair of undercover Chicago police detectives. Armed with a multi-million dollar budget to counter an imagined terrorist threat from inside the planned demonstrations, the duo infiltrated Chicago’s radical activist community. To justify the expense, they groomed a cell of vulnerable, impassioned young activists with meals, alcohol and drugs while cajoling ever more incendiary tactics. The cops even suggested and got them to help make a few molotov cocktails that the trio were unwilling to use, and which never were used.

The three were arrested on the eve of the summit and charged with terrorism, misdemeanor mob action and two felonies regarding intent to commit arson. They were jailed until trial in 2014, when a jury acquitted them on the most serious terror charge, but convicted on the others.

Chase received the longest sentence – eight years. Under Illinois law he would expect to serve half of that, with added credit for good time served.

But while awaiting trial, Chase was repeatedly denied treatment for advancing symptoms of Huntington’s disease, a hereditary neurodegenerative genetic disorder. (“Huntington’s disease usually causes movement, cognitive and psychiatric disorders with a wide spectrum of signs and symptoms,” according to mayoclinic.org.) By the time of sentencing, he had been placed in disciplinary segregation multiple times for altercations with staff, and was facing an additional criminal charge as a result.

At sentencing, an expert in movement disorders, Dr. Kathleen Shannon, testified that the disease makes those affected unable to plan ahead or learn from mistakes, and that she believes the disease was likely behind Chase’s misconduct while in jail. Shannon testified that Chase probably has about ten years to live.

In 2016, Chase lost good time based on incident reports he received while vigorously and persistently demanding treatment for the terminal illness and Hepatitis-C. He also had another year added to his sentence when he pled guilty to assaulting a guard while jailed before trial. Subsequently he has lost more good time, leading to his expected release date in November.

Correspondence and communication with his supporters has diminished in recent years, a tragic consequence of the medical neglect and compassion deficit in prison.

For more information, visit [freethenato3.wordpress.com](http://freethenato3.wordpress.com).



Letters of support should be sent to Jared Chase M44710, Pontiac Correctional Center, P.O. Box 99, Pontiac, IL 61764.

## Anti-War Arrests at Venezuelan Embassy

*thanks to CodePink and Popular Resistance*

For five weeks this spring, while the Trump administration tried and repeatedly failed to promote a military coup or provoke a *casus belli* for war, a group of anti-war activists took up legal residence in the Venezuelan embassy in Washington, D.C., creating a unique obstacle for coup plotters.

The government of President Nicholas Maduro withdrew its ambassador and most staff in January, following the United States’ recognition of opposition politician Juan Guaidó as President.

By April 10, with representatives of the opposition seizing control of other diplomatic properties of Venezuela with the support of the Trump administration, peace activists created the nonviolent Embassy Protection Collective (EPC) to support diplomacy and oppose the United States’ violent overthrow of an elected government.

Only a handful of Maduro officials remained but, with their visas expiring soon, CodePink organizer and EPC co-founder Medea Benjamin asked the outgoing diplomats for permission to take over the building until a customary protection agreement could be negotiated whereby a neutral third country manages an embassy

*continued on page 5*

# Rafil Dhafir

## Denied Early Release

A provision in the 2019 First Step Act opened the door slightly for Rafil Dhafir to seek “compassionate release” after serving more than 16 years of a 22-year sentence. An outspoken critic of the 1991 war against his native Iraq, Dhafir was the target of a slanderous and vindictive prosecution on the eve of the 2003 invasion, and convicted for sending charity to Iraq in violation of economic sanctions imposed by the United States between 1991 and 2003.

Under First Step, after the warden denied the 71-year-old’s petition last spring, he appealed to the court of jurisdiction, where his trial, sentencing and re-sentencing judge, Norman Mordue, still presides and still notes disapprovingly that Dhafir is unapologetic.

Mordue denied the motion in a July 19 order, concluding that Dhafir’s multiple chronic and progressive ailments were “mostly unchanged” from a 2012 court filing and agreeing with the warden that “your current

medical conditions do not diminish your ability to function in a correctional facility.” Chronic and acute pain have, however, diminished his ability to write letters as he has before, and he sometimes skips meals to avoid the long, painful walk to the cafeteria. Supporters are seeking an independent medical evaluation for Dhafir, a medical doctor himself who was a practicing oncologist at the time of his arrest.

A summary of Dhafir’s case can be found at [bit.ly/DhafirSummary](http://bit.ly/DhafirSummary).



Letters of support should be sent to Rafil Dhafir 11921-052, FCI Allenwood Low, Federal Correctional Institution, P.O. Box 1000, White Deer, PA 17887. Please see Inside & Out on this page for mail restrictions.

## MORE PRISON FOR TURI VACCARO

The Italian pacifist Turi Vaccaro has been sentenced to six more months in a Sicilian prison for one of his many protests at MUOS, the U.S.-run military satellite relay station on the island. Since August 2018, when he was apprehended on a fugitive warrant at the annual No MUOS peace camp, Vaccaro has been serving an 11-month, 27-day sentence for a 2014 protest. In March, an appeals court hearing in a separate case tossed out his conviction for resisting a public official but upheld the judgement of criminal damage, and a new sentence of six months and 20 days was added to his present term.

Vaccaro is now set to be released in January 2020, barring another conviction.

The first reports from August 2018 confirmed that Vaccaro was continuing his nonviolent protest in prison,

at that time remaining naked on the floor of the prison infirmary and eating only fruits and vegetables. Known for his silent protests, Vaccaro has not corresponded from prison, and he has refused to speak to any attorney, or to the representative of a prisoner advocacy group or even to his family.

This year’s annual No MUOS peace camp is scheduled for August 2–5.



Letters of support should be sent to Salvatore Vaccaro, Casa Circondariale Caldarelli, Piazza Pietro Cerulli #1, 90129 Palermo PA, Italy.

## Inside & Out

**Please refer to  
[nukeresister.org/inside-out](http://nukeresister.org/inside-out)  
for current addresses before writing.**

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

### ANTI-WAR RELATED ACTIONS

**Chelsea Elizabeth Manning** A0181426  
William G. Truesdale Adult Detention Center,  
2001 Mill Road, Alexandria, VA 22314.  
*Please note:* This prison will not accept  
postcards or any cards, but color drawings on  
white paper are okay.  
(Remanded into federal custody 3/8/19 for  
contempt of court for refusing to testify  
before a grand jury)

**Salvatore Vaccaro**  
Casa Circondariale Caldarelli, Piazza Pietro  
Cerulli #1, 90129 Palermo PA, Italy.  
(18 months, 17 days – out 1/20)  
(*Plowshares activist convicted for two acts  
of criminal damage to U.S. military satellite  
communications equipment in Sicily, 12/14*)

**Rafil Dhafir** 11921-052  
FCI Allenwood Low, Federal Correctional  
Institution, P.O. Box 1000, White Deer, PA  
17887.  
(22 years – out 5/20/22)  
*Please note:* This prison will not accept any  
cards or drawings, only white paper letters  
and envelopes using no crayon or markers.  
(*Convictions resulting from providing  
humanitarian and financial aid to Iraqis in  
violation of U.S. sanctions, 2/05*)

**Jared Chase** M44710  
Pontiac Correctional Center, P.O. Box 99,  
Pontiac, IL 61764.  
(8 years – out 11/6/19)  
(*Convicted of possession of incendiary devices  
with intent to commit arson during protests at  
NATO summit in Chicago, 5/12*)



### NUCLEAR RESISTERS

**Willemein Hoogendoorn**  
c/o Faslane Peace Camp, Shandon,  
Helensburgh, Dunbartonshire G84 8NU,  
Scotland, United Kingdom.  
(*Refused conditions of bail for blockade of  
road into Faslane nuclear submarine base,  
7/7/19 – awaiting trial 8/1*)

**Elizabeth McAlister** 015633  
**Stephen Kelly** 015634  
**Mark Colville** 015635  
Glynn County Detention Center, 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](http://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 awaiting  
trial following arrest at Kings Bay nuclear  
submarine base in Georgia, 4/5/18*)

**Leonard Peltier** 89637-132  
USP Coleman I, POB 1033, Coleman, FL 33521.  
(life)  
*Please note:* This prison will not accept any  
cards or drawings, only white paper letters  
and envelopes using no crayon or markers.  
(*Framed for murder while defending  
traditional indigenous from threats including  
uranium mining on sacred lands, 6/75*)

**PREVIOUSLY LISTED, RECENTLY  
RELEASED: Pierre Robert**

# HOLY WEEK ANTI-NUCLEAR ACTIONS

## Nevada Test Site

The Nevada Desert Experience Sacred Peace Walk is an annual week-long pilgrimage integrating nonviolent direct action for nuclear abolition and sovereignty of the Western Shoshone people. This year, more than 50 walkers set out from Las Vegas on April 13, bound for the historic peace camp at the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS, formerly known as the Nevada Test Site). Among them was Western Shoshone Chief Johnny Bobb, who sang and led prayers each morning and evening.

Since 1951, the United States has occupied and conducted nuclear weapons tests above and below the vast landscape recognized as Shoshone territory by the 1863 Treaty of Ruby Valley.

John Amidon described the group for Beyond Nuclear International:

“One of the most beautiful aspects of this year’s walk (and most years) is the amiable, integrated group of concerned citizens who attend. In 2019 we are Western Shoshone, Paiute, Apache, Chinese, Japanese, Hispanic, black and white, young and old, male and female, gay and straight, representing a variety of faith traditions from across the land. The largest contingent is from Las Vegas, the base for the Nevada Desert Experience. The second largest group is a surprise from Iowa, consisting of mostly young Catholic Workers from the Des Moines area. Big Sky country (aka Montana) has several representatives as does California. Some of us hail from upstate New York. Many of our group are long-time participants, returning year after year.”

On Tuesday, the pilgrims passed by Creech Air Force Base in Indian Springs before arriving for the night at the Temple of Goddess Spirituality, an oasis a few miles further down U.S. Highway 95 in Cactus Springs. The next morning they lined the road approaching Creech with signs and banners condemning the global drone warfare waged remotely by “chair force” pilots working there around the clock.

Law enforcement on hand for the demonstration informed the group that anyone arrested for blocking the road would be cited and released on site. For years, arrested protesters have been taken to jail in Las Vegas and held for hours or days before their release. Afforded the opportunity for acts of resistance that would not disrupt the walk, several people moved into the entry road and stopped traffic. After being warned to disperse or face arrest, Briana Florian, Sady Lindberg, George Killingsworth and Brian Terrell remained.

The four were handcuffed and led away, cited for unlawful assembly and released with a court date.

The walkers arrived Thursday evening at the site of the historic peace camp.

Amidon continues:

Early Friday morning, Johnnie Bobb conducts a Sunrise Ceremony inside the willow circle, a much anticipated and treasured spiritual gathering many of us have come to love. He sings songs to the animals and songs to the rocks. He speaks of Mother Earth and teaches us to offer her water.

We prayed and danced in community and several sang songs of kindness and caring. The sun rising in the east brought light and warmth while the moon setting behind the distant western mountains gave each of us a blessing. Here we could experience the grandeur and love of creation, a fleeting

## Livermore Labs

On Good Friday, April 19, around 70 people opposed to the continuing development of nuclear weapons gathered outside the Livermore Nuclear Weapons Laboratory in California. Rev. Will McGarvey, the pastor of Community Presbyterian Church in Pittsburg, California, spoke on the subject “Keeping Faith in the Face of Empire” at the early morning interfaith prayer service. Afterwards, the group walked about one-third of a mile to the lab’s West Gate, pausing along the way to meditate on the sufferings of the people represented at the Stations of the Cross of Empire.

At the gate, there was a circle dance led by Dances for Universal Peace. Twenty-three activists were then arrested for blocking the gate. They were cited and released on site.

At Livermore Lab, where new nuclear weapons continue to be designed, the group’s nonviolent witness demonstrated their determination to protect the planet from the dangers of nuclear war and from the impending threat of climate disaster.

People of faith have gathered at Livermore Lab on

moment of belonging to something so much larger and pure, something so vast and wondrous, bringing with it the humble realization that we are only one small piece of this magnificent creation.

Breakfast followed, and it being Good Friday in the Christian tradition, fourteen Nuclear Stations of the Cross were then set out along the path to the Mercury gate.

Just outside the white line marking the test site boundary, the group stood in the road for about 45 minutes while Chief Bobb offered a blessing and spoke of the land he loves and its destruction. When a truck departing from the test site threatened to disrupt the Chief, Robert Majors blocked its passage by standing in its way. Police told him to move and Majors said he would when Bobb was done speaking. Others did move to the side, and Majors dropped to his knee, again saying he only wished to hear what the elder had to say. Majors was arrested on a public nuisance charge and soon Tami Yaron was, as well.

A short time later the demonstrators moved up to the line. Officials of the Department of Energy and Nye County sheriff’s deputies were given copies of the Treaty of Ruby Valley, the 1972 Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and a People’s Indictment of the Nevada National Security Site [for] Crimes Against Peace and Crimes Against Humanity.

Thirty-one people then crossed the line, the first large group to test the legal waters since prosecution for the simple act of protest resumed last fall. For more than three decades deputies have issued trespass citations on site with no further consequences, even if the only identification presented was the permit issued by the Western Shoshone.

Sheriff’s deputies issued warnings and then released 25 of the protesters who carried official state or federal identification papers. Six men – John Amidon, Charlie Smith, Brian Terrell, Mark Kelso, Richard Bishop and Jakob Whitson – carried only their Shoshone permits for identification. They were taken to jail in Pahrump along with Majors and Yaron. Majors and Yaron were released on bail about 12 hours later. Amidon and Smith were released on bail the following night (Saturday). The other four were released on Monday afternoon, April 22, after an initial appearance via video link from jail with the judge. Subsequently, no charges were pursued against any of the eight, and eventually their bail was returned.

The four arrested at Creech had June 16 court dates. Killingsworth and Terrell pleaded not guilty, but Killingsworth’s charges were dismissed before his July trial date, and Terrell expects his charge to be dismissed before a scheduled October trial. The other two defendants appeared before different judges, with charges dismissed in one case, and a sentence of community service in the other.

Nevada Desert Experience said that the demonstration was “part of the global #ExtinctionRebellion movement, whereby nonviolent acts of civil disobedience have become imperative in pulling humanity away from its current course of total habitat destruction.” In Great Britain, where Extinction Rebellion began last year as a direct action response to the climate crisis, more than 1,100 people were arrested in London alone over 11 days of protest that overlapped the calendar of the Sacred Peace Walk.

For more information, visit [nevadadesertexperience.org](http://nevadadesertexperience.org).



**A Livermore demonstrator crosses the line on Good Friday.**

Good Friday for over 35 years to engage in nonviolent direct action calling for an end to these weapons. The witness was sponsored by Ecumenical Peace Institute/CALC and the Livermore Conversion Project.

For more information, visit [trivalleycares.org](http://trivalleycares.org) and [www.epicalc.org](http://www.epicalc.org).

## Pentagon

*by Art Laffin, Dorothy Day Catholic Worker*

About 20 people gathered in Washington, D.C. April 18-19 for a Faith and Resistance retreat. Holy Thursday afternoon was a time for bible reflection, action planning and liturgy.

On Good Friday, April 19, a nonviolent public witness was held at the Pentagon. At 7:00 a.m., the community processed to the police-designated protest zone. We carried signs and small crosses inscribed with the names of different victims in our society and world.

A sizable Pentagon police presence awaited us. Srs. Ardeth Platte and Carol Gilbert began giving copies of the U.N. Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons to arriving workers, while the rest of the community gathered in the designated protest area. A huge banner that said: “U.S. Empire Crucifies Humanity” was displayed on the grassy slope overlooking the sidewalk going into the Pentagon metro entrance. Our leaflet was read aloud. One of us, dressed in a black robe representing victims of U.S. militarism stood against a small tree with arms outstretched. A reflection was offered and we sang *Were You There When They Crucified My Lord*.

Steve Baggarly, Kathy Boylan, Joe Byrne and Joan Wages staged a die-in on the sidewalk outside the designated protest area. Police temporarily closed down the sidewalk, and after their warning of imminent arrest went unheeded, all six were arrested. As they were placed in handcuffs we sang *Vine and Fig Tree*. They were taken to the Pentagon Police Center, charged with “violation of a lawful order” and released within two hours. They were given a notice to appear in federal court, but the charges were dropped before that date.

We arrived at the White House by noon and, as hundreds of tourists looked on, we conducted a “contemporary crucifixion” on Pennsylvania Avenue, directly in front of the White House. Twelve of us, wearing black robes and a sign identifying each victim, took turns for several minutes in silence, standing on a crate, with arms outstretched on a cross as a short meditation was read aloud. After each victim came off the cross we sang: *Were You There When They Crucified My Lord*.

We ended our witness and retreat by singing *Sacred the Land* and offering a sign of peace to each other.

For more information, visit [dccatholicworker.wordpress.com](http://dccatholicworker.wordpress.com).

## Lockheed Martin

On Good Friday, in the season of Passover, the Brandywine Peace Community invited friends to observe the occasion at Lockheed Martin in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania.

They shared the community’s commitment to observing the spirit and discipline of nonviolence, “refraining (in the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.), from the violence of fist, tongue and heart.”

Fr. Patrick Sieber began a litany of the “Good Friday Stations for the Love of Humanity” with a reading from the apostle Luke’s account of the Crucifixion. The tolling of a bell introduced Tom Mullian singing an original composition, *For the Love of Humanity*.

As the bell tolled, a small group of people walked slowly into the driveway of Lockheed Martin’s main entrance, stretching across it while holding crosses reading “For The Love of Humanity” and signs declaring “We Support the U.N. Treaty to Abolish Nuclear Weapons.” In twos and threes, people eventually turned and began walking toward the Lockheed Martin lobby, intending to deliver copies of the U.N. Treaty. Stopped by company security, six people were arrested by Upper Merion police, handcuffed, and taken to the Upper Merion Township police station. Theresa Camerota, M.J. Gentile, Tom Mullian, Paul Sheldon, Fr. Patrick Sieber and Robert Smith were cited for disorderly conduct and released.

The Brandywine Peace Community was formed in 1978 with a commitment to nonviolent action, peacemaking and war resistance. As the U.S.’s #1 weapons corporation, Lockheed Martin is also the world’s largest war profiteer: from drone warfare technology to nuclear weapons and preparations. The Good Friday observance occurs annually as part of Brandywine’s ongoing campaign of nonviolent direct action at Lockheed Martin.

For more information, contact the Brandywine Peace Community at [brandywine@juno.com](mailto:brandywine@juno.com).

# Resisting Drone Warfare

## DES MOINES AIR NATIONAL GUARD

from Frank Cordaro, Des Moines Catholic Worker

The third annual Armed Forces Day rally and direct action at the main entrance of the Iowa Air National Guard Drone Command Center took place on Saturday, May 18 at 3 p.m., right before a major thunderstorm hit Des Moines.

Eddie Bloomer, Frank Cordaro, Jerry Ebner, Ruth Hart and Jakob Whitson walked toward the closed gate and guard house. Four of them carried a banner stating “Honor Vets, Ground Drones” in front of them. Whitson followed with a ladder. As soon as the five reached the closed gate, Whitson put his ladder up against it and began climbing. He was greeted by a crowd of armed base security inside the fence and told not to climb over. He complied, and climbed down his ladder. He joined the other four holding the banner.

After three separate announcements over a loudspeaker that they were going to be arrested if they did not move off the base (enough time for everyone else to get back to the main gate and public property), all five were arrested, cuffed and taken by police transport to the Polk County Jail.

They spent the night in jail in the holding cells, with a thin blanket and a cement slab or floor as a bed. They all saw the judge in the morning. Four pled guilty and were given fines. Hart pled not guilty and has a court date. All were released by 2 p.m., and were back at the Catholic Worker for shift!

For more information, contact Cordaro at frank.cordaro@gmail.com.

## Arrests at Embassy, cont.

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when diplomatic relations have been severed.

“My issue is not about the Maduro government, my issue is about my government,” said Benjamin when asked about human rights abuses alleged to occur in Venezuela. “It is not our job as U.S. citizens to decide how people are going to govern themselves. It is our job to stop our government from interfering.”

“We feel this is part of an orchestrated coup that can lead to a civil war and can lead to tremendous violence. We want to say stop.”

By late April, up to 50 activists were sleeping in the embassy, hosting nightly educational and cultural programs in opposition to war with Venezuela while police stood by.

On April 30, a group of Guaidó supporters – coinciding with Guaidó’s failed call for an uprising inside Venezuela – descended on the embassy, determined to oust the activists and seize the building. They blared sirens, horns and megaphones directly in the face of EPC supporters outside, and then surrounded the building with tents, refusing to allow food, medicine, supplies or people to enter. Police and Secret Service agents, charged with embassy protection, did nothing to intervene.

The tension steeped for the next several days as police kept EPC supporters and Maduro opponents at bay while helping those opponents prevent food, water and medicine from reaching those inside. Law enforcement authorities stood by during multiple incidents when pro-coup advocates broke windows and doors to enter into the building, defaced the building and assaulted people outside the building while threatening those inside the building.

On Thursday, May 2, when CodePink co-director Ariel Gold attempted to throw food onto a second-floor balcony, she was tackled to the ground by an opposition member and both were arrested. Ursula, another CodePink activist, also tried to pitch food into the building and was arrested, but then released without charge. Gold’s charge was later dismissed.

Gold explained that the EPC was there “to protect [the embassy] from a takeover by an unelected group of Guaidó supporters, a takeover that would dangerously escalate the conflict. If the opposition takes over the D.C. Embassy, the Venezuelan government will probably take over the U.S. Embassy. The U.S. could consider this an act of war and use it as an excuse to invade. We can’t allow that to happen.”

On May 4, EPC and CodePink member Tighe Barry tried to put up a shade canopy next to the building where the opposition had already erected ten canopies. He was mobbed by Guaidó supporters who pushed him into a Secret Service agent. Barry was arrested for assaulting the agent and then jailed until May 6.

In video shot on May 8 from a second floor embassy

## HANCOCK FIELD

by Ed Kinane

Shortly before 8 a.m. on Thursday, June 20, our Upstate Drone Action caravan of six or seven vehicles arrived, unannounced, at the main gate of Hancock Air Force Base in DeWitt, a suburb of Syracuse, New York. Two of us – accompanied by one of our videographers – proceeded to the guardhouse 50 yards in from East Molloy Road to read aloud and deliver our statement. The statement called on base personnel, in accordance with U.S. and International Law, to refuse to obey their chain of command’s illegal orders to commit what are ongoing drone war crimes.

Simultaneously we set about creating a street theatre tableau blocking the main entrance to the base. As we have many times over the past decade, we were calling out Hancock for hosting the 174th Attack Wing of the New York National Guard. The 174th remotely pilots missile-spewing robotic MQ9 Reaper drones over Afghanistan (and probably elsewhere). These classified operations result in the terrorizing, maiming and killing of uncounted and uncountable numbers of unarmed and undefended children and their parents.

Until our arrest about two hours later, we held an unadorned, white 3x8-foot banner across the driveway leading to the gate. In bold black letters, it read: “Drones Fly, Children Die – Our Hearts Are Breaking.”

Nearby, also in the ingress, two grandmothers in abayas silently sat grieving, holding “infants” in bloodied swaddling clothes. Bloodied “body parts” and children’s toys and things were strewn about. Crossing back and forth between the banner and the road, a man in a cape and death’s mask pushing a model Reaper on wheels fleshed out the tableau. Across the road from base property, over a dozen supporters, singing and chanting, held signs like: “Children Are Not ‘Collateral Damage.’”

Two rain-soaked hours later, the DeWitt town police and Onondaga County sheriffs, having converged in numerous vehicles, ordered us to leave base property. Those eight who chose not to do so were arrested: Les Billips, Dan Burgevin, Tom Joyce, Ed Kinane, Rae Kramer, Julianne Oldfield, Mark Scibilia-Carver and Ann Tiffany.

We were handcuffed, separated by gender and taken in two paddy wagons to the sheriffs’ north station where we were held in three small cells. After a couple hours we were transported by van to the downtown Syracuse “Justice Center.” In booking we were ordered to strip, spread our cheeks, and where applicable, lift our scrotums. Our street clothes were put in a device for what seemed to be some chemical inspection and replaced with jail issue.

We were held in a chilly, dirty holding cell with other inmates all day with no opportunity for a phone call. In the early evening we separately appeared before a Judge

window, members of the EPC are seen trying again to deliver food to those inside. When Veterans for Peace board president Gerry Condon tried to pitch a cucumber to the occupiers, he was surrounded and wrestled to the ground by three Secret Service agents. Condon’s face was pushed into the sidewalk and bloodied in the brief moments before he was lifted back to his feet and taken away by police along with a woman who tried to throw an orange. The charges were all later dismissed.

That night, the local electric company assisted the Secret Service to cut off power to the building. To conserve resources inside, some of the EPC withdrew, leaving just four occupiers.

The standoff continued through Monday evening, May 13, when police taped a vaguely worded “trespassing notice” on the door, which lacked any seal, signature or identifying stationery.

When police arrived the next day to cut the chains on the door, enter the building and enforce the questionable notice, they were met outside by EPC attorney Mara Verheyden-Hilliard. She vigorously challenged their lack of a search warrant and other legal deficiencies in the process, not least the pending violation of the Treaty of Vienna governing the integrity of embassy property and consular relations. After some negotiation, police re-chained the doors shut and retreated.

They returned early on the morning of May 16 with warrants to carry out the eviction. The four remaining EPC members – Margaret Flowers, David Paul, Adrienne

Murphy. Public defenders pled us not guilty. The assistant D.A. recommended we be released on our own recognizance, without bail. After being taken back to the holding cell, we were released – to the welcoming arms of support people and fellow perps – sometime after 10:30 p.m.



photo by Mary Anne Grady Flores

On a rainy morning in June, members of Upstate Drone Action blocked the entrance to Hancock Field, where “chair force” pilots remotely direct armed drones in attacks around the world.

We were each charged with two violations – trespass and disorderly conduct, and with a misdemeanor, obstruction of government administration. A court date set for mid-August is expected to be postponed until fall. Thus far Hancock’s crimes against humanity go insufficiently exposed.

For more information, visit [www.upstatedroneaction.org](http://www.upstatedroneaction.org).

## BEALE AIR FORCE BASE

Early on the morning of June 25, a group of five Occupy Beale activists greeted airmen and others driving into Beale Air Force Base in northern California. They handed out the recent Veterans for Peace statement on Iran, opposing U.S. attempts to increase tensions and create the conditions for war there. A few days earlier, a U.S. Navy Global Hawk surveillance drone had been shot down by Iran over the Persian Gulf. At Beale, the mission of the 9th Reconnaissance Wing at Beale is to organize, train and equip the U.S. Air Force’s fleet of the same Global Hawk surveillance drones.

When traffic unexpectedly backed up from the security gate, Chris Nelson, Mauro Oliveira and Shirley Osgood took advantage to leaflet the long line of vehicles stopped and waiting inside the actual base boundary line. They were arrested and taken into the base for processing, then released with a trespass citation after a couple of hours. They have since received a summons to appear in federal court in Sacramento on August 13, where there is a long record of Beale protest charges being dismissed before trial.

For more information, visit Occupy Beale on Facebook.com.

Pine and Kevin Zeese – were waiting in the lobby when police broke through the doors. They were peacefully arrested and held overnight before arraignment in federal court on charges of trespass and interference with certain protective functions of the U.S. State Department. All four were released on the condition they stay at least 100’ away from Venezuela’s diplomatic facilities, report weekly to the court and not travel abroad without permission of the court.

At a pre-trial hearing on July 9, the four rejected a plea offer and asserted their right to trial. The next pre-trial hearing is set for October 4.

For more information, visit [facebook.com/ColectivosporlaPaz](https://facebook.com/ColectivosporlaPaz).

## K.C. Nuke Plant, cont.

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actions in the United States and Germany, including the 1984 Silo Pruning Hooks action at a nuclear missile silo in Missouri that resulted in the longest sentences in U.S. history for anti-nuclear direct action, 18 years.

The last time Fr. Kabat was in jail for a July 4 action, the jail supervisor recognized him as a “super patriot.” On the day of their arrest, Kabat declared that “Clemens graduated to super patriot status today.”



# INTERNATIONAL NOTES

## Ireland

U.S. Veterans for Peace Tarak Kauff and Ken Mayers must remain in Ireland until at least October, after the High Court of Ireland in June refused to modify their bail conditions so they could return to the United States until their trial.

The men argued that being forbidden to leave Ireland imposes an unfair and unjust burden given the nature of the offense charged. While denying their motion, the court said that once a date for trial is set, perhaps as soon as October, they could appeal the bail conditions again. The court expected to eventually hear the case has a full docket, and a trial date in mid-2021 is possible.

Kauff and Mayers were arrested and charged with trespass and criminal damage last March when they allegedly cut a fence at Shannon International Airport and walked towards the runway to inspect a transport plane contracted by the U.S. military. Since at least 2001, the Pentagon has ferried troops and munitions through Shannon, in violation of Ireland’s official neutrality. Protests by Irish activists and legislators have been countered by fines and imprisonment. In the spirit of international solidarity the U.S. veterans took direct action. After 12 days in jail, the men were released after friends posted €2,500 bail for each. Also, their passports were seized so they cannot leave the country.

The men have made the most of this involuntary extension of their tour of peace duty. They’ve been back to court for a series of pre-trial hearings while seeking to have their case heard in Dublin, away from Shannon where an unbiased jury may be hard to find. The banner they carried for their action, “U.S. Veterans Say Respect Irish Neutrality – U.S. War Machine Out of Shannon Airport!” has been brought out for demonstrations and displayed above the highway leading into the airport when U.S. warplanes are spotted on the tarmac.

Contributions towards legal and living expenses for the men while away from their homes in New York and New Mexico are requested, and can be made via the GoFundMe page at [bit.ly/supportkenandtarak](http://bit.ly/supportkenandtarak).

For more information, visit [shannonwatch.org](http://shannonwatch.org).

## Lingen, Germany

In Germany, some forms of creative nonviolent protest do not warrant prosecution. Police may record the identity of, for example, banner-hangers or sit-in blockaders, but may not prosecute unless there is evidence of property damage or active resistance to law enforcement officials. But sometimes they prosecute anyway, as in the case of two people who climbed up on the roof over the front doors of the Lingen town hall in January and held up an anti-nuclear banner. After a few photos were taken they both came down. Police then aggressively confronted them for ID checks, and threatened their arrest for trespass.

When police put one of them in the squad car and suggested they’d take her to the station, supporters surrounded the police car to prevent it from leaving. Eventually she was released at the scene.

Months later, the two banner-hangers were accused of resisting arrest, with the first one due in court on August 1. Also, a supporter in a wheelchair who helped block the police car has been accused of causing a dangerous intervention in traffic when she set the handbrake on her wheelchair, because they had to lift her out of the way when they could or would not simply release the brake and roll her to the side. No trial date has been set.

For more information, visit the legal support website [nirgendwo.info](http://nirgendwo.info) (in German).

## Kazakhstan

In April, Human Rights Watch reported that Bolatbek Blyalov, a prominent activist in the capital city recently re-named Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan, had been jailed for violating the Central Asian republic’s restrictive public assembly law. According to a broadcast by Radio Azattyk in neighboring Kyrgyzstan, Blyalov served 15 days after announcing on his Facebook page that he had filed an application to protest against a proposed Russian-Kazakh nuclear power plant. The crime was announcing his intent to protest before the state had granted permission. Blyalov has been repeatedly detained for his public comments and peaceful protests on a variety of environmental and human rights issues. He recently completed a three-year sentence of severe restrictions on his liberty.

## Büchel, Germany

The Büchel is Everywhere 2019 Peace Camp will conclude in August, after 20 weeks of nonviolent actions demanding the withdrawal of the U.S. nuclear weapons deployed at Büchel air base in Germany. Social and peace action groups from across Germany and overseas have taken shifts to maintain a daily presence and periodic blockades at the gates. A peace encampment established nearby provides logistical support for each group of activists.

After high-profile fence-cutting and “go-in” actions coming from the peace camp in recent years, military and civil police told German organizers that this year would be different. New fences, a new security company and renewed cooperation among the authorities meant, “Nobody’s getting in.”

Yet on April 30, 17 nuclear abolitionists from across Germany cut through the first of the pair of perimeter fences in several places, and held a picnic between the barriers. They were all arrested and released pending investigation for trespass.

In late June, German activist Gerd Büntzly turned himself in to serve ten days in jail in lieu of paying part of a fine for cutting the fence and demonstrating inside Büchel with activists from the United States during the 2017 action camp. The Americans have not been prosecuted despite presenting themselves in court with Büntzly.

On June 28, more than 40 people representing the Stop Ramstein Campaign arrived for a solidarity blockade of the main gate. Ramstein is the largest American base in Germany and is implicated in U.S. drone warfare. Two smaller groups then blocked the two other gates into Büchel. The base was totally blocked for about two hours on the unseasonably hot Friday afternoon, preventing commuters from leaving for the weekend. Police eventually carried demonstrators off the road and conducted ID checks before they were free to go.

For the third year, Nukewatch organized a delegation of American disarmament activists to participate in International Week at the Büchel peace camp. Together with activists from England, Holland and Germany they formed an International Treaty Enforcement Team, marching to the base gate on the morning of July 10 with copies of the U.N. Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, banners in English and German declaring, “Nuclear weapons are illegal, Büchel is a crime scene”, and a brief Treaty Enforcement Order. One person spraypainted “crime scene” on the guardhouse and tried

## Paris, France

The French nonviolent direct action Collectif des Désobéissants (Collective of Disobedients) coordinated a series of nonviolent direct actions on June 22 to disrupt the Paris Air Show, the world’s largest aerospace trade exhibition.

The air show at Le Bourget Airport serves as the premier showcase for arms dealers from around the world. The actions of des Désobéissants denounced the responsibility of France in the deaths of civilians in Yemen, and demanded the immediate closure of this marketplace of death. According to the Disclose survey, French arms dealers at the Paris Air Show that are involved in the deaths of many civilians in Yemen include Nexter (Leclerc tanks and Caesar cannons), Thalès (Damocles pods), Airbus (Airplanes A330MRTT, Cougar Helicopters) and Dassault (Mirage 2000-9).

Several die-ins and other nonviolent actions, many at the entry gates, resulted in the arrest of 50 activists who were taken to various police stations in the Paris region. They were held for about four hours and released after their identity was checked and recorded. About 30 additional identity checks were carried out on the spot of the demonstrations.

For more information, including videos, visit Collectif des Désobéissants at [desobeir.net](http://desobeir.net).

to climb atop it but was stopped by guards. Eleven people – Richard Barnard, Richard Bishop, Margriet Bos, Susan Crane, Dietrich Gerstner, Susan van der Hijden, Ralph Hutchison, Birke Kleinwächter, Andrew Lanier, Brian Terrell and Dennis DuVall were arrested and given a written order (*platzverweis*) to stay away from the base boundary fence for 24 hours.

That afternoon, four of the group cut through two fences to gain entry near the base runway, while four others went along the fence hanging Crime Scene signs and painting graffiti on the adjacent bike path. Military and civilian police responded, arresting all eight for violating the *platzverweis*. They were taken to the Cochem police station and in front of a judge, who ordered they all be jailed overnight until the order expired at 6 a.m.

A few days later on Sunday, July 14, six of the enforcers in two groups planned to enter the base near the presumed nuclear weapons bunkers. One group was stopped by police before reaching the entry point. They and their car were searched and tools confiscated. When the other group saw from afar what had happened, they cut the

outer fence and entered before police arrived and pushed them back out the way they came in. Both groups were given *platzverweis* and sent on their way back to the camp.

Tuesday, July 16 was the 74th anniversary of the first atom bomb blast, the Trinity test in New Mexico. The police chief was among the delegation greeting five enforcers at the gate. Bishop, Crane and Terrell walked through the main gate with a commemorative banner, but soldiers and police quickly pushed them back out and closed the gate. Police then moved all five into the roundabout in front of the gate and ordered them to stay there. Crane and van der Hijden tried to block the gate again when it opened but were pushed back to the roundabout. No one was arrested or given a *platzverweis*.

That evening, four members of the team cut through the two fences before being stopped. Outside the fence, John LaForge was photographing the action when police came through the fence and detained him, as well, despite his repeatedly stating that, “you have no jurisdiction here!” All five were given a *platzverweis* and told they were not even allowed at the camp for 24 hours, but this was not enforced.

Susan Crane remained at the camp after this conclusion of International Week. On July 22, she cut through the outer fence near a suspected nuclear weapons bunker and found that to get through the inner fence, she had to cut an electrified wire. This signaled the soldiers, and when they arrived Crane stood up and displayed her anti-nuclear banner. She was taken into custody and moved to a farther gate where she was given a 6-day *platzverweis* and released. On July 27, the final day of the order, Crane again approached the base, and gave a copy of the Treaty to police at the gatehouse. She was told to leave because she had a *platzverweis*. But when she didn’t walk out, police escorted her to the roundabout. Later that day, after she began to walk around the perimeter of the base, she was arrested and held overnight as a “danger” for violating the *platzverweis*.

Appearing before the judge via video link, Crane addressed the issues of international humanitarian law, the laws of combat, and the Nuremberg Principles. She was brushed off by the jurist, who said, “I’m only concerned about the *platzverweis*.”

“Yes,” Crane replied. “And in my country, unfortunately, the judges are concerned about the minor crimes of burglary and killing, and ignore the crimes of the state of using and producing nuclear weapons which could destroy the world. I thought judges in Germany would be different.”

Crane asked the judge about her opinion. She replied that Crane must spend the night in jail for violating the order. For more information, visit [buechel-atombombenfrei.jimdo.com](http://buechel-atombombenfrei.jimdo.com) and [nukewatchinfo.org](http://nukewatchinfo.org).



photo by John LaForge

**German police carry away a Büchel air base blockader on June 28, 2019.**

# Scotland

On July 7, the second anniversary of the day that the United Nations agreed on the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), members of Trident Ploughshares used spray paint to re-decorate the main entrance of the Faslane naval base in Scotland for peace and blocked the base’s other entrance. They were there to challenge the Trident nuclear submarine base’s legitimacy and highlight the progress that has been made since a huge majority of the world’s states took the ban decision.

The group had time to paint “Banned 7/7/17” and “Nae Nukes Anywhere” on the notice boards and “Scrap” and “Redundant” on the gate to the base. They also covered the roadway with slogans referring to the Ban Treaty. Eventually the Ministry of Defence (MoD) police arrived and arrested the three painters, Eoin McCarthy, Janet Fenton and Gillean Lawrence, charging them with vandalism. They were taken to Greenock police station and released shortly afterwards. Meanwhile, Brian Quail from Glasgow and Willemien Hoogendoorn from the Faslane Peace Camp were able to hold up base traffic by blocking the base’s south gate. They were each cleared from the road several times.

Later Hoogendoorn and Elaine Graham joined their arms in a locking device and lay down in the middle of the road leading to the south gate. They were arrested and taken to jail. Hoogendoorn refused bail conditions, and remains behind bars. Their trial is set for August 1.

Hoogendoorn had been jailed twice before in the last year after refusing bail conditions following arrest at Faslane. On May 17, she was released after 40 days in prison following an April 6 blockade near the south gate, her charges having been dismissed without trial.

Regarding the July 7 protest, Gillean Lawrence said, “The Scottish government could be more assertive in publicizing the ban treaty, especially since the First Minister and most parliamentarians support it – a first step to getting rid of nuclear weapons from Scotland. Scotland’s police and courts should be active in tackling this crime instead of arresting and convicting protesters.”

The group’s aim was to remind the public and those working in the base that most governments now agree that nuclear weapons must be prohibited and eliminated, and the TPNW aims to do just that. While the nuclear-armed states may not agree, they will have to come to terms somehow with the impact that the TPNW is already having because the ban prohibits any nuclear sharing, testing and development as well as use.

For more information, visit [tridentploughshares.org](http://tridentploughshares.org) and the Faslane Peace Camp on Facebook.



Pending the outcome of her scheduled August 1 trial, letters of support may be sent to Willemien Hoogendoorn, Faslane Peace Camp, Shandon, Helensburgh, Dunbartonshire G84 8NU, Scotland, United Kingdom.

# Bure, France

On July 18, opponents of the country’s planned underground nuclear waste dump announced that they had routed a small police presence from the contested site in northeast France.

Many people have moved into the place, on the ground as well as in the trees, to reaffirm their opposition to the Cigéo project for radioactive waste burial, to nuclear power and to the industrial, colonial, military world that goes with it. The police forces that occupied this strategic location until then ... were forced to leave. From now on, we call for people to come here in Lejuc Forest, as well as in Bure and Mandres-en-Barrois, two villages located two kilometers from the forest.

Lejuc Forest is in the area of the nuclear dumpster project. ANDRA [government nuclear waste agency] plans to clear it to perform archeological digs and drillings, before covering it with concrete to build ventilation shafts. The forest was already occupied twice before, in July 2016 and then from August 15, 2016 to February 22, 2018, when 500 cops evicted the forest and destroyed the houses of the people who were occupying it.

On the site, the repression includes a constant police presence, judicial supervisions, territory bans, house searches and prison sentences. This reoccupation is also an answer to the State repression, reflecting that the local opposition hasn’t been crushed. The State represses and evicts, these past years as always. Bure is no more than one of its laboratories of law enforcement. This July 18, we tried to put it to flight and the cops didn’t have a choice but to withdraw.

... If you want to support us, you can come here, where we need help on the ground, in the trees, in the villages. Whether it be to climb in the trees, build barricades, hold them, bring material, make food, etc., you are welcome. You can also spread

# AUGUST 7 HEARING FOR KINGS BAY PLOWSHARES

Dozens of supporters of the Kings Bay Plowshares will be in Brunswick, Georgia during the first full week of August. A critical pretrial hearing on August 7 for the seven Catholic peace activists is the focal point for four days of public vigils, evening fellowship and optional fasting. Just south of Brunswick lies the Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, where they will vigil on the August 6 and 9 anniversaries of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic bombings.

At that base on the night of April 4, 2018, the Kings Bay Plowshares placed themselves in the presence of an omniscient weapon system – the Trident submarines and nuclear missiles based there. They prayed for the conversion of hearts and took nonviolent action to begin disarming the threat. The seven were arrested and jailed, charged with misdemeanor trespass and three felonies for conspiracy and destruction of government property. Four of the group – Clare Grady, Martha Hennessy, Patrick O’Neill and Carmen Trotta – later posted bond and accepted restrictive conditions of release enforced by ankle monitors. Three remain in jail – Mark Colville, Stephen Kelly, SJ, and Elizabeth McAlister.

The seven defendants last met all together in November, during a pretrial hearing on their motion to dismiss the charges based on the protections of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA). Magistrate Benjamin Cheesbro, who heard the defendants’ and experts’ testimony about the religious character of the disarmament witness, issued his response on April 22. He recommended that the trial judge reject the motion because despite the evident sincerity of their religious beliefs, the government did not violate their rights as there are no less restrictive means than prosecution to address their actions on the navy base.

The August 7 hearing will be the defendants’ first time meeting trial Judge Lisa Wood, who is reported to have taken an interest in the issues presented by the novel pretrial motion. A date for trial has not yet been set.

For more information visit [kingsbayplowshares7.org](http://kingsbayplowshares7.org). There you can sign the global petition to dismiss the charges and read the RFRA motion and Magistrate’s recommendation, defendants’ supplemental briefs and more.



Individually addressed pre-stamped white postcards should be sent to Elizabeth McAlister 015633, Stephen Kelly 015634, and Mark Colville 015635; all at Glynn County Detention Facility, 100 Sulphur Springs Road, Brunswick, GA 31520. See complete mail restrictions on page 3, Inside & Out.

\_\_\_\_\_

this communiqué as widely as possible. If you cannot come, it’s also possible to support us from far away; infrastructures of the nuclear industry and subcontractors working for ANDRA are plentiful.

Within hours of the re-occupation, the prefect authorities had issued two decrees, one prohibiting the carriage and transport of various materials around the neighboring villages, and the other prohibiting movement of pedestrians and vehicles around the Lejuc Forest.

By late afternoon, police had regrouped, fired tear gas into the forest and launched a helicopter for surveillance. At the end of the day, barricades erected by dump opponents were breached. While two people were arrested on the ground, by nightfall several tree-sitters remained above the fray.

The next morning, July 19, police and firefighters arrived with equipment to begin the eviction of activists occupying at least four platforms in the trees. A third prefectural order prohibited the transport and sale of fireworks and other flammables in the region over the next two days.

By the morning of July 20, all of the occupiers had been evicted from the trees. Between police actions in the villages and in the woods, eight people were briefly detained for identification checks, eight others were taken into custody and later released, after being questioned and charged with criminal conspiracy. One person previously barred from the territory was arrested and sent to jail for four months for violating this court order.

In recent months, a handful of trials resulting from demonstrations and noncooperation with relentless police ID roadblocks and ID checks around the area ended with fines or dismissals. Reflecting the repressive nature of the atomic state, the courthouse in Bar-le-Duc was surrounded outside, and its stairs and hallways inside were lined by dozens of uniformed police on June 4, when three people were on trial.

*continued on page 8*

# FUTURE ACTIONS

*More future actions and event details can be found at [nukeresister.org/future-actions](http://nukeresister.org/future-actions)*

## dsei arms fair

Join the Campaign Against the Arms Trade in nonviolent resistance to the annual DSEI arms fair, September 2-8 at the ExCel Center in London. All are welcome to organise creative nonviolent direct actions or civil resistance activity on the following themed days: Monday 9/2 – Stop Arming Israel; Tuesday 9/3 – No Faith in War; Wednesday 9/4 – No Nuclear; Thursday 9/5 – Conference at the Gates; Friday 9/6 – Climate Justice; Saturday 9/7 – Festival of Resistance; Sunday 9/8 – Borders and Migration. For more information, visit [www.caat.org.uk](http://www.caat.org.uk).

## creech air force base

On the 18th anniversary of the war in Afghanistan, the 5th annual Shut Down Creech! fall peace camp, September 29 to October 5, 2019, welcomes all who want to work together to Ground the Drones, nonviolently resisting the illegal U.S. drone assassination program headquartered at Creech AFB in Indian Springs, Nevada. Please come for part or all of this peace convergence. Daily vigils during rush hour commute time, plus planning on Monday and Tuesday for nonviolent civil resistance on Wednesday, October 2. Stay at the relocated Camp Justice peace encampment on the grounds of the Temple of Goddess Spirituality, three miles from Creech AFB. Most meals are provided. Visit [shutdowncreech.blogspot.com](http://shutdowncreech.blogspot.com) for detailed info about housing, transportation, Camp Justice, meals, sponsorship, registration, etc.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

... **The People’s Mobilization to Stop the U.S. War Machine** will be a series of actions in New York City from September 20 to 23 while the U.N. General Assembly meets. Demands include that the U.S. government obey the United Nations Charter by stopping regime change operations, ending the use of unilateral coercive measures (sanctions) and ceasing military attacks. Also, that the U.S. sign the nuclear weapons ban treaty, rejoin the Iran nuclear agreement, disband NATO and close military bases and outposts around the world, so to begin immediate transition to a peace economy that uses our resources to meet human needs and protect the planet. Daily events include Climate Strike on Friday the 20th, Puerto Rican Independence March on Saturday, People’s Mobe Rally and March on Sunday and People’s Mobe Action and Forum on Monday. For more information, visit [www.PeoplesMobe.org](http://www.PeoplesMobe.org).

... **School of the Americas Watch** returns to Fort Benning, Georgia on November 15-17 for a commemorative gathering on the 30th anniversary of the Central American University massacre of six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper and her daughter in El Salvador, carried out by graduates of military counter-insurgency training at the notorious School of the Americas at Ft. Benning. For more information, visit [soaw.org](http://soaw.org).

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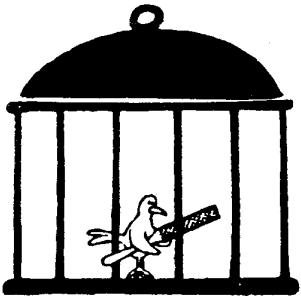
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# Update Files

**MORDECHAI VANUNU:** In June, the Israeli nuclear weapons whistleblower posted to his website, vanunu.com, “No news here. They are going to renew the restrictions again. This is the 16 years they are renewing these restrictions, after 18 years in prison. ‘not to meet foreigners, not leave the country.’ And all what I can do is to continue to wait, continue to demand my freedom, from 1986-2019. Freedom Must come!”...



**LOCKHEED-MARTIN, SUNNYVALE:** Eleven people arrested last March for blocking the entrance to the California missile maker were in San Jose Superior Court on June 24 to plead not guilty to trespass, and gain approval to represent themselves at a jury trial now scheduled for September 30...

**NEW HAMPSHIRE POOR PEOPLES CAMPAIGN:** Three people were convicted June 14 for trespass at the State House during last year’s six-week civil disobedience campaign to resist the interlocking evils of racism, poverty, militarism and environmental destruction. Charlie Gibson, 81, Patricia Martin, 69, and Dr. Judith Reed, 74, were convicted and fined \$250 each, to be suspended upon 24 hours of good behavior. Six separate civil disobedience actions in the state campaign resulted in 28 arrests. Most pled guilty as part of a plea agreement, while another group of six face trial in October...

**GRONAU, GERMANY:** Five of six anti-nuclear activists who in 2017 stopped a train carrying uranium hexaflouride to the nuclear fuel enrichment plant have recently been charged with interception of public works and property damage. Three of the activists brought the train to a halt when they chained themselves to concrete blocks buried beneath the rails, and the other three completed the blockade by chaining themselves under the rails behind the stopped train...

**BASEL BURGAN:** Jordanian authorities have moved their case against the prominent environmental activist to civil court. There a judge found fault with the original complaint against Burgan by the Jordanian Atomic Energy Commission and sent it back to the prosecutor for correction. Burgan is accused of spreading false information about a public institution after a Facebook post that drew attention to a report questioning the safety of a building holding the two-year-old Jordan Research and Training Reactor...

**BURGHFIELD:** Last October, three protest blockades of entry roads into the nuclear weapons factory in the south of England resulted in nine arrests for obstructing the highway. This spring, crown prosecutors substituted a charge of aggravated trespass for the four who blocked The Mearings, a private entry road owned by the Ministry of Defence. At the July trial for eight of the blockaders, the four who blocked another entrance, the Pingewood Gate, were acquitted of obstruction because the crown did not show that the “bell mouth” of the entry road where they erected their blockade is a public highway. The four charged with aggravated trespass were, however, convicted of trespass with intent to obstruct lawful activity. The judge accepted that weapons of mass destruction are made there, but said that under British law “Atomic Weapons Establishment Burghfield is still a lawful site.” Chris Bluemel, Awel Jones, Cat McNeil and Julia Mercer were each assessed £775 in court costs and given conditional discharge for two or three years depending on their record...

## Bure, cont.

*continued from page 7*

On June 20, the Ligue des Droits de l’Homme (League of Human Rights) published a report denouncing the repression and in particular the bias of the Bar-le-Duc court. The courtroom observer wrote that, in 30 years as a lawyer, “... apart from the trials involving terrorists or acts of organized crime, I did not ever feel, both in the neighborhood and in the courthouse and in the courtroom, such a feeling of oppression fueled by the oversized presence of the police, mostly in intervention gear. Such an oppressive police presence is incompatible with the

# PILGRIM NUKE ARREST

On May 31, the Pilgrim nuclear power plant in Massachusetts was finally shut down. But the spent fuel cooling pool and dry cask storage canisters remain, poorly secured. In 2014 and 2017, Cape Downwinders director Diane Turco brought reporters to the reactor site to see for themselves and report about how easy it was to enter the property, and how slow security forces responded.

On November 21, 2018, Turco escorted two radio reporters beyond the “No Trespassing” signs on the Pilgrim property to again highlight the lack of security protecting the high-level nuclear waste stored there. After spending roughly 30 minutes on the north side parking lot area within line of sight of the dry casks and the spent fuel pool without security intervention, the three drove to the south side main entrance and walked into the building. After a few minutes, security appeared behind the entrance turnstile. They were ordered to leave, which they did.

Police tracked Turco’s identity by her license plate and dispatched a Harwich police officer to her home three hours later to warn her that she could be arrested if found on Entergy property. Subsequently, she received a summons to appear in magistrate’s court on January 17, a hearing that ended with Turco being charged with trespass. She refused to name the reporters who had joined her. A second pretrial hearing on Turco’s motion for discovery was held on July 30. A trial date has not been set.

For more information, visit [capedownwinders.info](http://capedownwinders.info).

values that underpin the work of justice, including the openness of the proceedings and the serenity of the hearings.”

At press time, the activist jailed on July 20 had not been named nor a prison address made available. This information will be posted at [nukeresister.org/inside-out](http://nukeresister.org/inside-out) when it is known.

For more information, visit [bureburebure.info](http://bureburebure.info) (French with English background and legal briefing).

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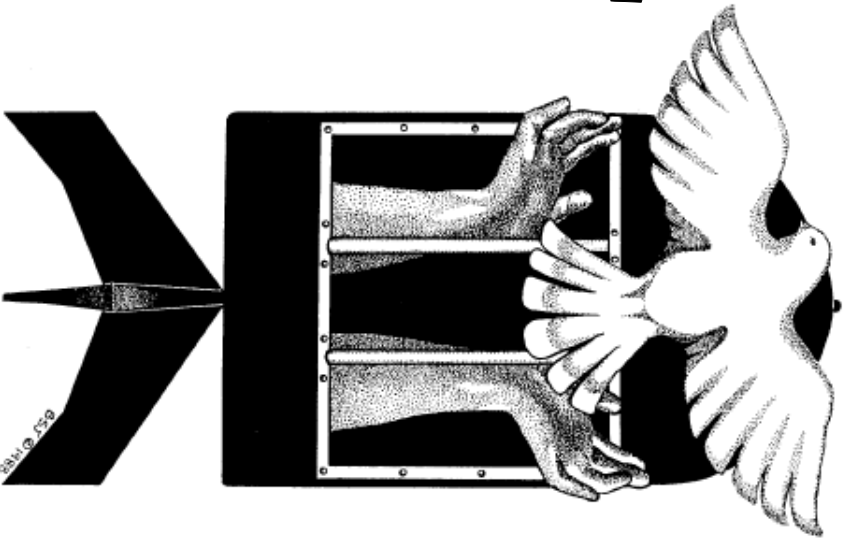
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